

Martinsville, Virginia
December 9, 1981

TO: ASBESTOS FILE
FROM: J. E. FIELDS

ASBESTOSORB

A material called Asbestosorb was used as a sweeping compound to soak oil from the floors in Spinning and Textile areas. Very little is known about the amount of asbestos fiber in this material other than it was thought to be a by-product of the insulation manufacturing process where waste insulation material was ground and sold as a floor sweep and oil absorbant material.

Interview with old-service employees indicate that the material was used in Textile and Spinning, most likely from Plant startup.

- Becky Harris has worked in Textile since 4/14/42 and is sure that she used the material from the start of her employment.
- Ike Anderson is sure the material was used when he was a foreman in 1949.
- Earl Edwards is sure the material was used in 1952.

These employees remember that the material was used in Textile as an oil absorbing material thrown generously under the drawtwisters to pick up the oil leaked from metal rings. The use on dry floors was limited. It was mixed 1:1 with soda ash before use.

Stores records indicate that the material was purchased from Blue Ridge Hardware but the manufacturer is not recorded. The last material was purchased between 1970 and 1979 according to existing Stores records which could be more specific. Discussions with area personnel suggest that the material was last used about 1972.

JEF/tlj

DUP 0909630

SC-DP-07160