



ASBESTOS INFORMATION ASSOCIATION

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Statement Regarding NIOSH Document to OSHA Dated December 1976
"Re-examination and Up-date of Information on the Health Effects
of Occupational Exposure to Asbestos"

From preliminary review of the NIOSH document, "Re-examination and Update of Information on the Health Effects of Occupational Exposure to Asbestos," dated December 1976 and transmitted to the Department of Labor December 15, the following comments are made:

. Studies cited in the NIOSH document do not define the levels of airborne asbestos dust to which individuals were exposed. The levels of exposure were most probably much higher than those now being experienced in the workplace. There is no evidence to support the proposition that the present OSHA standard for occupational exposure to asbestos--viz 2 f/cc of air longer than 5 microns in an eight-hour time-weighted average with a ceiling limitation against any exposure in excess of 10 f/cc is not safe for exposed populations.

. Contrary to the NIOSH statement, state of the art and practical considerations rule out sampling and analytical

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