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OUTSIDE MEDICAL
EVALUATIONS OF
PLANT EMPLOYEES

Over the past several months at Anderson, Aiken, Newark and Berlin we have had workmen complaining of job related diseases usually of pulmonary origin which there were valid questions concerning there relationship to their work.

In each of these situations, it was deemed medically advisable to get a disinterested medical opinion--a physician specializing in chest diseases. The problem that arises is, how should the physician be paid for his examination. I feel that if it is a valid question in the mind of the plant physician which cannot be resolved after consultation with my office, that the best interests of the company and occupational medicine are served by a third party opinion.

I feel this will prevent unnecessary compensation claims, as well as controlling unfounded rumors among the employees. Additionally, it will also help us to discover any links that may exist in our operations, especially in the batch area, and disease.

I would appreciate your thoughts on a method to make funds available for such examinations, since this has been a problem in attempting to handle each one on an individual basis. It is expected there will be 12-15 such cases per year.

If you have any questions or comments, please let me know.

JLKing