



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL



NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL
SAFETY AND HEALTH - ALFORD
P. O. BOX 4292
MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA 26505

October 20, 1975

304 599-7136

Mr. David B. Woodbury
Industrial Relations Manager
Foreesco Minsep Inc.
20200 Sheldon Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44142

Dear Mr. Woodbury:

Thank you for your letter of September 18 regarding respiratory disease among workers employed at your Mt. Braddock plant located near Uniontown, Pa. We are pleased to hear that you have been able to arrange satisfactory examinations for your employees. We are still, however, very much interested in studying this particular plant, as from your description it would appear to have a respiratory hazard which under the Occupational Health and Safety Act we cannot ignore. As you are aware, exposure to asbestos may result in pulmonary fibrosis (asbestosis) and/or cancer (bronchogenic carcinoma and/or mesotheliomas) among exposed workers. Because NIOSH has very little information on exposure in this type of industrial process and because of the proximity to our Morgantown facility, this plant is of particular interest.

As we reviewed with you in Morgantown, this would best be done through a plant-wide study utilizing chest X-rays, questionnaires, pulmonary function tests, and dust samples. Depending upon assessment of the quality and availability of existing data, a complete survey may not be necessary.

We would very much like to discuss this with you further at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

James A. Merchant

James A. Merchant, M.D.
Director, Appalachian Laboratory for
Occupational Respiratory Diseases

RECEIVED

OCT 21 1975

PERSONNEL

DBW/b
cc: G.R. Brandt

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