

FILE NAME: Johns-Manville (JMA)

DATE: 1969 - 1976

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Meeting Minutes - Environmental
Health Task Force & Correspondence from Stokinger RE
Threshold Limits

MINUTES
Policy Committee Meeting
Environmental Health Task Force
June 16, 1969
Large Board Room

DR. GEORGE W. WRIGHT

1. Air Pollution Meeting - City of New York

Dr. Wright reported on June 9 meeting with Austin N. Heller of N.Y.C. Department of Air Resources in regard to possible community air pollution danger. Dr. Wright and six others, including Dr. Selikoff, gave testimony on various aspects of problem. Meeting between members of Mt. Sinai group and Sprayed Mineral Fiber Manufacturers Association on June 20 to discuss problem, with special emphasis on the new World Trade Center.

2. Government Study of Asbestos Textile Workers

A problem has arisen with regard to health study of asbestos workers being conducted by PHS with support of asbestos industry. PHS plans to send information on any abnormality they've discovered in an employee to that employee's personal physician. Dr. Wright believes such information should also be sent to the employee's plant doctor. Many asbestos companies, especially in the textile field, might not permit study to continue under these conditions.

3. IOEH Scientific Committee

Dr. Wright reported on a recent meeting of the Scientific Committee of the Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health. German mesothelioma study was not approved. Study of workers in New Orleans plants of J-M and National Gypsum tentatively approved. IIR study of trace metals needs re-designing before approval can be granted. Support granted to booklet on world asbestos/health situation.

4. Johannesburg Meeting

Attitude of doctors changing. No longer giving unqualified support to speculations about health effects of asbestos. Dr. Selikoff's studies of autopsied lungs in N.Y.C. cast

doubt on testimony; besides as indication of potential danger to general public.

Dr. Webster said he no longer believed that crocidolite alone was responsible for mesothelioma.

Bronchogenic cancer problem in South Africa is not as great as one would expect.

5. Plant Exchange Visits with Raybestos-Manhattan

Dr. Wright described some of the techniques used by Raybestos to reduce dust in their carding, twisting and spinning operations.

J. B. JOBE

1. IIHRP Activities

J. B. Jobe reported on June 11 Advisory Council meeting of IIHRP. The following topics were discussed:

- a) finances
- b) new combined packaging - mixing unit for asbestos-cement
- c) sprayed mineral fiber
- d) new mask development and testing
- e) dust-collectors on saws
- f) shipbuilding

W. L. VAN DERBEEK

1. Environmental Control Activities at J-M Plants

W. L. VanDerbeek reported on positive results of steps taken in J-M textile operation at Manville to reduce dust. The legal and industrial relations aspects of dust counts and the wearing of respirators by employees in potentially hazardous situations was discussed. Respirators will be required where dust counts are above the new TLV.

2. WLV also reported on results of personal air sampling dust counts taken at various J-M plants and in adjacent community. Tests showed tolerable TLV at most stations. Tests will continue, including community study at Thetford Mine.

F. J. SOLON, JR.

1. Dr. Wright Thoracic Society Meeting Presentation

Paper on "Asbestos and Health - 1969" given by Dr. Wright at Miami will be used for public relations purposes as soon as it has appeared in medical journals.

2. AIHA Denver Meeting

Mr. Solon, reporting on annual meeting of American Industrial Hygiene Association at Denver, commented on papers delivered by Dr. Pundsack, Dr. Selikoff and Dr. Stokinger. Written transcript of latter's comments on asbestos and health was given to attendees. Dr. Stokinger appears to be new "friend" on the asbestos/health horizon. We will monitor his writings and presentations.

Ivan Sabourin indicated that Dr. Selikoff would be willing to refute Dr. Stokinger's conclusions re asbestos-cement pipe. Further consideration required.

3. Organization - HEW

Mr. Solon distributed organization chart of health agencies of U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Hill & Knowlton has good contacts with most of the people on chart. J-M Washington office personnel would have to develop such contacts. Hill & Knowlton recommends that J-M establish personal contacts between HEW people and J-M people directly involved with environmental health work.

4. British Activities

Conference on the Control of Asbestos in the Working Environment being held in London, June 18, dealing with new British regulations and how they will affect industry. 300 people registered to attend. J-M will get sound tape and written transcript of full day's activities.

New shipbuilding codes under preparation in England.

A television program on the industrial hazards of asbestos is being prepared in England.

Dr. Selikoff has written letter to Turner & Newall requesting that Mt. Sinai team headed by Dr. Nicholson visit England to study asbestos work practices. J-M has no serious objections and Solon will convey this to Wilfred Howard, PR Director of T & N.

5. Upcoming Meetings

Mr. Solon distributed calendar of upcoming medical meetings with plans for coverage where required.

