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GRACE

WRG

Construction Products Division

W.R. Grace & Co.
62 Whittemore Avenue
Cambridge, Mass. 02140

(617) 876-1400

July 11, 1983

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
WRG-765

Mr. Jack Miller
Jack Miller & Associates
1840 East Sahara Avenue
Las Vegas, NV

Dear Mr. Miller:

We are writing to you in regard to the upcoming remodeling and renovation work planned for the McCarron Airport, Las Vegas, Nevada.

As you know, sprayed-on fireproofing and acoustical plasters used in the 1960's and early 1970's, universally contained asbestos fibers. During this time, The Construction Products Division of W. R. Grace & Co. manufactured a gypsum-based cementitious fireproofing (Monokote, Type MK-3) which included commercial asbestos. (In the early 1970's, GRACE reformulated Monokote to eliminate the use of commercial asbestos.) It is our belief that the original fireproofing product on the McCarron Airport Bridge and Rotunda, in the 1960's, was Monokote (Type MK-3).

Monokote Type MK-3 fireproofing was a cementitious material that was wet-applied to form a plaster-type mixture which set to a relatively dense and durable material, well bonded to the surface to which it was applied. Because of the "setting" characteristics of the plaster-type Monokote material, the asbestos fibers are encapsulated in the matrix; and therefore, are not subject to release into the environment. This belief is supported by EPA statements (taken from the document, "Asbestos In Public Buildings," October, 1975) to the effect that:

"In contrast [to fibrous type dry spray applied fireproofing], no contamination [of the air supply system] was demonstrable in buildings in which cementitious spray material had been used."

However, during a major remodeling and/or removal program, it is possible that the in-place Monokote will be damaged and there is, then, the possibility that asbestos fibers will be released into the air. This may be the case in remodeling the McCarron Airport.

For your information and use, we are enclosing a copy of the Association of the Wall/Ceiling Industries document, "Guide Specifications for the Abatement of Asbestos Release From Spray-On Trowel-Applied Materials In Buildings and Other Structures."

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert T. Frohlich

-Robert T. Frohlich
Manager, Product Support

RTF/ko'c
Enclosures

cc: Larry Schilling/W. R. Grace & Co.

bcc: R. J. Bettacchi
R. Burnham/Zono Phoenix
R. C. Ericson
O. M. Favorito
T. P. Feit/CPD Santa Ana
R. C. Walsh
R. A. Merther