



PPG INDUSTRIES, INC./ONE GATEWAY CENTER/PITTSBURGH, PA 15222 AREA 412/434-3846

September 13, 1971

LEE B. GRANT, M.D.
Medical Director

William M. Johnson, M.D.
Department of Health, Education and Welfare
National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health
550 Main Street
Federal Office Building, Room 7033
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Dear Dr. Johnson:

The following reports and correspondence from my personal Port Allegany Plant file, in which you had indicated an interest, are enclosed for your information:

1. Report of Survey, June 9-10, 1964, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Health, Division of Occupational Health;
2. Letter dated 1/27/66 from Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to Pittsburgh Corning Corporation, Port Allegany;
3. Report on Industrial Survey of Selected Process Operations performed April 14-15, 1966 at Pittsburgh Corning Port Allegany Plant by Dr. Morton Corn for Industrial Hygiene Foundation;
4. Report on Industrial Hygiene Survey of Selected Plant Operations, August 27-28, 1968 at Port Allegany by Dr. Morton Corn;
5. Bill from Port Allegany Community Hospital listing names of Pittsburgh Corning Employees of August 28, Port Allegany, who were given chest X-rays;
6. Memorandum for Record of L. B. Grant, dated August 24, 1971, Subject: Telephone Call from Dr. William Johnson, N.I.O.S.H.;
7. Environmental Survey Summary, Asbestos Dust in Port Allegany Unibestos Plant;
8. List of all Pittsburgh Corning employees who have or are now working in Unibestos production from February, 1964 to August 27, 1971;
9. List of Pittsburgh Corning employees x-rayed in April, 1971;
10. Memorandum of J. R. Murray, Personnel Manager, Port Allegany, to All Employees, dated August 23, 1971, Subject: Use of Respirators;
11. Memorandum of G. B. Botera, Port Allegany, to All Guards, dated August 26, 1971, Subject: Duties of Guards Relative to Respirators.

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The following reports of studies performed at the University of California (Berkeley), which you requested, are enclosed. Please keep these reports confidential until after the authors have had an opportunity to publish them.

1. "Dust-Producing Potential of Construction Materials"
2. "Dust-Producing Potential of Construction Materials, Phase II"

When I receive a copy of Dr. Hurst's study of the Tyler employees, I will send the same to Mr. Martin C. Wukasz, P.E. Director, Division of Occupational Health and Radiation Control, Texas State Department of Health, who will forward a copy to you as he advised in his August 30, 1971, letter to you.

In my opinion, Pittsburgh Corning Corporation has shown a rather outstanding sense of responsibility in the matter of its asbestos-containing thermal pipe insulation, both toward its own employees and those employees in the insulation trade who must install and tear out such materials, in their actions leading to the decision to manufacture an asbestos-free thermal pipe insulation.

It is also my opinion that it would be in the best interest of both the Tyler and Port Allegany Plants' employees if the Temporary Variance requested under O.S.H.A. by the Pittsburgh Corning Corporation were granted to enable time for transition to the asbestos-free product. In meetings that I personally just concluded with the Pittsburgh Corning employees working in unibestos and their Union Officers in which I explained in detail both the hazards of asbestos, the Variance Request and their rights for working under O.S.H.A., all appeared to favor the company's actions in connection with the Variance Request. It is hoped that a favorable response to the Pittsburgh Corning Variance Request will be forthcoming from the Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health.

Lastly, if possible, I would appreciate a copy of your trip report on Port Allegany also a copy of the various forms to be used by the Morgantown people in conjunction with the examination program.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lee B. Grant, M.D.

Lee B. Grant, M.D.
Medical Director

LBG:lc

Enclosures

cc: Mr. C. P. Olm
Mr. E. W. Holman
Mr. M. Wukasz
Dr. L. Balzer

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B. Murray

**HANDLING UNIBESTOS® IN SHIPPING AND
WAREHOUSING FUNCTIONS.**

September 14, 1971

To perhaps clarify our position regarding the use of respirators when handling Unibestos® in the warehouse area I suggest we publish the following guidelines.

1. Under normal conditions, the handling, storage and warehousing of undamaged cartons of Unibestos present no significant health-safety problems.
2. If cartons are broken or damaged while Unibestos® is being handled, if there are opened cartons or loose pieces of Unibestos® laying around the warehouse, the following steps should be taken:
 - a. If spillage occurs, debris should be cleaned up immediately with those people doing the cleaning wearing approved respirators.
 - b. When cleaning spillage, vacuum equipment should be used to pick up dust and small particles. Again, people doing the cleaning should use approved respirators.
 - c. If repacking is done, approved respirators should be worn while performing this function.

Please let me have your opinion on the above so that we can proceed to instruct your people regarding the use of respirators.

Also, Dr. Lee Grant in his trip report, mentions the Fibernest situation in Plant 1. While mentioning your participation in the tour of the area, he also indicated that recommendation was made to increase the fan capacity so that 200 linear feet of air per minute is pulled across the face of the paint booth. I know we discussed this, but it seems a course of action is necessary, as the State may come in and take lead-air samples in the area including the lunch room. Again, let me have your opinion so we can resolve the issue.

Dick

cc: G. S. Gregory

/w

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