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__ article __ letter from __ medical __ trade journal

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__ unpublished or internal report

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__ newspaper article

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__ industry warning labels

__ industry sales literature

__ industry recommended practices

__ agenda ___ minutes ___ attendee list

legal __ deposition __ testimony of _____:

__ other

Johns-Manville

Internal Correspondence

Talc DF

To V. E. Wolkodoff

Date October 11, 1974

From R. S. Lamar

Copies See end of correspondence

Subject YOUR MEMO OF OCTOBER 9, 1974
OPTICAL AND TEM COUNTING OF ASBESTOS MINERALS IN ASBESTINE 3X, ASBESTINE 325, MYTAL 200, AND MYTAL 400 AS CURRENTLY PRODUCED BY R. T. VANDERBILT CO.

Thank you Vlad for your very fine report covering your microscopic examination of these samples. Your data confirm analyses we have had made on these same samples by J. P. McGourty using X-ray diffraction techniques (Report No. 414-T-33) and by K. Jaunarajs using differential thermal analysis - primarily for the detection of serpentine mineral.

These present samples are really no different from previous samples of Mytal and Asbestine that I have examined periodically over the years. They all contain very substantial amounts of both tremolite and chrysotile and in two cases substantial amounts of a third asbestos mineral, anthophyllite.

In numerous discussions I have had with R. T. Vanderbilt people, they have readily admitted to having tremolite ("which is not an asbestos mineral and is not fibrous"), but they have never admitted to the presence of either chrysotile or anthophyllite. They do admit that years ago, when they were deliberately mining certain sections of their deposits for fiber, some of their products did contain chrysotile. This product, "Mouldene," was sold as a direct replacement for asbestos in the manufacture of vinyl tile. I have examined "Mouldene" in the past and it was in fact almost entirely chrysotile. "Mouldene" is no longer being made, but all of the International Talc Company and R. T. Vanderbilt Company talc products always have and continue to contain chrysotile as a significant mineral component (in addition to tremolite and anthophyllite).

It is apparent that the R. T. Vanderbilt presentations to OSHA, NIOSH, FDA, MESA, etc. are based on something less than the truth. I find it difficult to believe that they could be so grossly misinformed as to what their materials really are.

How this information is ultimately used is something that will have to be decided at higher levels within J-M. However, it is my belief that R. T. Vanderbilt, with a continuance of their present methods, does nothing but confuse the issue among the talc producers and with the various Federal agencies involved. Any properly informed person would know that they are wrong.

R. S. Lamar

kjm

cc:

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File 414-C R. T. Vanderbilt