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AMERICAN CONFERENCE
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September 29, 1971

Mr. E. J. Ellsworth
Desert Minerals, Inc.
1891 South Coast Highway
Laguna Beach, California 92651

Dear Mr. Ellsworth:

In answer to your letter of September 22 regarding a mineralogic definition differentiating between fibrous and non-asbestiform TALC, I am pleased to quote from a very recent article that appeared in Science, September 17, 1971.

> "There is no firm mineralogic definition of commercial talc, and in most areas the mineral talc forms much less than half of commercial talc. The composition of commercial talc varies with the deposit. Vermont mines produce a platy or granular type of mineral relatively free of asbestos minerals(1). New York and California talcs contain more fibrous silicates, including anthophyllite and tremolite(2,3)."

Reference 1 refers to Weiss and Boehner, Arch. Environ. Health 14, 304 (1967). Reference 2 refers to Wright, Talc and Soapstone, Calif. Divn. of Mines Pub., Bull. 176, San Francisco, 1957. Reference 3 refers to Wells, Mineral Facts and Problems, U.S. Bu. of Mines, Washington, D.C., 1965.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert E. Stokinger, Ph.D.
Chairman
Threshold Limits Committee

Dick; Pls, Help This!!
Joe