LAKE ASBESTOS OF QUEBEC, LTD.
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10005

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MINE AT BLACK LAKE
QUEBEC, CANADA

May 9, 1972

Memorandum for
Messrs. M. J. Messel
F. G. Hamrick
S. D. Weaver
W. P. Roe
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Calcium Silicate Pipe and Block
Thermal Insulation Market

Pabco, JM and Owens Corning Fiberglas are the main manufacturers of this high temperature industrial insulation. Pabco of California has replaced their blend of amosite and chrysotile with wood fibre. JM, the largest producer, is in the process of changing their insulation and other products from asbestos. Owens Corning will change soon as they can.

The change is caused mainly by the large industrial consumers such as DuPont and Union Carbide refusing to use insulation made with asbestos, 15% by wt. This is due to the documented problems insulation workers have had in the past.

I would estimate that about 40% of total asbestos used in calcium silicate insulation is chrysotile, and 60% amosite. With a total market estimated at 10,000ST/yr., the chrysotile loss, would be 4,000ST, half of it JM's. A small loss to the total market of 700,000ST.

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My real concern is the effect this action, taken by such large consumers, will have on the current and future acceptance of asbestos cement pipe in the U.S. Any study of the plastic pipe threat to the A-C pipe business should include a review of existing data on the

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effect, if any, of A-C pipe on health. Tests to determine the degree of fibre release would be important.

A possible action to protect A-C pipe from future problems would be a sprayed plastic coating on the inside of the pipe. This is already done on some sewer pipe to improve SO_2 resistance.

EAF:emc

E. A. FARRELL