FK

INTRACOMPANY CORRESPONDENCE

R-98 (Rev. 1-68)

[redacted]

FROM: Homer M. Cole - Industrial Hygiene, GOB

→ TO:

D. E. Thrasher - EXO	A. M. Murphy - EXO
R. H. Featherston - EXO	S. T. Abbate - EXO
L. A. Johnson - EXO	W. J. Vogel - EXO
~~R. D. O'Donnell - GOB~~	~~R. C. Roberts - EXO~~
E. H. Lucas - Staples Mill	R. N. Bolling - EXO
R. B. Jackson - Staples Mill	F. L. Morris - SIRCO
W. B. Moore - EXO	R. W. Downs - Staples Mill
R. E. Cole - EXO	B. J. Sasser - GOB
R. M. Kibby - EXO	Dr. J. M. MacMillan - EXO
W. A. Wright - EXO	Dr. E. C. Irby - EXO
R. B. Newman - EXO	
J. R. Amos - EXO	

COPY:

DATE & SUBJECT:

April 22, 1976

Effective July 1, 1976, the OSHA standard regulating employee exposure to asbestos will be lowered from 5 fibers/cc of air to 2 fibers/cc. On the basis of our asbestos sampling information collected to date, it is the opinion of the Industrial Hygiene Department that we will not be able to comply with the provisions of this standard in the machining of asbestos-containing products.

The lowering of the standard makes it quite likely that this new level (2 fibers/cc) will be exceeded. When this is found to occur, we are required by law to notify all employees in writing of their overexposure, implement costly programs such as providing protective clothing and laundering services, dual lockers, separate showering facilities, and a very extensive environmental monitoring and medical surveillance program. Even if we could comply with the July mandate, OSHA has recently proposed a more stringent standard for asbestos of 0.5 fibers/cc, which we do not feel could be complied with under any circumstances.

It should be pointed out that we have had a number of cases in the past two years where employees have had to be notified of their overexposure to asbestos, and the experience has been, to say the least, traumatic.

Homer M. Cole

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HMC/mm

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