FILE NAME: Hercules Chemical (HERC)

DATE: 1976 June 7

DOC#: HERC030

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memo RE Loss of Asbestos Raw Material from a Closing South African Mine & Exploration of Other Avenues of Supply

Exhibit 44

HAVEG INDUSTRIES, INC.
900 Greenbank Road
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19808

TO: George L. Squire

DATE June 7, 1976

FROM: E. B. O'Neill

M. O.

SUBJECT: Asbestos Raw Material Supply

C. O.

PROJECT NO.

I was informed today by Adam Novak that the South African mine which is currently supplying our asbestos will be shutting down this year, because the quality of the ore body has deteriorated to the point where they believe it is no longer economical to mine it. They will continue to supply us with some asbestos, hopefully about 100 tons, for the balance of this year. Mr. Novak is going to contact his other asbestos sources, and will call back within a week with whatever information he has been able to obtain.

I called Special Asbestos Company, but Dick Wareham is in Africa and is not expected back until June 16.

We will continue to try to locate new asbestos sources, but, in case we are unsuccessful, I believe we should immediately investigate the following alternatives.

1. Determine what Haveg formulation changes will be necessary to allow us to utilize much shorter grades of asbestos. We would probably require additional dewatering equipment in the asbestos plant to process this type of material.

2. Investigate purchasing untreated asbestos to make Haveg 41. This would require a much shorter grade of asbestos, because we would not have to allow for fiber degradation during processing, and this type of material should be more readily available. This would conserve our leachable asbestos supply for Haveg 61 use and would provide about a two year supply. There would also be a substantial cost saving with this approach.

I will continue to stay in close contact with this situation, and will keep you informed of any new developments.

EBO'N/gf

cc: H. D. Barton
L. deBrabander
R. W. Smith

HERC 01004

Pltf's Champ-Herc
Exhibit 183