FILE NAME: Owens-Corning (OC)

DATE: 1941 Apr 16

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Intra Company Memo RE Asbestos vs. fiberglas

OWENS-CORNING FIBERGLAS CORPORATION

INTRA-COMPANY CORRESPONDENCE

General Offices - Toledo, Ohio

COPY

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Memo of Mr. W. P. Zimmerman April 16th, 1941.

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Subject: TRE 65% MAGNESIA, ASBESTOS VS FIBERGLAS SITUATION

Attached hereto is April issue of the Asbestos Worker.

On page four, I have marked the recording of the Wednesday afternoon, March 12, 1941 session.

On page twenty-five, paragraph two, I have marked material for your reading also.

You have your thoughts, of course, on this situation and perhaps you don't care for mine, but may I give you my observations just the same for whatever they may be worth.

It appears to me that Mullaney finds himself in the happy position of having Fiberglas trying to worm its way into the picture and the obvious opportunity this gives him to deal with the newcomer for the gain of the Union.

I reason that the negotiations with us up to the moment have not been to his, or the Union's satisfaction and, consequently, they have made an issue of the situation in their several meetings and have gone on record that evidence is to be gathered, etc. etc. to support their claim of the ill effects, etc. in working Fiberglas so that they can reach a definite decision in the 1942 convention. I believe that this is done in this way to serve notice on us and still give us time to negotiate with them on a settlement which will be acceptable to Mullaney and the Union.

I feel this situation is of such great importance to us nationally and to our future that I have instructed the personnel in New York not to take any action on this situation other than the gathering of a bit of evidence here or there (you will recall the asbestos worker in New Jersey who died and which we discussed at the time of the President's Award Dinner in New York - we are trying to get information together on this).

I rather feel that you or Mr. Boerstenstein, or both, wish to formulate the complete plan and direct the procedure on this situation and so we here are going to do nothing until and unless

Substitute the one with Exhibit No.

BMS-EX-1642

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specifically directed by you, or whomever you appoint. I believe you would want it this way. This is one which can't be mishandled and if everybody gets their ear in, it's bound to be messed up.

I talked with Ed Waldvogel about it today and he is quite upset and is hesitant about bidding jobs and particularly taking contracts for fear the local situation will develop into his having to pay a higher rate than he now uses for estimating purposes in actually fulfilling the contract. He wants to know if our company will protect him in this. Will you please answer this one for me?

Attached hereto is a letter from Ford Harris of Waldvogel Brothers, that Bill Dias had him write for him and I have underscored certain interestingparts of this for you.

Waldvogel's contention is that the men of the local unions are of a high type, reasonable and of all the experience he has had with unions in connection with building materials and their application, he has never had a better reception accorded him than by the local chapter of the Asbestos Workers which is presided over by President Ryder of Local #12.

Emmett Nicholsen, Waldvogel's superintendent, is well acquainted with a number of these people and is thoroughly familiar with their routine methods of operation, etc. etc., and with the connections we have and the understandings which Waldvogel and we have of this situation, we feel it would be well for you, or your representative to come to New York where we might be able to assist you in the handling of this situation.

In any event, we stand ready to do your bidding in whatever manner you direct.

(signed) Jan Irvine

JAN S. IRVINE

ADD

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