PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
BRK-255

APRIL 28-30, 1981

51st ALL-OHIO SAFETY CONGRESS & EXHIBIT

DISCOVER A WORLD OF SAFETY

February 11, 1981

Legal Section
Industrial Commission of Ohio
246 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Claim #OD 13634-22
Shirley A. Mitchell
General Motors Corporation
Columbus, Ohio 43224

Dear Sir:

An industrial hygiene investigation was conducted at the Fisher Body Plant - Division of General Motors Corporation - 200 Georgesville Road, Columbus, Ohio, on February 4, 1981, by the writer. This investigation was undertaken due to a request by the Industrial Commission's Legal Section for an additional job-site visitation. Mr. Herb Fujii, Division of Safety and Hygiene Engineer, had surveyed the claimant's work environment on July 5, 1979.

A summary of my findings is as follows:

1. No job operations in any part of the facility were considered to be overly dusty. One can judge a particular area by visible emission observations, level of fallen dust, and types of ventilation. The claimant has been diagnosed as having both restrictive and obstructive lung impairments - which suggest either chronic exposure to pneumoconiotic dusts or a history as a smoker. Ms. Mitchell reputedly has a documented history as a smoker.

2. Processes with known hazards are well ventilated by local exhaust ventilation or enclosure. There is also a large volume of air utilized as general ventilation throughout the entire plant.

3. The claimant worked in the assembly area - which is not proximal to the more hazardous areas such as electroplating or spray-painting.

4. The adhesive which is alleged to have induced the claimant's chronic lung condition is 3M Corporation's EC-847. The carrier solvent is acetone - which is not known to induce obstructing lung damage. This particular work-site is well ventilated. The glue application is normally performed on a part-time basis, less than eight hours per work day. Acetone may serve to irritate pre-existing lung conditions. No positive evidence exists to firmly establish that the claimant actually worked with this material. Further, if she did it would have been for an extremely short period of time. Insufficient time to warrant classification as a chronic exposure, and to levels significantly lower than what would be necessary to precipitate an acute exposure.

It would be difficult to correlate the claimant's chronic lung condition with the quality of workroom air at the Fisher-Body - Division GM Facility.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil E. Marquard,
Industrial Hygienist

NEM:ced