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Johnson & Johnson

BABY PRODUCTS COMPANY

April 22, 1974

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APR 24 1974

W. NASHED
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SUBJECT: ASTM Committee E-34
Task Group on Naturally Occurring
Inorganic Fibers Meeting
April 18, 1974

Mr. G. Lee

I audited the above meeting last Thursday and Friday.
The highlights were as follows:

According to ASTM, OSHA plans to finalize documents on asbestos minerals by December of 1974. Because of the need for a consensus opinion regarding industrial hazardous materials (asbestos) OSHA would appreciate any technical information. As a result of that, ASTM hopes to develop a major criteria document under the general title of Naturally Occurring Inorganic Fibers by about October 1974.

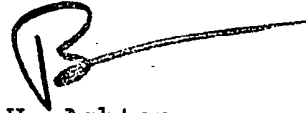
The proposed format of the ASTM undertaking is outlined in the attached paper No. 1. The various divisions of the document falls under the responsibility of the men listed in paper No. 2.

The proposed definition of a Naturally Occurring Inorganic Fiber is based on an aspect ration of 100:1. It was generally agreed that such a definition (paper No. 3) is realistic for the four mineral species considered hazardous i.e. chrysotile, crocidolite, amosite and anthophyllite. Because tremolite-actinolite has not been established to be harmful and because fibrous forms of that series are academic curiosities, it is likely that tremolite-actinolite minerals will not be included in the criteria document.

The task force intended to consider talc as a fibrous material based on the official position of the Ontario Ministry of Health in paper No. 4. However, talc was removed from consideration when I explained that talc was not a fiber mineral and cannot be categorized as such, just because some fibers of other minerals might be in some grades of industrial talcs. All present (paper 5) agreed talc would not be included per se.

Official minutes of the meeting should be available to us in about two weeks.

I think it valuable to stay associated with the above group for the present to try to keep talc out of the matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized capital letter 'B' followed by a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

W.H. Ashton

paj

cc: Mr. R.N. Miller
Dr. W. Nashed ✓
Dr. D.R. Petterson
Dr. F.R. Rolle