

Asbestos genl.

KAI GYPSUM COMPANY

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO J. S. Sheahan
AT

DATE November 18, 1971

COPIES TO H. C. Dupuis ✓
T. V. Smith
H. L. Weightman

FROM G. B. Kirk *G.B.K.*
AT

SUBJECT ASBESTOS FIBER--ECOLOGY

Because of the current concern about use of asbestos fiber in construction products, the following program is outlined:

1. Asbestos Suppliers

Prepare a draft of a letter with suitable questions to be sent by our Purchasing Department to asbestos suppliers including Johns-Manville, Union Carbide, Philip Carey, and National Gypsum. The questions should include:

- a. Request for information on the extent of health hazard that might be experienced with the type of fiber furnished by the individual supplier.
- b. Types of precautions recommended in handling the asbestos fibers in our plants.
- c. Types of precautions for the contractor in using and applying our products containing asbestos fibers.

In addition, questions concerning the suppliers expectation of the types of legislation that may be enacted concerning asbestos fiber and probable timing of the legislation.

2. Kaiser Gypsum Plants

Prepare a draft of a memo that can be sent to our plants advising that the asbestos fiber question is being studied and that available information will be sent to each plant as soon as possible. Request that each plant refer any inquiries from inspectors, or other persons, through channels to you for review and comment concerning asbestos fiber.

A summary should be prepared from the information requested back from the suppliers and a recommendation prepared on what types of asbestos fiber we may expect to continue to use safely; what precautions should be followed in handling the asbestos fiber in the plants; what precautions should be sent out to contractors using the products containing asbestos fiber; and what asbestos fiber we may have to discontinue using.

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Please contact Tom Smith and Al Raffaelli for a copy of the asbestos recap, by plant and by product, showing types of asbestos fiber used.

GBK:jc