

**MINERALS, PIGMENTS & METALS DIVISION**

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August 18, 1976

Norman F. Estrin, PhD
Vice President - Science
The Cosmetic, Toiletry, and
Fragrance Association, Inc.
1133 Fifteenth Street, N. W.
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Norman:

Thank you very much for your letter of August 9, 1976. I am not sure whether I made my point strongly enough concerning the statement, "No detectable asbestos minerals". I have attempted to make myself clear on this point in previous meetings, and at the risk of being repetitious I will again bore you with my views.

If you make a statement that a certain talc has no detectable asbestos minerals, then you must do one of several things, and the most important of these is to define what you mean by asbestos and how you tested for the asbestos. I cannot emphasize strongly enough that no detectable asbestos without some criteria against which to judge it is a relatively meaningless statement. The limits of any test for asbestos or, for that matter, any other material should be clearly stated in such a definition.

On another point, I would like to request participation in the proposed Mount Sinai visit. I will do everything in my power to be available for such a visit and would very much like to see their physical layout and the manner in which they conduct their tests. As you know, there have been several questions raised by several of the CTFA Talc Subcommittee members concerning the validity, precision, accuracy, etc., of the Mount Sinai Group's test results. Since Pfizer's Coty talc was one of the talcs named as a "bad actor" by Dr. Langer and his group we have more than a passing interest in such a head-to-head visit, confrontation.

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Perhaps, if we show a large enough degree of interest in Mount Sinai's work, they will be more cooperative and less blindly belligerent toward the talc question in general and the CTFA in particular.

Looking forward to hearing from you in the very near future.

Sincerely,

Harold D. Stanley
Harold D. Stanley *KRM*
Group Leader - Research Testing

HDS/KRM

cc: J. K. Barr
J. R. Copeland
W. Nazarewicz
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