FILE NAME: Johnson & Johnson (JAJ)

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: J&J Letter RE "disturbing" FDA proposal RE concentration procedures

FDA

Johnson & Johnson
BABY PRODUCTS COMPANY

RARITAN, N.J. 08869

November 24, 1976

TO: Mr. George Lee

— G.L. file only; no xtras xx

Attached is a copy of a disturbing proposal request which the FDA has currently made available to qualified bidders. The scope of the work is the Separation of Asbestos in Foods, Drugs and Talc for Identification and Determination.

I find this proposal more disturbing than other proposals up to now because it aims at separation and isolation of asbestos from a wide scope of products and animal tissues. Up to now, our main problems have had to do with identification, whereas, now it looks like the FDA is getting into separation and isolation methodology which will mean concentration procedures. As I have pointed out many times, there are many talcs on all markets which will be hard pressed in supporting purity claims, when ultra sophisticated assay separation and isolation techniques are applied. Chances are that this FDA proposal will open up new problem areas with asbestos and talc minerals.

I intend to keep tuned into the matter through my outside mineral friends who called the thing to my attention while I was at a fiber meeting in Montreal, November 8th and 9th.

WHA.

W. H. Ashton

Attachment
WHA:blb

cc: Dr. D. R. Petterson, no attach.
Dr. B. Semple, no attach.

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