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CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS DIVISION

W. R. GRACE & CO. 62 WHITTEMORE AVENUE CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02140 617/876-1400

August 22, 1972

Mr. J. J. Marino
Quigley Co., Inc.
235 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Marino:

Confirming our conversation of today, measurements of respirable dust containing some free silica were made at two of our vermiculite expanding plants in the Fall of 1971. The TLV for the respirable mass fraction was not exceeded at the positions in the plants where the vermiculite is bagged.

The free silica concentration of our bagged vermiculite was found to be less than 1% by weight (the limit of detection). The Cristobalite content of vermiculite is not known as well, since it is harder to detect than quartz. However, it is not a major impurity occurring in vermiculite deposits. Its concentration must therefore also be less than 1%.

This information is not exhaustive but is the best we have available, and we hope it will enable you to evaluate your problems in handling Zonolite in your plant.

Very truly yours,

H. C. Duecker
Vice President-Research

HCD:mlr

QUIGLEY CO., INC.
RECEIVED
AUG 24 1972
J. J. MARINO

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