

FILE NAME: WR Grace (WRG)

DATE: September 11, 1967

DOC#: WRG035

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: 1967 Zonolite Division memo regarding former employee with asbestos in lungs

ZONOLITE DIVISIO

TO R. W. Sterrett

DATE September 11, 1967

04209300

FROM E. D. Lovick

SUBJECT

CC: O. F. Stewart, R. A. Bleich

About two weeks ago, a former employee of ours, Herman Hermesen, called me and said he had been referred to a Spokane doctor by his local doctor. This doctor in Spokane told him that he had asbestos in his lungs.

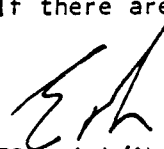
Mr. Hermesen worked for us from 1950 to 1960, when he was retired for what was diagnosed as arterial disease. At that time he was 60 years old.

At that time our insurance carrier was Royal Indemnity Company. If there is any claim, they would of course be responsible. I called the attorney who handled their matters in Montana and he told me that it was doubtful that the man had any claim under Montana law as it was at that time, even if it is determined that this diagnosis is correct, but it would have to be checked out. He would notify the company that there would be a possibility of this coming up.

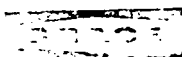
I went to see Mr. Hermesen and he told me again what he had said on the phone. He told me he intended to get an attorney to check this out for him. The Royal attorney had told me that this is what the man should do. I told Herman that this was the wise thing for him to do, and advised him to get a reputable lawyer.

On Friday, an attorney came in and told me that he was representing Mr. Hermesen. I verified his employment dates with us. The attorney is from Kalispell, and from what I know of him, will be honest and fair. In other words, he is not one of these industrial disease shyster specialists.

If there are further developments, we will keep you informed.


EDLovick/jbg

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R. W. S.
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W. R. GRACE & C