



Intra Company

October 27, 1970

Mr. W. Wilkins
Safety Engineer
General Parts Division
Sheldon Road Plant

Subject: Industrial Hygiene Evaluation of Wollastonite and
Attapulgus Clay as Substitutes for Asbestos

We have reviewed the chemical composition provided on the two subject materials with regard to their toxicity in potential dust exposures. Based on the analysis, we would expect Wollastonite to have the same physiological reaction as asbestos when inhaled as a fine dust.

The Attapulgus Clay on the other hand appears to be composed mainly of calcium metasilicate. Very little is known regarding the physiological reactions of this compound. However, based on the reaction of silicates in general, we would consider this product to be safer than asbestos where dust exposure exists.

If you require further information from an industrial hygiene point of view, please let us know.

Paul E. Roth, Supervisor
Industrial Hygiene Unit
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cc E. J. Bruner
A. Ruggiero