FILE NAME: Owens-Corning (OC)

DATE: 1972 Apr 10

DOC#: OC298

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Report on Visit to Owens Corning Fiberglas Tower, Toledo OH

REPORT ON VISIT TO OWENS CORNING FIBERGLAS, FIBERGLAS TOWER, TOLEDO, OHIO ON 10TH APRIL, 1972

Those present: Mr. Severn Joyce, Director of Purchasing,
Mr. Dan Wilson, Purchasing Dept.,
Mr. John P Kern, Vice President Mechanical Products Division,
Mr. R. B. Kline, Vice President, Construction,
Mr. J. R. Owens,
Mr. C. G. Morgan

AMOSITE, 1972

Owens Corning have contracted for 1,500 tons but this quantity is likely to be reduced as a result of the high stocks which built up because of their strike which ended on 9th February. They are unlikely to start releasing material again until mid year. At the present time they are using 75,100 tons per month of Amosite grade M and 20 tons a month of S33. They have a meeting on 19th April and after that date Dan Wilson will inform NAAC whether there is any variation in their annual requirements.

They are using at present 1,500 tons of 4D/4K Chrysotile from Johns-Manville for Calcium Silicate made at the Berlin plant by the Johns-Manville filter press process. We have already recommended Amosite for this production. Mr. Wilson pointed out that S33 was more expensive than Chrysotile, we suggested S44. Mr. Morgan agreed to send a sample of this.

AMOSITE, 1973

There is confusion in Owens Corning and amongst other customers on the new legislation in the U.S.A. Owens Corning are assuming that they have to achieve a 2 fibre/cc level. They believe that they can achieve a 5 fibre/cc level at the Berlin plant but the problem is with marketing Calcium Silicate. Both Dow and Monsanto now say that they want asbestos free insulation products irrespective of the price. Owens Corning Research and Development people have been set a target to replace asbestos fibre completely by 1st January, 1973. Mr. Kern said that it is 60 - 70 % likely that they will achieve this. They have examined asbestos free calcium silicates produced by other people and believe that Johns-Manville will shortly be launching an asbestos free product. The Pabco (fibreboard) asbestos free calcium silicate is of a very poor quality. They rumoured that Keene Corporation are now purchasing their Calcium Silicate from Johns-Manville. Ruberoid have stopped all Calcium Silicate production.

Owens Corning are themselves experimenting with cellulose fibre. Owens Corning would be interested in licensing from Cape an asbestos free Calcium Silicate. This will be referred to Dr. Gaze/CIL. JRO

Mr. Kline would be interested to receive details of methods for measuring asbestos fibre in the atmosphere on construction sites. Would Dr. Hodgson please send to Mr. Morgan information on the different methods, their accuracy and the time taken to achieve results. Apparently only two companies in the U.S.A. can offer a testing service and it takes up to 4 weeks to get the results of the dust counts. AAH

Owens Corning are interested in dust control equipment, both attachments for saws and drills and also portable dust control equipment for use on construction sites. Would Dr. Hodgson please arrange to send this to Mr. C. G. Morgan.

Owens Corning are still producing fire-doors at their Bloomington, Illinois plant and the DX Amosite which they have in stock will be sufficient to last approximately three years.

J. R. Owens

DISTRIBUTION:

Dr. R. Gaze,
Mr. W. Scott,
Dr. A. A. Hodgson,
Mr. L. A. van Rosse

Mr. J. G. Mackeurtan,
Mr. C. G. Morgan

JRO:ag
17.4.72 (Unchecked - from overseas tape)