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Report #2/83/CP R/99

Note: On The Pathogenicity of Tremolite Asbestos 0366:1590

The Institute of Occupational Medicine in Edinburgh has recently completed a long-term inhalation study, using rats, on the harmful effects of tremolite asbestos with results which are to be published in the near future indicating that tremolite is a highly carcinogenic dust and probably more dangerous than any of the other asbestos types.

A similar study undertaken by Dr. J. C. Wagner at the Pneumoconiosis Research Unit, Cardiff and also awaiting publication has produced similar results. Because of its experimental findings, I feel it is most important that careful dust monitoring is carried out in any industrial premise where materials containing tremolite are used. Certainly any dust levels above the asbestos TLV of 1 fiber per millitre of air should be regarded as hazardous.

J. M. G. Davis
15 February 1983

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