PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

DOW-1752

CURRENT STATUS OF LIST OF ASBESTOS-EXPOSED DOW MICHIGAN EMPLOYEES

PURPOSE: Exposure to asbestos is known to be associated with increased mortality from certain diseases, including cancer of the lung. It is therefore, desirable to identify those members of Dow Michigan cohorts and controls who have had significant asbestos exposure, and to consider their mortality/morbidity experiences separately.

BACKGROUND: In a report dated 13 October 1970, Jerry Ott identified men who had worked as pipe coverers between the 1920's and January 1970 - persons with this job classification could be assumed to have had significant asbestos exposure. This original list was compiled from yearly censuses, so persons with less than 1 year exposure may have been missed. The list was apparently updated 11/72 (at least deaths were updated), 8/30/72, 5/23/73 and 8/30/73.

PRESENT STATUS: From Jerry's IBM cards, Bernie Lasich has now assembled a computer disk file which incorporates all 178 Dow Midland employees considered by Jerry to have had significant exposure to asbestos. On that file, the last date on which vital status is known was January 1973 (0173), when all but 46 of the 178 were still working and, significantly, only 8 had retired. For each pipe coverer, the computer data available includes man #, last name (initials sometimes), birthdate (mo./yr.),

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date started asbestos exposure (mo./yr.), date completed 1 year of exposure (mo./yr.) - which is the same as date started except with the next year, vital status (working, dead, retired, quit, etc.), and date of vital status.

DISCUSSION: One could probably make a case for asbestos exposure in almost everyone who worked in the Midland production plants prior to 1970, given the extensive use of steam and pipes. In fact, even though Dow discontinued use of new asbestos pipe coverings between 1968 and 1973, and discontinued use of asbestos weather proofing paper in 1976; and despite industrial hygiene efforts to prevent exposures during rip outs of old pipe coverings; there may be sporadic exposures for a long time to come as brittle old coverings are removed or repaired.

Industrial hygiene data are limited prior to 1974; apparently, since 1974 exposures have been less than 1 fiber/ml TWA, and respirators have been used for all rip outs. Nevertheless, it seems reasonable that pipe coverers prior to 1970 be considered those with highest exposures, those from 1970-74 much less exposed and those since 1974 very minimally exposed. If I interpret Jerry Ott's reports (000020 in his files) correctly, pre-1970 pipe coverers have, in fact, suffered increased pulmonary mortality & morbidity compared to controls.

A weakness of using Jerry's list as the sole source for identifying asbestos-exposed individuals is, as pointed out by Jerry himself, that pipe coverers not on census

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lists (i.e. with exposure of less than 1 year) may be missed. In addition, the list needs updating since 1973. Finally, the list includes only pipe coverers whereas other job categories (i.e. chlorine cell fabricators) may also be exposed.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that a list of Dow Midland employees considered to have had significant exposure to asbestos be compiled and the members be considered separately in any Dow Michigan epidemiological studies. Pipe coverers before 1974, and certain other job categories such as power plant mechanics and chlorine cell fabricators should be on the Asbestos List. Individuals with service as pipe coverers since 1974 probably should also be identified and probably considered in a separate, but less heavily exposed, category. Man numbers of some pipe coverers are presently available on the lists compiled by Jerry Ott & now available on a disk prepared by Bernie Lasich. Leroy Baker has identified additional pipe coverers, most with service since 1973: these will be added to the Asbestos List. Man numbers were obtained from hard copy searches for the pipe coverer category of personnel print out lists by department for 1 January 71 through 80. These lists were available in 2020 and 690 Buildings. Man numbers also were obtained by computer listing of job classifications for 1977 which has been obtained through a program written for Leroy by Jerry Stoops.

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In order to verify that all these categories are, in fact, at special risk, it is recommended that a retrospective cohort mortality study be performed for those on the List. For this purpose, mortality according to intensity of exposure and job category should be checked.

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