

01544



UNITED STATES MINERAL PRODUCTS COMPANY

General Office and Plant
STANHOPE, NEW JERSEY 07874

Tel. 347-1200 Area Code 201
Cable: CAFCOINSUL New York

June 3, 1966

Mr. Alton Evans, Project Manager
Huber, Hunt & Nichols - Frank Briscoe Company, Joint Venture
Cleveland Federal Office Building
East 9th and Lakeside
Cleveland, Ohio



Dear Mr. Evans:

In reply to the telephone request of Mr. William Weimer, we are pleased to comment on the questions raised concerning the possibility of a health hazard thought by some persons to result from exposure to the spraying of the mineral fiber now being applied for fireproofing at the Cleveland Federal Office Building.

There has been some publicity recently with respect to the possible effects of long exposure to high concentrations of asbestos dust. Although the studies have been under way for years, no final reports or findings have been released. Apparently, the probability of a health hazard exists only in those situations where there is exposure to asbestos dust over long periods, probably many years, and in places where there is a high dust concentration and ventilation is lacking. None of these studies are related specifically to spray mineral fiber products, nor to our CAFCO BLAZE-SHIELD Type D being used on this job.

Our CAFCO materials are specially treated during processing with dust control agents. Dust concentration is further minimized by the introduction of atomized water sprays as the fiber leaves the hose. The likelihood of any serious concentration of dust particles would be only in the immediate vicinity of the spray gun. For that reason we caution applicators to wear suitable dust masks, since they may be working under these conditions over extended periods of time.

We doubt seriously that any real hazard exists for other workmen on the same site who are not actually spraying fiber. We have no knowledge of any sprayer or workman using CAFCO material or of any person exposed to it ever having been afflicted with a respiratory ailment caused by our fiber or process. We have been informed by the other members of the Sprayed Mineral Fiber Manufacturers Association, Inc. that, similarly, they have no knowledge of any case of respiratory illness being caused by the use of their spray mineral fiber products.

Of course, if a particular workman is unduly sensitive to dust, he should also wear a suitable protective mask. Such allergic tendencies would be exhibited in the presence of most any dust, such as fiber spraying, concrete hammering, plaster mixing, floor sweeping, and the like.

We believe this answers the questions raised, and we will be pleased to furnish such other information as may be required.

Yours very truly,

UNITED STATES MINERAL PRODUCTS COMPANY

John F. O'Rourke,
Vice President - Sales



MINERAL FIBER AND FOAMED PLASTIC PRODUCTS FOR HIGH AND LOW TEMPERATURE INSULATION, CEILING SYSTEMS, PACKAGING, FLotation, DISPLAY AND CONSUMER ITEMS

CAFCO SPRAYED FIBER PRODUCTS FOR FIREPROOFING, IN OF BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT AND ACOUSTICAL IN