PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

CAP-574

Bernis W. Sadler, Mayor
Councilmen:
Charles L. Rhodes, Jr.
Mayor ProTem
Bannister J. Baptiste
Ray Bernard
Malcolm L. Clark
Arthur J. Guidry
T. L. H[illegible]nd
Willie Lewis, Jr.
Walter Mosely
George D.brell
City Manager

CITY of PORT ARTHUR

P. O. BOX 1089 • PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS 77640 • AREA CODE 409 983-3321

January 9, 1984

Joint

Edward A. Klein, Director
Chemical Control Division
United States Environmental
Protection Agency
Washington D.C.

RECEIVED JAN 12 1984

David Mayer
Chemical Control Division
United States Environmental
Protection Agency
Washington D.C.

SUBJECT: Ban of AC Pipe in Construction Projects

Gentlemen:

The City of Port Arthur is cognizant of the US EPA's proposed rule to prohibit the use of asbestos in a number of construction projects, including asbestos-cement (A-C) pipe which would take effect in the early fall. The proposed regulations, at this time, do not affect AC pipe now in use, but we feel that this is the first step to require replacement.

The City of Port Arthur currently has over 235 miles of A-C pipe in our water distribution system. We have performed aggressiveness tests on our A-C lines (some which have been in place since 1941) and also removed and tested samples of AC pipe throughout the system. Our potable water was found to be moderately aggressive and the AC pipe is in excellent condition.

The Agency's belief that AC pipe should not be used where other products such as metal and plastic, are available does not consider the cost and service life of the alternate materials.

Continued...

There is no evidence that ingestion of asbestos in drinking water causes any health problems and it is our feeling that it should not be regulated.

Please place the undersigned on your Agency's mailing list so that we can keep informed on this project and proposed rule.

Yours truly,

Robert A. Bowers, P.E.
Director, Public Services

RAB/tlb

cc: John F. Welch, Vice President
A-C Pipe Producers Association
1600 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1308
Arlington, Virginia 22209