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Dr. E. F. Marriner
Corporate Medical Director
Johns-Manville
Greenwood Plaza
Denver, Colorado 80217

Dear Dr. Marriner:

The following information is submitted to you in response to your request for medical data on workers exposed to commercial talc dust.

We had the opportunity to do a follow-up study on the mortality experiences among talc workers whose exposure was to talc admixed with tremolite and anthophyllite predominately. The talc study involved workers employed in 1940 who had accumulated 15 or more years of exposure to commercial talc, as well as those who achieved a minimum of 15 years of such exposure between 1940 - 1969. The group totalled 260, and it is believed that the overall number constituted the total work force in the worker population under study. The overall data with regard to carcinoma of the lung, showed an overall proportional mortality to be approximately four (4) times that expected, and this was consistent with our previous observation. The significant increase appeared in the age group of 60 - 79 rather than the 40 - 59 age group.

With regard to cancer of the gastrointestinal tract and peritoneum among the talc workers, we did not find any significant differences between the observed and expected values in the overall and specific age groups studied. These findings differ from those observed in asbestos insulators where a significant increase in the observed incidence of gastrointestinal malignancy was found in the overall and specific age groups studied by us previously. The asbestos dust exposure among insulators is chiefly chrysolite. Our findings among asbestos insulators was similar to those reported by Selikoff, Hammond and Churg. Our paper has been accepted for publication in the "Journal of Occupational Medicine", wherein, obviously, more detailed information will be provided.

Sincerely yours,


Morris Kleinfeld, M.D.

MK/kd

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EXHIBIT
WCD-165