



E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19898

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

*file
asbestos*

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

February 26, 1981

cc: G.F. Moore-TF-Nemours
R.L. Rhodes-TF-Nemours
E.H. Bennett-TF-Chattanooga
W.D. Merriss-TF-Chattanooga
~~H.E. Swink-TF-Chattanooga~~
A. Jacobs-TF-Chattanooga
B. Latta-TF-Chattanooga
F.H. Hixson-TF-Chattanooga
W.H. Webb-TF-Chattanooga
A.H. Ostrand-E&M-Louviers
J.V. Anderson-Constr-Louviers
H.A. Moak-Design-Louviers
T.W. Gibbs-ESD-Louviers
F.A. Hoagey-ESD-Louviers
J.R. Allen-ESD-Louviers
IC 13-Materials Engg.
IC 13-METIS

J. A. OWEN
TEXTILE FIBERS DEPARTMENT
CHATTANOOGA PLANT

TEXTILE FIBERS DEPARTMENT - CHATTANOOGA
MATERIALS ENGINEERING - POWER AND PROCESS THERMAL INSULATION
PHASE I OF PROGRAM FOR THE REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF ALL
ASBESTOS - BEARING THERMAL INSULATION

At your request, J. V. Anderson, Engineering Construction Division, Planning Section, and I visited the Chattanooga plant on January 12, 1981. The purpose of the visit was to establish, as accurately as possible, the magnitude of a contractual program to remove and replace all asbestos-bearing thermal insulation materials on the entire Chattanooga plant. For that purpose, we were accompanied by officials of the Starr Davis Co., Inc., of Greenboro, NC, a very reliable thermal insulation contractor capable of the proposed project. Starr Davis Co. was recommended by me and A. H. Ostrand, Energy and Materials Department. The Starr Davis people were: J. T. Hunter, Chairman of the Board, C. McDaniel, Manager of the Atlanta office and M. J. Ball, Vice President - Contracting.

As a result of a very thorough but rapid tour by you and W. H. Webb, of all major areas of the Chattanooga site, Starr Davis presents their estimate of the cost, time period to accomplish, and contingencies involved, a copy of which is attached.

I have also contacted the Engineering Department's Business Methods and Investment Division which provided the following data:

Based on comparative plant values in the Textile Fibers Department, the estimated value for installed thermal insulation at Chattanooga is approximately \$30MM. This represents approximately 10.MM board feet of thermal insulation in place.

I believe this data substantiates Starr Davis' estimate to remove and replace.

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February 26, 1981
J. A. Owen

It should be understood by persons not intimately familiar with the Chattanooga plant and its very large amount of installed insulation, that this is a project of tremendous magnitude as evidenced by the realistically estimated cost and time period to accomplish.

No such comprehensive asbestos-bearing material removal program has been initiated at any other Du Pont site of any reasonable size. My exposure to the national insulation picture has not brought to my attention any other company tackling such a program. I believe the huge cost and unavoidable production disruptions make such a program unjustifiable under today's governmental regulations.

If the subject project is undertaken, it should be understood that presently experienced maintenance will not be eliminated or delayed. There will be a measurable increase in maintenance costs because the asbestos-free materials presently on the market are physically inferior to their asbestos-bearing predecessors.

I do not believe that a concerted asbestos removal program would create any greater total asbestos exposure hazard than a very long term repair and patch policy of asbestos bearing insulation in place. There is always the potential for accidental asbestos exposure not associated with an insulation program while asbestos is remaining on the plant.

Chattanooga's continued compliance with all present governmental regulations regarding the handling of asbestos-bearing materials should not incur any sizeable increases in cost since your procedures have been in motion for some time.

If I can be of any assistance in the future, please contact me on Louviers Building phone 366-3435.

ENGINEERING SERVICE DIVISION

G. E. Lang

G. E. Lang, Consultant
Materials Engineering Group

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Atch

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