UC 144-2

UNION CARBIDE

INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

MINING AND METALS DIVISION • P. O. BOX 1049, GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO 81501

To (Name)	Dr. J. J. Welsh	Date	June 26, 1974
Company	Medical Department		
Location	270 Park Avenue 4th Floor New York, New York	Originating Dept.	Safety
		Answering letter date	
Copy to	Mr. F. H. Larrison	Subject	Pulmanary function test

Dear Jack:

I appreciated talking to you this morning regarding the problem of possible limits on the pulmanary function test particularly with reference to asbestos. It is my understanding that you are going to review the subject and give us some recommendations as to what minimum levels of pulmanary functions should be considered for limiting hiring for new employees. You mentioned this would also have involvement with such things as smoking and age. A guideline or policy statement in this regard would be most helpful to us in the asbestos area. Also I would appreciate it if you would consider this in light of other possible locations as we are doing pulmanary functions where other exposure such as silica dust, vanadium dust, etc., is a work exposure problem as you know.

In addition to guidelines for preemployment it would be most helpful if we could have any policy statement or guidelines regarding action points for pulmanary function results of existing employees who are exposed to possible inhalation hazards, asbestos and also other substances. I am concerned about the increasing numbers in early silicosis cases that we are seeing in mines and wondering if we need any policy regarding reduction in pulmanary function as related to possible silica or diesel smoke and similarly in the mills where vanadium dust has been a particular problem such as Rifle.

I talked to Mr. Larrison and he will send to you the pulmanary function test results from the King City clinic. It may be that I was overly concerned in our conversation. I understand now there is really only one function test in which the evaluation indicated possible asbestosis. However, I do feel it is important to review these reports and see where you wish to go from here regarding interpretations by the medical examiner in King City.

I attempted to find locally the UCC Employee Relations and Employee Manual which you referred to. We don't seem to have a copy at this location. I wonder if it would be possible for you to have a copy of the section on medical examinations, I believe you stated this was section A-4-1-1, sent to me.

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Thank you very much for your help in this and I will be looking forward to receiving your guideline or policy statement on pulmanary function as well as the medical policy if possible.

Very truly yours,

E. A. Piersall

EAP/brs

6-25-74

For now use 55% as cutoff for hiring

- E. A. Piersall - by phone

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