FILE NAME: Union Carbide (UC)

DATE: 1973 Nov 14

DOC#: UC379

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter RE Potential Usage of SG-210 in Fertilizers

INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

PLANTIFF'S EXHIBIT

ING AND METALS DIVISION

P. O. BOX 579, NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK 14302

To (Name) Messrs. R. E. Byrne, Jr.
Division G. L. Dickson
Location R. F. X. Fusaro
B. L. Ingalls
E. J. Kleber
J. L. Myers
Copy to T. P. Norris
W. C. Thurber
J. E. Walsh
File ✓

Date November 14, 1973

Originating Dept. "Calidria" Asbestos

Answering letter date

Subject Revision of Emergency Temporary Standard on Certain Carcinogens

Over the past several months we have had a number of inquiries that asked the question, "Is asbestos a carcinogen?" Further probing brought out the fact that the question concerned a recent OSHA regulation (copy attached) where carcinogen is defined as any of fourteen specific substances included in a given list or any mixture containing one percent or more of these substances by weight. The fourteen substances are organic compounds and do not include asbestos.

Obviously, asbestos is not a carcinogen under this definition or under this regulation. You may state this to any customer who inquires. In some cases, a written confirmation is requested. A form sheet to provide such a confirmation is attached. You may use this as appropriate. Do not change any wording without prior approval of our Law Department.

As you know, the answer to the same question in the broad sense is not as clear-cut. Medical opinion varies across the broad range from:

1. Asbestos is a very dangerous carcinogen to

2. Under certain exposure conditions certain types of asbestos may be carcinogenic.

You have an obligation not to mislead or misrepresent the true situation to the customer. Use your best judgment as to how detailed an answer should be provided.

H. B. Rhodes

H. B. Rhodes

HBR:cjb
Attachments

A20869

Dear Mr. _____:

This is in reply to your letter of _____.

Our asbestos does not contain any of the materials listed on page 20074 of Federal Register, Vol. 38, No. 144 - Friday, July 27, 1973 nor any derivatives of those materials nor any potential for degrading to form one of the listed materials or their derivatives.

Please contact _____ if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

_____

A20870