F. J. Solon, Jr.

fjs/eb

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AMERICAN CONFERENCE of GOVERNMENTAL INDUSTRIAL HYGIENISTS



October 13, 1976

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Dr. Paul Kotin
Senior Vice President
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Dear Paul:

Regarding Johns-Manville's stand on the Notice of Proposed Rule-Making on Occupational Exposure to Asbestos, April 1976, that you sent me, I would have thought you had plagiarized on my ideas on the subject had I not known otherwise.

You may be interested in another approach that the ACGIH Threshold Limits Committee adopted to substantiate the present levels of the TLV Committee of five fibers per cc, on the basis of a then-recent report by Enterline, in 1973, who had studied the mortality from cancer of all types and other forms of respiratory disease, from which we made calculations of safety factors for 30, 40 and 50 years of exposure. We did this, also, for the safety factor incorporated in the NIOSH Recommended Standard of 2 fibers/cc and still came out with appreciable safety factors for all forms of asbestos disease. (Please see copy attached.) Unfortunately, no one, not even my friends in NIOSH, wanted to give much credence to this, Selikoff also, saying that Enterline must have overlooked a number of mesotheliomas, etc., etc., etc. Enterline, of course, denies all of this.

But I think this represents a new approach that has not been considered that may help fortify your position against this unnecessary reduction in industrial air standards whenever the word "cancer" appears. OSHA or NIOSH have taken this position on Beryllium, Cadmium and Chromium, without justification, as time has not elapsed in any of these substances to show that the on-going standard is not protective. Their position is something like that of the Jewish race -- they cut a piece off before they know how long it's going to be!

Sincerely yours,

Herbert E. Stokinger, Ph.D.
Past Chairman
Threshold Limits Committee

Enclosure

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

~~HEALTH SERVICES AND MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION~~
Center for Disease Control

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
DATE:

August 8, 1973

TO : See Below

FROM : Chief, Toxicology Branch, DLCD
Chairman, Committee on Threshold Limits, ACGIH

SUBJECT: Identification of a Threshold of Response and Estimations of Safety Factors
in the Present Recommended Standards for the Industrial Carcinogen, ASBESTOS

Enterline et al. (Brit. J. Ind. Med. 30:162, 1973) reported that a study of the mortality from cancer and respiratory disease (asbestosis) of 1,348 retired asbestos workers, of whom approximately 1,000 were exposed to chrysotile, the remainder to crocidolite*, resulted in the conclusion that "there appeared to be no direct relationship between asbestos dust exposure and respiratory cancer below 125 mppcf-years."

This information is of the highest importance for two reasons:

- 1) It establishes a threshold of response for a chemical carcinogen.
- 2) It permits an estimate of the margin of safety incorporated in both the NIOSH and ACGIH recommended standard for asbestos.

The margin of safety (SF) in these recommended standards for all forms of asbestos disease and for chrysotile and crocidolite may be estimated as follows:

The NIOSH asbestos recommended standard of 2 fibers/ml > 5 μ in length is equivalent to 0.333+ mppcf, according to Lynch & Ayer (AIHAJ 27:431 (1966))

For 30 exposure-years @ 125 mppcf = 4.17 mppcf

For 40 exposure-years @ 125 mppcf = 3.13 mppcf

For 50 exposure-years @ 125 mppcf = 2.5 mppcf

Estimation of the Safety Factors** in the present NIOSH Standard:

For 30 years, $\frac{4.17 \text{ mppcf}}{0.333+} = \frac{\text{SF}}{12.5}$

For 40 years, $\frac{3.13}{0.333+} = 9.4$

For 50 years, $\frac{2.5}{0.333+} = 7.5$

*According to private communication with Enterline August 7, 1973.

**For all types of asbestos disease, cancers and asbestosis.

See Below

2

The ACGIH TLV of 5 fibers/ml > 5 μ m in length is equivalent to 0.8 mppcf.

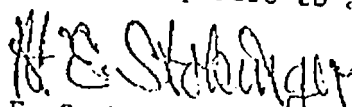
Estimation of the Safety Factors** in the present TLV:

$$\text{For 30 years, } \frac{4.17}{0.8} = \frac{SF}{5.2}$$

$$\text{For 40 years, } \frac{3.13}{0.8} = 3.9$$

$$\text{For 50 years, } \frac{2.5}{0.8} = 3.1$$

The above calculations permit for the first time validation of the asbestos recommended standards for chrysotile and crocidolite for all forms of asbestos disease and, moreover, permits an estimate of the margin of safety incorporated in these standards for 30, 40 and 50 years of exposure to asbestos.


H. E. Stokinger, Ph.D.

Copy furnished:

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