carcinogen for which no safe exposure level yet has been demonstrated should be controlled to the lowest measurable concentration, a concentration which, in this instance, many experts would say can be neither achieved nor measured. The document would appear, then, to be not a scientific statement predicated upon scientific data, but a policy proposal, to wit: that all industrial carcinogens should be controlled, regardless of economic or technological impact, to the lowest theoretically measurable level. or eliminated entirely, until it can be shown conclusively at what concentrations they can be used without any risk whatever. In the absence of information on the extent of any benefits which might be realized from the significant change proposed, or the feasibility or cost of making the change, the recommendation is of limited use to those who actually are charged with responsibility for policy decisions in the occupational health field.

Since the Occupational Safety and Health Administration is obliged to answer all the difficult questions, both medical and economic, which must be confronted before a change in the asbestos exposure standard can be made; we urge you to continue your past practice of consulting all the constituencies interested in this issue before taking action.

Very truly yours,

Guy G. Gabrielson, Jr.
Chairman - Industry Regulation
Task Force

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