

1 as toxic as these other types.

2 I have read from a couple of people that I  
3 respect that crocidolite may be two to three times  
4 more toxic than chrysotile.

5 Q Have you had the opinion that tremolite, as  
6 a contaminant of chrysotile, can cause mesothelioma?

7 A That has been a debate, but I don't think  
8 that is the case. Tremolite when it contaminates  
9 chrysotile makes up usually 1 percent of the total,  
10 and there is some data that tremolite doesn't always  
11 contaminate chrysotile and I think that is pretty well  
12 proven right now.

13 If you look at the total amount of asbestos  
14 dust that, say, the Quebec miners and millers breathe  
15 into the lung, most of it is going to be chrysotile.

16 A very small percentage is going to be  
17 tremolite. Personally I don't think it is the  
18 contaminating tremolite that causes the mesothelioma  
19 in those individuals.

20 Does it contribute? Sure, it can contribute  
21 just like any other asbestos can contribute.