GAF CORPORATION

Interoffice Correspondence

To: Mr. J. Gow
Location: New York - 140

Date: June 12, 1981
cc:

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PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT GF-1755

Subject: INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE MONITORING RESULTS - CONTINUING OPERATIONS

Industrial hygiene monitoring data (as of June 1, 1981) submitted by the plants and CEED was reviewed to determine areas where any part of the work environment currently exceeds permissible exposure levels (PEL).

The following is a summary of our findings as it concerns continuing operations:

LOCATION	PEL EXCEEDED	JOB CLASSIFICATIONS AFFECTED
Baltimore	Silica Dust	Tapeman, Slateman
	Noise	Winder, Cutter, Wrapper, Remake, D. T. Feeder
Chester	None	
Dallas	Silica Dust	Release Tapeman, Back Surfacing
	Noise	Catcher #1, Timberline (All)
Denver	Silica Dust	Slateman
	Noise	Cutter, Autocatcher, Wrapper
Erie Lake	Noise	Sand Dryer, Winder & Takeoff
Fontana	No Data	
Gloucester	Noise	No. 5 Machine Tender, Chipperman Helper
Joliet	Silica Dust	Slateman #1 & #4, Surface/Backing #1 & #4, #4 Winderman & Coaterman
	Noise	Felt Mill - Machine Tender #1 & #3, #1 Shaving Puller, Defibrator, Screenman, Water treatment; Roofing - #1 Cutter & Autocatcher, #2 Winder & Trucker, #4 Cutter, Catcher & Wrapper

LOCATION	PEL EXCEEDED	JOB CLASSIFICATIONS AFFECTED
Kansas City	Silica Dust	Cutter, Release Tapeman Upper & Lower Slatemen, Dust Room Man
	Noise	#1 Cutter, Autocatcher & Indexer; Timberline - D.T. & B. S. Feeders, Accumulator & Boxmaker
Millis	Noise	Winder, Autocatcher, Cutter
Minneapolis	Silica Dust	Slateman, Surface & Backing, Tape Release, Machine Tender
	Noise	Cutter, Autocateher, Remake-man & Helper, Cornerman
Mobile	Silica Dust	Surface/Backing, Upstairs Slateman
	Noise	Feltmill - Defibrator, Machine Tender; Roofing - #1 Cutter, Autocatcher, Remake, Wrapper.
Mt. Vernon	Silica Dust	Slateman-machine, Surfacing/ Backing, Winder, Wrapper, Cutter, Catcher, Palletizer, Relief (Take-off), Rework,
Savannah	Silica Dust	Slate Mixer Helper, Coater, Selfseal Man
	Noise	Feltmill - Defibrator; Roofing - D.T. & B.S. Feeders, Catcher, Cutter, Winder, Mica Man, Wrapper, Truck Driver
St. Louis	None	
South Bound Brook	Silica Dust	#1-Coating Roll, Console, Merry-go-round, Reliefman; #2-Machine Tender, Coating Roll, Surfacing, Utility
	Noise	#1 Take-off, Wrapper, Palletizer; #2-Reeler; Timberline-D.T. & B. S. Feeders, Take-off
Tampa	Silica Dust	Coaterman, Taperelease, Cooling Section

LOCATION	PEL EXCEEDED	JOBCLASSIFICATIONS AFFECTED
Tampa (continued)	Noise	Cutter, Autocatcher, Wrapper, Palletizer, Winder, Pallet Loader Relief

The extent to which corrective action has been taken in the past has varied. Control of dust in the work environment is dependent on providing adequate dust collection systems, properly maintained, with sufficient pick-up points to prevent the bulk of the particles from becoming airborne. Material transfer systems enclosed to the greatest extent possible with bulk unloading systems are preferred over bag handling and opening operations. Sufficient make-up air is needed, especially in the winter, when the buildings are closed up in order to maintain required air flows. Housekeeping is critical, especially where dust collects on overhead surfaces and shakes loose due to equipment vibration. Because no two facilities are alike, the solution to the dust problem must be evaluated on an individual basis with the efficiency of existing systems determined. In the interim, respiratory equipment is being required on all job classifications found in excess of the PEL.

In this area also, unless compelled by a citation, noise control efforts have been limited. Installation of mufflers, vibration damping, acoustical treatment of machines and surfaces, cushioning of metal-to-metal impacts, modifying equipment to eliminate noisy components, operating from within sound proof enclosures and adequate maintenance to minimize vibrating parts are some of the control methods that can be used and have been tried with varying success. Since basic operations are similar in all felt and roofing mills, (although noise problems will differ due to layout of equipment, building structure, production rates, worker practices, product manufactured, etc.) the results of a noise survey conducted by NATLSCO of Mobile was recently distributed to all plants for possible application of corrective measures to other operations.

Hearing conservation programs are being relied on to a large extent for minimizing adverse effects on employees. The two elements of the program, audiometric testing and enforcing the use of hearing protection devices, however, have not been rigidly maintained in all locations.

CHEMICAL GROUP

In the Chemical Products plants, there are no known exposures that currently exceed the PEL. Industrial hygiene surveys by NATLSCO at Texas Ctiy and Linden and at Calvert City by Kentucky OSHA's consulting group, tend to confirm plant and CEED monitoring results.

In the Mineral Products plants, the following exposures exist:

LOCATION	PEL EXCEEDED	JOB CLASSIFICATIONS AFFECTED
Annapolis	Silica Dust	Primary Crusher, Dryer Operator, Dryer Utility, Screenman, Batchman North & South, Kilnman
	Noise	Driller, Screenman, Dryer Utility, Shovel Operator

LOCATION	PEL EXCEEDED	JOB CLASSIFICATIONS AFFECTED
Bound Brook	Silica Dust	Mill Operator, Batchman, Mixerman, Dryer Operator, Fireman
	Noise	Screenman, Mill Operator, Tractor Operator, Fireman
Charmian	Silica Dust	Mill Operator, Jaw Crusher, Intermediate Operator, Dryer Operator, Mill Operator & Helper, TCM Bagger
	Noise	Driller, Mill Operator, Intermediate Operator, Drop Ball Operator
Kremlin	Silica Dust	Screenman, Oiler, Mill Cleaner, Pigment & Supply, Mill Operator, Dryer Operator, Crusher Operator, Kiln Operator
	Noise	Kiln Operator, Driller, Shovel Operator, Screenman, Mill Cleaner, Dryer Operator, Crane Operator

Engineering controls for dust and noise have been instituted including improved housekeeping efforts. However, further engineering controls to supplement existing systems may still be warranted in order to reach the state of the art in this specific industry. Continual maintenance of dust control systems is critical in obtaining optimum effectiveness due to the abrasive character of the materials handled.

Personal protective equipment (respirators, earplugs or muffs) is continually enforced in the Mineral Products plants. Annual health screenings including audiometric testing are being conducted.

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