



The Industrial Commission
Of Ohio
Division Of Safety & Hygiene
246 N. High St., Col., O. 43215

December 7, 1982

Legal Section
Industrial Commission of Ohio
246 N. High St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

O.D. 19102-22
Joseph Williams
Owens Corning Fiberglas
Corporation

Attn: Judy Spencer

Dear Ms. Spencer:

Upon review of the facsimile file it was noted that the employer, Owens Corning Fiberglas Corporation, denied that the claimant, Joseph Williams, had been employed by their Division of the company. However, a telephone conversation with company representatives revealed that a mistake had been made and that the claimant did work for Owens Corning Fiberglas. Company records indicate that the claimant was hired sometime during 1962 and that he retired on June 26, 1980. Mr. Williams worked with the installation and removal of insulation at various contract sites. Although company records do not contain specific information pertaining to the types of material the claimant may have contacted, it was noted that he probably did work with asbestos, especially during the earlier years of his employment.

Examination of the claimant's work history clearly shows consistent employment in the insulation industry for over 30 years. Due to the extensive use of asbestos during the claimant's working years, it is apparent that he was probably continually exposed throughout the duration of his working career. Although the use of asbestos has been restricted and consequently greatly reduced, it is still common to encounter it during the removal or replacement of insulating materials.

It is unfortunate that the claimant's wife also has some degree of physiological impairment which is apparently attributable to exposure to asbestos contaminated work clothes. Asbestos contamination of the home environment is well documented in the literature. Contact with contaminated work clothes has resulted in the development of asbestos related diseases in non-working, non-occupationally exposed family members.

In conclusion the claimant has been diagnosed with asbestosis. As a worker in the insulation industry the claimant routinely installed and tore out asbestos insulation during the span of his 30 plus years in the workforce. In addition, it appears that his

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spouse may have been exposed as a result of handling his contaminated work clothing. There is ample documentation illustrating the correlation between exposure to asbestos and the development of an asbestos related disease such as asbestosis. Since the claimant's exposure to asbestos is evident and the necessary medical support apparently exists, it seems that a cause and effect relationship has been established.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Ashworth
Industrial Hygienist

MA/gr