FILE NAME: WR Grace (WRG)

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GRACE

Construction Products Division

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PERSONAL and CONFIDENTIAL

March 28, 197

To: [illegible] Eschenbach
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[illegible] Blessington

From: [illegible] Todd

Subj: Guidelines for Handling of Tremolite Contamination In our Mines, Plants, and Products

cc: D. M. Vinig
L. Rosenblatt
W. M. Bush, Jr.
O. M. Favorito
R. L. Oliverio/Libby

Plans have now been laid for handling a variety of external developments related to tremolite asbestos in our mines, expanding plants, products, and customer environments. We must now proceed to implement some of the work plans which have been developed.

Please plan to attend a meeting at 8:30 AM in the Directors' Conference Room on Thursday, March 31st. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss what actions we will be taking over the next twelve months.

By way of background, you should know our position on several important legal and business issues. The following are three key points:

1. We will not expose our customers and employees to environments which have been formally defined as hazardous by the U. S. Government without proper caution as to the nature of the hazard. We will take all reasonable and practical steps to minimize or eliminate unreasonable risks which may be associated with the manufacture and use of our products including, where appropriate, instructions for proper use of our products.

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2. The tremolite asbestos fiber count limits in effect and enumerated in OSHA (or MESA) regulations will be the guide to whether a health hazard exists if the product is reasonably misused. Exposure to counts in excess of OSHA limits, caution labels will be affixed to the product.

3. Customer, user, or government agency inquiries with respect to tremolite in our plants, products, or use environments will receive straightforward and candid responses with respect to the data and measurements which we have gathered and which are relevant to their respective situations.

As you know, there is a great deal of controversy both in the medical and governmental communities as to what constitutes a hazard and what appropriate regulatory steps should be taken. This is particularly true for products used by consumers. We have reason to believe that this issue will be clarified by the Consumer Products Safety Commission within the next several months. By that time we want to have any tremolite asbestos fibers in our consumer products "bound" and fiber counts in their intended use below 0.2 f/ml (8 hr TWA) and 1.0 f/ml (15 min. maximum). You should be aware that this is a rapidly changing situation and that requirements are still unpredictable.

Attached is an agenda for our meeting of Thursday, March 31st.

Sincerely,

E. S. Wood

ESW/CGR
Attachment

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