

GRACE

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Robert H. Beber, Vice President

W. R. Grace & Co.
Grace Plaza
1114 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036-7794
(212) 819-5757



January 15, 1990

Jon M. Arntson, Esq.
Arntson & Stewart, P.C.
Suite 520
Gate City Federal Building
500 Second Avenue North
P.O. Box 789
Fargo, ND 58107

Dear Mr. Arntson:

Reference is made to your letter of January 5, 1990 regarding the alleged presence of W. R. Grace & Co.-Conn ("Grace") fireproofing in the headquarters of Montana-Dakota utilities.

Grace fireproofing products sold under the Mono-Kote trade name may or may not contain commercially added asbestos. The date of manufacture of the product will control. Accordingly, it would be helpful to know when the fireproofing was installed in your client's premises.

Secondly, while Mono-Kote fireproofing was a widely accepted product it was not the only fireproofing material on the market. Please advise how you or your client concluded that the product in your client's premises was manufactured by Grace.

Finally, Mono-Kote fireproofing is a cementitious product. Unless abused it will perform its function without creating a problem. A visual inspection of the product in place plus periodic air sampling should establish that no action need be taken.

Yours truly,