

FILE NAME: Kaiser Aluminum (KA)

DATE: 1969 Sept 9

DOC#: KA003

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter to Kaiser Aluminum from Johns-Manville RE Cutting of J-M Asbestos Material

ALTO 269/366

JOHNS-MANVILLE
RESEARCH & ENGINEERING CENTER

P. O. BOX 187 • MANVILLE, N. J. 08835 • TELEPHONE 728-7888 • AREA CODE 201



September 9, 1969

Mr. L. B. Gibson
Safety Supervisor
Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation
Newark Works
P. O. Box 671
Newark, Ohio

Dear Mr. Gibson:

Your letter of August 29, 1969, addressed to our Research Insulation Department, has been referred to me for reply.

Before I can advise you on the cutting of the Johns-Manville asbestos material you are presently using, I will need to know more about the material in question. If you could provide me with our trade name for the material or the purchase order specifications, I will then be able to prepare proper comments.

The American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists has proposed a new Threshold Limit Value for airborne asbestos fiber dust concentrations. The new TLV is 2 million particles per cubic foot of air when sampled by the impinger method and particle count made by light microscopy at 100X, or 12 fibers per cubic centimeter of air when sampled by the membrane filter technique and fiber counts made under phase contrast light microscopy at 430X.

In our own plants, wherever possible, at any operation that generates asbestos fiber dust, we provide mechanical ventilation equipment to maintain the dust concentrations below the proposed new TLV. In those instances where mechanical dust control cannot be provided, we insist that our employees wear a Bureau of Mines approved respirator.

For your further information, I am including two position papers prepared by Johns-Manville entitled "Asbestos and Human Health" and "Asbestos -- A Family of Minerals". I am also enclosing a booklet prepared by the National Insulation Manufacturers' Association on recommended health safety practices for handling and applying thermal insulation products containing asbestos.

If further information is needed, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours;

E. M. Fenner, Director
Environmental Control

EMF/ems
Enc. (3)