PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

ATT-93

Bell Laboratories

Subject: Stocking of Asbestos Products at the Warren Service Center
Case 48102-1

Date: February 5, 1976

From: W. J. Schreibeis

Mr. R. K. Lindblad:

Mr. Wilkening has asked me to reply to your recent letter on the subject of asbestos. Two factors to be considered are:

1) There is a considerable body of evidence - much of it based on epidemiological investigations - that indicates exposure to airborne asbestos fibers may result in a rare form of cancer.

2) The Occupational Safety and Health Act regulates the exposure of employees to a very low level and requires stringent procedures for monitoring exposure, control, notification and education of employees, and physical examinations.

For these reasons it is desirable to eliminate asbestos from the work environment or at least effect a high degree of control. Unfortunately, because of the unique properties of asbestos an effective and safe substitute is difficult to find. Considerable interest has been shown in fiber glass as a substitute but this too is no longer a clear choice.

Your questions on replacement, substitution or elimination of asbestos from stock are very appropriate. These materials should be eliminated from open stock wherever possible. Our suggestion is that distribution of asbestos or asbestos containing materials to requisitioners should be made only when Department 7365 has verified to you that the use of the material will not result in unacceptable exposures to employees or the general public.

Please advise the appropriate method to be used to eliminate asbestos products from stock or to provide an approval procedure to insure compliance with the federal law before it can be withdrawn from closed stock and used.

W. J. Schreibeis

MH-7665-WJS-dj

Copy to
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