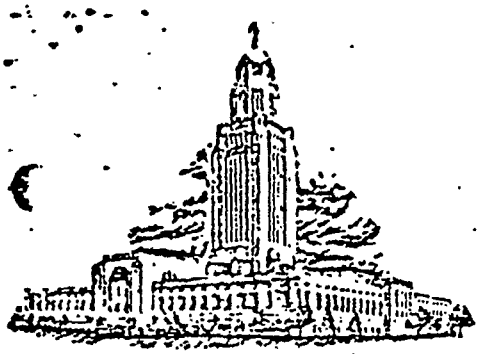
PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

CAP-697



STATE of NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING
301 CENTENNIAL MALL SOUTH
P.O. BOX 95007
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68509
(402) 471-2674

June 18, 1979

Patrick H. Savage
Territory Manager - Pipe Division
JOHNS-MANVILLE SALES CORPORATION
P.O. Box 34227
Omaha, NE 68134

Dear Mr. Savage:

Your recent presentation regarding the use of asbestos cement pipe in potable water supply systems was informative and appreciated by this Department. I am writing to express the views of this Department concerning the use of asbestos pipe.

Of the several studies pertaining to the health effects of asbestos cement pipe for use in potable supplies, none have established a link between the ingestion of asbestos fibers and gastrointestinal cancer or other disorders. Harmful effects of asbestos fibers seem to be limited to inhalation rather than ingestion. This Department, therefore, has no objection to the use of asbestos cement pipe with respect to health effects. We do feel, however, that asbestos cement pipe should not be used when the water to be transmitted is aggressive. This concern is not based on health effects but on the economics of transmission line life and pipe replacement.

In summary, this Department will approve the use of asbestos cement pipe for use with transmission of potable water in all siutations where the water supply is not aggressive to the point of shortening pipe life.

Sincerely,

Clifford L. Summers, P.E.
Director

CLS/sf