

MEMO RECORD	AVOID ERRORS PUT IT IN WRITING	DATE February 14, 1975
FROM: Dr. Schaffner	OFFICE	
TO: Mr. Eiermann	DIVISION	
SUBJECT: Asbestos reports and memo to be sent to Mr. Harold Romer Consultant to Commissioner Department of Health Resources 120 Wall Street New York, N.Y. 13005		
SUMMARY		
Mr. Romer called me on February 13, 1975, about asbestos. He was one of the participants in the first asbestos meetings that we had in the building in the summer of 1971. The Department of Air Resources is interested in knowing just where we stand with respect to asbestos regulations. I told him that our people in the Bureau of Foods are concerned only with foods and cosmetics; that we had Dr. Lewin from New York University run analyses of about 200 samples of commercial talc to determine whether asbestos was present and that Dr. Lewin's report indicated that some of the samples contained chrysotile as well as tremolite. Perhaps your "Summary and Comments on Analyses for Asbestos in Cosmetic Talc Products" of 10-1-73 would be appropriate material to send. I pointed out that we have been unable to confirm Dr. Lewin's findings and that we had heard recently that Dr. Lewin is not now as confident that he found chrysotile as he was previously. If it is possible, I wonder if you could call Dr. Lewin and find out from him if he has changed his opinions. Mr. Romer would like a copy of Dr. Lewin's report and also wants a copy of whatever comments or other analyses we have made. He wanted also to know whether or not we had discussed the subject of asbestos with Dr. Selikoff. I said that I did not think so but that I would check into it. Perhaps you or Dr. Shapiro might want to talk to Dr. Selikoff also. I promised Mr. Romer that I would send all of this information to him shortly. I would appreciate your gathering together the information and prepare a rough draft of a reply to Mr. Romer so that I can send him a final letter on February 20. I do not think that we should comment on the activities of the Bureau of Drugs on asbestos but believe that we should give him the name of the proper person to contact at the Bureau if he wants further information.		
RMS		
SIGNATURE	DOCUMENT NUMBER	

MEMO RECORD	AVOID ERRORS PUT IT IN WRITING	DATE February 21, 1975
FROM: John A. Wenninger, Deputy Director, Division of Cosmetics Technology (HFF-441)	OFFICE	
TO: Robert M. Schaffner, Ph.D., Associate Director for Technology (HFF-400)	DIVISION	
SUBJECT: Draft Letter to Mr. H. Romer re: Asbestos in Talc Reports		
SUMMARY 1. Mr. Eiermann requested that I prepare a reply to your note of Febraury 14, 1975 regarding subject draft. 2. A draft letter is attached which reflects the status of the cosmetic work on asbestos at the present time. 3. I talked to Dr. Shapiro about Dr. Selikoff's views. Dr. Shapiro has had contact with Dr. Selikoff but not specifically on this subject. He recommended that Mr. Romer contact Dr. Selikoff directly for information. I agree with this viewpoint. 4. We do not know if Dr. Lewin has changed his viewpoint in regard to his work. Even if he did we should not be put into a position saying that in a letter to Mr. Romer. As you recall, Dr. Lewin came under quite a bit of fire on this subject already and no doubt we should leave it at that. Results clearly indicate no one can duplicate his results. 5. Finally I believe you may want to add something regarding the "food" aspects of the problem and perhaps a note about the status of regulations. <i>John A. Wenninger</i>		
SIGNATURE John A. Wenninger	DOCUMENT NUMBER	

