

March 27, 1968

BARBER v. PITTSBURGH CORNING CORP.
ASBESTOS LITIGATION

Mr. L. O. Griffith Jr.
Works Manager
Pittsburgh Corning Co.
Port Allegany, Pennsylvania 16743

Dear Mr. Griffith:

The analysis of the air samples collected in your plant during our survey in April 1967 has been completed, and the results are attached. The impinger samples were counted during the survey using the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists' method. The membrane filters were rendered transparent with a 50-50 mixture of diethyl sebacate, dimethyl phthalate and counted at 430X magnification with phase contrast illumination.

The dust concentrations as measured by impinger exceeded the 5 million particles per cubic foot Threshold Limit Value currently in use, in a number of locations. The membrane filter method is experimental and no standard has been set for its interpretation in this country. (The British Occupational Hygiene Society has issued "Hygiene Standards for Chrysotile Asbestos Dust" for the 5 μ + fiber counts in fibers/cc as follows: Negligible, Less than 0.5; Low, 0.5-2.0; Medium, 2.0-10.0; High, More than 10.0. They also recommend that "When it is necessary to work in a 'high dust' area an approved mask should be worn," The standards are for three-month averages.) Some relationships between the impinger and filter measurement, and some results of surveys of other asbestos product areas, are discussed in the enclosed reprints.

Your cooperation in this study is sincerely appreciated and the data gained from your plant is of considerable value.

Sincerely yours,

Jeremiah R. Lynch
Asst. Chief, Environmental
Activities
Field Studies
Occupational Health Program

Enclosure
cc: Dr. Lee Grant

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