E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY
INCORPORATED
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19898

TEXTILE FIBERS DEPARTMENT

September 13, 1973

TO: J. A. SIGMAN

FROM: R. B. HAYDEN RBH

ASBESTOS DUST SEMINAR

At your suggestion, I am noting some of the key items that resulted from the Departmental seminar on asbestos dust held 9/11/73.

- All Fibers plants will have discontinued the use of asbestos containing thermal insulation by the end of 1973 providing manufacturers are able to supply our requirements.

  This will cover all items of thermal insulation except "A" cloth for which no completely satisfactory substitute has been developed.

- In sampling the environment for asbestos dust, Frank Fuller recommends that a minimum of six to seven samples is probably necessary to establish a meaningful concentration level characteristic of a given activity (i.e., CP overhaul).

- No operations involving asbestos insulation have been uncovered in any of the plants which would, under the regulations, require the use of supplied air respirators. All plants find the Dust Flo respirators to be adequate for their needs.

- When dust samples are sent to laboratories for analysis, whether outside of Du Pont or internally, the number that is reported is the total number of "fibers" over 5 ml. in length and not just asbestos fibers. In this connection, Jim Morgan, Haskell Lab., suggested that a research project was needed to establish guidelines to help analysts distinguish between the various types of dusts that are seen on Millipore® filter sampling discs.

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- According to the OSHA regulations, eating in the asbestos shop is not prohibited if the dust concentration is less than the allowable standard (5 fibers/cc greater than 5 ml. in length). In those plants where local policy prohibits eating in shops, there is no reason not to continue such practice. On the other hand, where eating has traditionally been permitted in shop areas, there is no legal basis for discontinuing the practice.

- When asbestos free insulation is installed in our plants, it should be given some distinguishing identification so that in the future, when it needs to be removed, it will be recognized as containing no asbestos.

RBH/sss

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