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August 25, 1972

Dr. Herbert E. Stokinger
Chief, Toxicology Branch
Div. of Laboratories &
Criteria Development
Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare
1014 Broadway
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Dear Dr. Stokinger:

Referring to your letter of July 5 and our subsequent phone conversation concerning quartz and cristobalite in our non-asbestos insulation Panelex, I have contacted our suppliers of perlite, dicalite and vermiculite. The replies were as follows:

Perlite (9% of product formulation)

Our supplier "Pennsylvania Perlite Corp." forwarded a lab report by Walter C. McCrone Assoc. Inc. of Chicago, Ill. indicating the total free silica to be less than 0.05%.

Dicalite (2.5% of product formulation)

Our supplier, Grefco, Inc. forwarded to us a lab report from George D. Clayton & Assoc. and an article "Pneumoconiosis in Diatomite Mining and Processing" by USPHS. Although the quartz content is less than 1% the cristobalite analyzed at 61%. This cristobalite fraction calculates out as being 1.5% of the total product.

Vermiculite (26% of formulation)

The attached letter from our supplier W.R. Grace indicates free silica to be less than 1% (limit of their detection).

We must apologize for the inconvenience of reviewing this again. However, I feel I now know the basic requirements and hopefully in the future I can present all the data at once.

Dr. Herbert E. Stokinger
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Based on the above we feel your previous opinion is still valid and the only modification to your July 5th. letter is to remove the comment concerning a 3% quartz content. If this can be done we would be very grateful.

? Why?

Very truly yours,

J. J. Marino

J. J. Marino
Chief Engineer

Enclosures
JJM/sb