FILE NAME: Avondale (AVD)

DATE: 1972 Jan 31

DOC#: AVD137

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Press Release

NEWS | U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF INFORMATION, WASHINGTON, D. C. 2021
0712

USDL -- 72-62

(202) 961-3914

FOR RELEASE: A. M. Editions
Monday, January 31, 1972

LABOR DEPARTMENT NAMES ASBESTOS HEALTH ADVISORY PANEL

The appointment of a five-member Advisory Committee on Asbestos to study health standards for that substance was announced today by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

George C. Guenther, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health who heads OSHA, said the committee will assist him in setting permanent health standards to protect workers from excessive exposure to asbestos dust.

Guenther said the Advisory Committee will hold several preliminary hearings on proposed permanent standards. The first such meeting will take place February 3, at 9 A.M., in Conference Room 107C, Department of Labor, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue.

Hearings on the proposed permanent standards begin March 14 in Conference Room B of the Departmental Auditorium in Washington.

An emergency temporary standard issued December 7 is the basis of the proposed permanent standards. Related permanent standards dealing with monitoring, sampling, medical examinations and the use of signs also are proposed.

The emergency temporary standard set permissible levels at 5 fibers per milliliter greater than 5 microns long for an eight-hour time-weighted average airborne concentration.

"In its preliminary meetings," Guenther explained, "the Advisory Committee will review the proposed standards, establish operating rules, discuss pertinent sections of the Act, and review asbestos exposure criteria developed by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

All the meetings and hearings will be open to the public.

- MORE -

Guenther said the Advisory Committee consisted of:

Edwin C. Hyatt, Industrial Hygiene Group Leader, Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, Los Alamos, N.M., chairman.

Jack Baliff, industrial hygienist, New York State Department of Labor, New York City.

Dr. Joseph K. Wagoner, Director, Division of Field Study and Clinical Investigation, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Cincinnati.

Isaac Weaver, Director of Environmental Controls, Raybestos-Manhattan Corporation, Manheim, Pa.

Andy Haas, Safety Director, Asbestos Workers International Union, Washington.

# # #