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DATE June 3, 1970

Mr. C. F. Bien
Linden

H. J. Holloway
Corporate Environmental Engineering
Linden

THIS COPY FOR

Mr. G. F. Dappert - N. Y.
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ASBESTOS STUDY

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

05359.00

The attached is for your information. It is expected that in the near future operations involving asbestos will come under close scrutiny by Departments of Health at all levels of government.

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Attach.

H. J. Holloway
H. J. Holloway

Holloway

DL-14 ID

5/19/82

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PLAINTIFF'S
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WV-009916

DEFENDANT'S
EXHIBIT

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Burning issue: Asbestos linked to lung cancer

By PETER BERNSTEIN
Star-Ledger Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Medical evidence linking lung cancer to asbestos particles in the air is becoming a matter of mounting concern to the National Air Pollution Control Administration.

In their hands is a 27-volume report completed by Litton Industries warning that serious adverse health effects have already occurred as a result of human exposure to asbestos and 29 other pollutants — pollutants for which no control programs are planned for many years.

The Litton report, completed last September under a \$235,000 federal grant, said:

"Asbestos is an air pollutant which carries with it the potential for national or worldwide epidemic of lung cancer.

"Asbestos bodies have been observed in random autopsies of one-fourth to one-half of the population of Pittsburgh, Miami, and San Francisco, and will probably be found in the people of every large city . . . The effects of the asbestos being inhaled today may not be reflected in the general population until the 1990s or the next century."

Asbestos particles are a common pollutant, especially in urban areas, because the construction industry sprays asbestos on pipe fittings, and automobile manufacturers use asbestos fibers in brake linings and clutch facings.

Yet today there are no fed-

eral or state standards regulating asbestos emissions into the air.

The Federal Pollution Control Agency, which sponsored the Litton report, has contracted a team of top scientists to conduct a six-month "crash program" on the asbestos problem, with orders to develop methods to monitor and control pollution.

Results of the study by the National Academy of Engineers and the National Academy of Science are due Sept. 15.

But once armed with the results, federal officials can make only limited use of them. They are empowered under the landmark Air Quality Act of 1967 to issue criteria for state officials to use in setting emission standards for asbestos and other pollutants. But they cannot regulate pollution from asbestos unless a state asks them to intervene.

However, the Nixon Administration has asked Congress to amend the air quality act to allow the government to set national emission standards for asbestos and other health-impairing contaminants.

Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.), chairman of the Senate Subcommittee for Air and Water Pollution, has endorsed President Nixon's proposal. Muskie indicated at a news conference last week that his subcommittee will soon report

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Evidence is mounting of asbestos-cancer link

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out a bill with provisions for national standards.

Without this change, some federal officials estimate it would take another five years to get widespread asbestos controls underway.

Leighton Price, the federal pollution agency's director of information, says that even under the present law, asbestos controls could begin much sooner — within a year or two — if industry and other polluters voluntarily

comply with government recommendations for controls.

But there is overwhelming evidence the voluntary compliance approach has failed in the past. One prime example was the recent agreement by the nation's major airlines to reduce smoke emissions — an agreement which is expected to result in a 40 per cent increase instead of a decrease in emissions of smog-producing nitrogen oxide.

And it would be even more

difficult to obtain voluntary compliance from industries responsible for asbestos pollution.

This is because, unlike the airlines where the government had to exact assurances of cooperation from one industry, it would have to deal with a number of industries: asbestos mining companies, manufacturers of building equipment, the construction industry, the demolition industry, and the automobile industry.

A student task force sponsored by Ralph Nader, the consumer advocate, deplored this basic government weakness in a carefully documented report made public this week.

The task force said, "Despite an impressive array of scientific evidence which indicates a potential hazard of enormous proportions, especially from asbestos, the federal government is powerless to move expeditiously to meet the threat."

The task force accused the government and industry officials of passively standing by while the nation's air has become progressively more polluted. It described the program to date as a "colossal failure," and said nothing short of a massive redirection of the anti-pollution effort will deal with the problem.

The task force cited the Lorton Industries report on asbestos and said despite the report's "ominous conclusions," the government is incapable under present legislation of dealing with a pollutant which carries with it the potential for a worldwide epidemic of lung cancer.

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