

August 11, 1971

RE: UPDATE ON CONTACT WITH ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

On July 9, we were finally able to establish a working contact with Timothy Harker, a special assistant to Illinois Pollution Control Board member Samuel Lawton. Harker, according to our best information, is the author of the proposed Illinois state asbestos regulations. In a conversation with Harker on the 9th, I obtained a verbal commitment from him to meet with a team of industry experts to discuss the regulations prior to the public hearings, which are scheduled for sometime in late September or early October. Harker, who was leaving on vacation the next day, promised to contact me upon his return.

Despite his promise, Harker did not get back to me when he returned from vacation. After many unsuccessful tries, I finally managed to reestablish contact with Harker on August 6. He apologized for not having called, but explained that he had been extremely busy. He then explained the current situation to me as follows.

The Board has certain questions with regard to the proposed regulations (what those questions are he would not say). As a result, those questions were turned over to the Illinois Institute for Environmental Quality for answers. The institute does not conduct its own research, but farms out projects to those best qualified to do the work. Harker told me that he had specified to the institute that Dr. Colin Harwood of the Illinois Institute of Technology be given the contract to do the necessary research to answer the Board's questions.

Harker admitted that while he had written the proposed regulations, he was not technically oriented and so a meeting between just he and the industry team would probably be a waste of time because he would probably not be able to understand what we were telling him. As a result, he said that he would phone Dr. Harwood and find out if he would be willing to meet with the industry group to discuss the regulations.

Harker called back about ten minutes later to report that Dr. Harwood had not as yet received the contract to do the necessary research, but that he was positive the industry team could be of great value in his work and that he would certainly be willing to meet with us.

As a result, it was arranged that Harker would prod the institute to give the contract to Dr. Harwood as soon as possible. Harwood would then study the various questions asked by the Board and be prepared to discuss the regulations with the industry team. Harker said that he would contact me the week of August 23 (probably on the 26th or 27th) and set up a firm date for the meeting, probably the week of September 13.

Additional updates on this matter will be distributed as the situation develops.

Matthew M. Swetonic

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