

To: J. H. EDWARDS - TOLLEDO

April 16, 1969

John D. Galvin, Esq.
Putnam, Putnam & Putnam
940 Des Moines Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

K-935

Dear Mr. Galvin:

This will reply to your letter of April 10, 1969 concerning the claim of "asbestosis" made by an employee of the L. L. Insulation and Supply Co.

As I am sure you are aware, to contract the disease "asbestosis" one must, in some manner, have an exposure for a prolonged period of time to asbestos fibers or particles. You indicate that the claimant worked with our self-sealing lap jacket pipe insulation, which product does not contain any asbestos fibers. No doubt the job records of L. L. Insulation can substantiate whether or not the claimant handled or applied asbestos-containing products during his employment with it. If, as you state, he handled only products containing glass fibers, he would not have contracted asbestosis from such exposure. Therefore, the answer to your first question on page 2 of your letter would be in the negative.

In regard to the aggravation of an existing lung condition, there are several important considerations: (1) the size of the air-borne dust particles, (2) the quantity of the dust, (3) the length of exposure time. Unlike coal and silica or asbestos dusts, most air-borne fibrous glass particles (dusts) are too large to enter the lungs. If glass dust does not enter the lungs, it cannot aggravate a lung disease. Therefore, the answer to your second question would also be in the negative.

With respect to your third question, medical research studies and investigations, as well as long-time experience, have demonstrated that exposure to air-borne fibrous glass particles does not constitute a health hazard. Fibrous glass has been shown to be biologically inert. Copies of reports of medical studies by nationally recognized research physicians are enclosed. These reports should be sufficient to support the position that fibrous glass does not cause asbestosis nor does it cause a lung disease.

Pneumoconioses, such as asbestosis and silicosis, develop into serious problems only after long exposure to excessive quantities of dusts. These factors are frequently overlooked when assessing the legitimacy of an alleged disease. This is not to imply that the claimant does not have asbestosis, but these factors may be of interest in evaluating the claimant's exposure during his employment by L. L. Insulation.

C 587

John D. Galvan, Esq.
April 16, 1969
Page 2

If we can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Logan, Jr.
Attorney, Law Department

RLL:dd

bcc: F. H. Edwards - Toledo

C 508