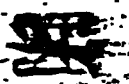
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Marinite
Machining

1976

Asbestos



PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

RMC-422

REYNOLDS ALUMINUM

REYNOLDS METALS COMPANY - RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23261

January 19, 1976

Roy F. Weston, Inc.
Weston Way
West Chester, PA 19380

Dear Sirs:

I have reviewed Mr. Hebb's memo of December 23, 1975, and have also reviewed the questionnaire supplied by your organization regarding information concerning asbestos. I have partially filled out your questionnaire but do not find it suitable with regard to relating the uses of asbestos in the aluminum industry.

We at Reynolds use a great deal of asbestos containing materials, such as marinite or marimett, in our molten metal transfer and casting operations. These materials are machined on a variety of equipment, usually of the W.W.II vintage.

Hooding has been designed specifically for each of the various pieces of equipment, and local exhaust ventilation is supplied to this hooding usually be the means of a cyclone. We can presently meet the 5 fiber standard, but would have had difficulty meeting the 2 fiber standard. The possibility of us reducing our asbestos machining emissions to below the .5 fibers/cc would be extremely difficult and costly. It is my determination that if we at Reynolds were to attempt to meet the OSHA proposed standard, it would require the purchase of new machining equipment designed specifically for asbestos handling and machining. It would also require that a separate building be constructed in order to isolate such an operation. I should add here that marinite is machined into inserts, baffles, and gasket materials for use in molten metal casting operations.

As I understand it, all aluminum casting operations require the use of refractory inserts. There is at this point no known substitute for this item. Presently we at Reynolds machine such inserts in two of our plants and all other locations have this work done outside contract.

If you need any further information regarding asbestos usage in our industry, please contact me instead of any plant locations.

Sincerely,

Homer M. Cole
Corporate Industrial Hygienist

HMC/pcf

enclosures