

September 16, 1969

Lee B. Grant, M. D.

14 North

Asbestos Exposures in Pittsburgh  
Coming in Light of Public Health  
Service "Proposed Criteria and  
Recommended Interim Standard for  
Asbestos"

Mr. Bryl Stout

A copy of the Subject Standard is attached. In essence it recommends the 12 Fibers/ML 5 Microns or greater in length recommended by the Threshold Limit Value Committee of A.C.G.I.H. The importance of this document in regard to asbestos will be noted by inference on Page 2 of the attached. It is the first such Standard to be published, therefore, it has the Number One Priority for action under the Walsh-Healy Health and Safety Standards and under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1969 if enacted by Congress.

In reviewing the Asbestos Dust Studies in the Tyler and Port Allegany Plants done by the Public Health Service, the Fibers/ML Data takes on added significance. Nowhere in the unibestos plant at Port Allegany were you in compliance with this Standard. In most instances the dust data showed the Standard was exceeded by more than a five fold factor. Basically the same findings were made at Tyler.

While the proposed Standard will protect against asbestosis, it has certain stated limitations, one of which is that it gives no assurance that it will protect against malignancies.

In addition to the Dust Control Program on which you are already well-embarked, I strongly recommend a comprehensive annual medical examination of all unibestos employees, as well as a strong health education program concerning the particular hazards of cigarette smoking in asbestos workers. I will be pleased to work with you in the development of these programs.

Lee B. Grant, M. D.  
Medical Director

LBG:ls

Attachment

cc: D. J. Sherbondy  
Dr. M. Corn  
Dr. E. Bell  
H. C. Underwood  
J. Destefano

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