

REPORT OF CALL

Calidria ASBESTOS

cc for T. P. Norris
J. E. Walsh
KC-File ✓
NF-File

UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
P.O. Box 579 Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14302

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By B. L. Ingalls

Date 2/21/73

Full Name	Quebec Asbestos Mining Assoc. (QAMA)	Interviewed
Address	Montreal, Quebec, Canada	Mr. John Gossip, Mgr. Dr. Pelnar, Medical Advisor to QAMA
Mfrs. of		

Having had conversations with Mr. Gossip previously by telephone and some correspondence, I took this opportunity during a visit to Montreal H&C to pay him a hospitality call. The meeting was informative and extended over a period of a couple of hours.

Mr. Gossip filled me in on the responsibilities and actions of the QAMA and their current interests with regard to the growing concern of toxicity. I was furnished with a multitude of literature and a recent background report by the Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health established by the QAMA in 1966. This organization currently sponsored a series of research projects which as of November 1, 1972 fifteen projects either have been completed or are still in progress. These include epidemiological surveys of biological effects by asbestos, primary studies of mesothelioma in Canada, chemical and mineralogy studies of chrysotile with reference to oil and waxes, and a multitude of other studies, both medical and statistical in content. He pointed out that, hopefully, much of the work has been completed and will be available for publication in the near future. He also mentioned that their evidence to date has been enlightening.

I was also introduced to a Dr. Pelnar who apparently is from Czechoslovakia and not a registered doctor in Canada, however, does hold a medical Ph.D. He is a professor of industrial hygiene at McGill university and spends better than half of his time in a consultant capacity for the QAMA.

I briefly educated them with regard to Union Carbide's "Calidria" Asbestos business, the nature of our product line in general, and marketing areas of application. Also, showed them a copy of our latest issue of "Safe Use of 'Calidria' RG-244" which both Mr. Gossip and Dr. Pelnar were considerably impressed. Dr. Pelnar asked if we were planning to have a publication, particularly with regard to our work in the area of dust counts and various applications. I said that this and possibly other work that is currently being done in this area would eventually be published, but it would not be for sometime yet as we have not collected enough data.

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Mr. Gossip said that they are in close contact with Matt Swetonic of the AIA/NA and that we could obtain access to information furnished by the QAMA through Mr. Swetonic. Mr. Gossip also kindly offered to give me a tour of the mines and one of the larger J-M manufacturing plants the next time I was in the Montreal area. He said this would take the better part of a day, however, it might well be of interest to us. I said it would indeed be of interest, however, before accepting, I thought it prudent to clear this with our home office. He thought that wise and indicated he would do likewise, but foresaw no problems with regard to such a visit.

These people were most friendly and helpful both in the past and with their exchange of information presently. This appears to be a good contact for exchange of information and another pipeline to current situations within the asbestos industry and QAMA.

Typed 3/6/73
cjb