materials for which no replacement material was qualified. John Deere requested an exemption for all materials used inside a machine housing, such as clutches and sealed axle brake units used on John Deere tractors.

The friction product manufacturers gave mixed reports concerning the proposed phase-down schedule. Allied/Bendix indicated that reliable alternatives for original equipment materials will be available within 5 years. DuPont and Scan-Pac, on the other hand, indicated that acceptable substitute materials now exist. Both companies lack the facilities to qualify materials and systems under Federal safety standards.

The National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) supports an immediate ban on all asbestos in friction products, both new and aftermarket. They contend that viable substitutes are available today.