

August 17, 1972

EPA AUTOMOTIVE EMISSIONS

Dr. Spurgeon indicated that the Bendix Research Laboratories are working under contract for EPA on particulate emissions from brake linings and clutch facings and will not be finished until March 1973. Dr. Spurgeon felt it would not be proper to discuss results and progress to date on this study under contract to the government.

THE STATUS OF EPA REGULATIONS

Mr. Weaver indicated that one of the reasons for scheduling this meeting in August was to go over the new EPA regulations. However, this agency has not finalized their regulations as yet and it is not expected to be published until sometime in September. Mr. Weaver indicated that the problem was not with the asbestos sections, but rather with some of the other materials and he expected that their regulations will not be very much different from the earlier temporary regulations on asbestos. Once again, those earlier regulations were more concerned with control practices (collectors and disposal techniques) than with numerical emission values. No further action can be taken in this area until the EPA regulations are published.

CONSIDERATION OF SUBSTITUTES FOR ASBESTOS

At the Annual Meeting, in June, this Committee was directed to consider a recommendation that the Institute sponsor a research study to determine the possibilities of substitutes for asbestos. The purpose of this suggestion was that if an outside study were to show that certain materials might very well be acceptable substitutes for asbestos, the information would be made available to the members. If the outside study indicated that there were no satisfactory substitutes for asbestos in friction materials, this information could be used as a defense should we have a recurrence of action similar to Illinois' banning of asbestos based brake linings. The Committee discussed this and as most of them are working on asbestos substitutes and some, in particular, have marketed materials without asbestos (primarily metallics), they felt this suggestion would not be warmly received by many members. One member indicated that it would be very difficult for them to sanction the Institute making any such study considering the work they have done in the past.

Upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed, it was

RESOLVED: That the Asbestos Study Committee does not recommend an Institute study in the area of substitutes for asbestos.

WASTE DISPOSAL

Somewhere between the point where the asbestos product is finished and the waste materials are disposed of, the OSHA requirements will become EPA requirements. In other words, we are moving from the condition of standards in the work place to standards in the atmosphere or environment. The area of waste disposal is a major problem. All asbestos bearing wastes, according to the OSHA regulations, must be collected and disposed of in sealed impermeable bags or other closed impermeable containers. Whether a closed steel truck body is considered "impermeable" is a question. If the OSHA people mean what they say