FILE NAME: Johns-Manville (JMA)

DATE: 1977

DOC#: JMA507

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memos RE Dow Asbestos Construction Products Ban

30855

Johns-Manville

Internal Correspondence

To Paul Kotin

Date: November 1, 1977

From S. R. Heath, Jr.

Copies: G. E. Parker, File

Subject DOW CHEMICAL

Earl mentioned recently that Dow Chemical has banned the use of asbestos products in their own construction. We have fairly regular contact with Dow Chemical and do a reasonable amount of business with them. I would be more than happy to bring this to the attention of their general sales manager.

Could you please give me any further information you might have concerning this, particularly where you heard it, and I will see what kind of a response I get from them.

S. R. Heath, Jr.

jmm

PRIVILEGED

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S. R. HEATH, 2-12 NOVEMBER 4, 1977

PAUL KOTIN, M.D., 1-06

FILE

DOW CHEMICAL - YOUR MEMO OF 11/1/77

ENCLOSED ARE COPIES OF THE CORRESPONDENCE I RECEIVED FROM J. F. SLOAN CONCERNING DOW'S BANNING OF ASBESTOS-CONTAINING PRODUCTS. I HAVE WRITTEN TO A COLLEAGUE OF MINE AT DOW CONCERNING THE BAN. BEFORE YOU CONTACT DOW'S GENERAL SALES MANAGER, I WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS SITUATION WITH YOU. I WILL BE IN THE OFFICE ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7 AND WILL CALL YOU AT THAT TIME.

PRIVILEGED

JM 83

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JM Johns-Manville

Internal Correspondence

To J. Hulce, 1-03

Date November 16, 1977

From Paul Kotin, M.D., 1-06

Copies File

Subject DOW AND IBM "BAN" ON ASBESTOS PRODUCTS

As you already know, I have been in touch with Dr. V. K. Rowe at Dow Chemical and he has assured me in a letter dated November 9, 1977 that Dow has no corporate policy banning the use of asbestos-containing products. In fact, Dow is continuing to use asbestos in applications where substitutes are not available or are inadequate. Dr. Rowe has asked for the source of our information and we are getting an answer for him.

Also, I have had a conference call with Cynthia Pruitt, Director, Environmental Health and Safety, and Frank Read, Corporate Industrial Hygienist, at IBM concerning the list of materials to be avoided that was circulated by IBM in the Poughkeepsie area. Ms. Pruitt explained that the list is an updating to locations of materials regulated by OSHA which require special handling and monitoring and their use at any location necessitates coordination with the hygiene group to ensure compliance. A letter of clarification will be sent by IBM to all subcontractors in Poughkeepsie who received the original September 7 letter. Ms. Pruitt also promised to send a copy of IBM's explanation to us for our information. Ms. Pruitt emphasized that it was not IBM's intention to "ban" the use of any material, only to emphasize to locations that certain materials require special precautions and industrial hygiene evaluation.

I will keep you informed.