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Johnson & Johnson
BABY PRODUCTS COMPANY

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Ashton

RARITAN, N.J. 08869

November 12, 1976

SUBJECT: ASTM Meeting
Task Group on Naturally Occuring Inorganic Fibers
November 8-9 Montreal

To: Mr. G. Lee

In view of the recent withdrawl by MESA of their 3:1 proposal, the consensus of opinion on asbestos exposure being developed by ASTM can be more important than heretofore. That is because MESA's withdrawl of their concepts removed a technical conflict on definitions of asbestos minerals. There is now realistic harmony of definition between ASTM and other government agencies.

At the meeting this week, the task force, of which I am a member, finalized review of the pertinent mineral definitions as attached.

In addition to that, the task group voted to adopt a TWA limit of airborne asbestos dust not to exceed 5 fibers per milliliter for the present with reduction to 2 fibers per milliliter to be achieved within three years of the issue of the ASTM document.

Assuming the main ASTM committee adopts the recommendations of the task force at a meeting in Denver next week, then the final full ASTM asbestos exposure standard is expected to be fully approved by ASTM within the next couple of months and in print within six months.


W. H. Ashton

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