

File

To: RAV

5th December, 1977

Re: 'PITO PAPER'

Page 5 - dust exposure

Surely the fact that exposure is only a guess should be emphasized and made clear. I think it is very wrong of him to say that it is inevitable that pre-war dust levels have been grossly underestimated. Harries, et-al on measurements recently of ladders who were fully protected in a space suit, recorded levels of up to 1000 f/cc in their working environment.

Page 6 - Bronchial carcinoma

A level of 1 fibre per cc might after 50 years exposure increase the mortality due to this cause by 20% after retirement. This is emotive, and I am sure the word might could well be underlined.

Page 8 - Brief or non-occupational exposure

Surely the reference to Whitwell's paper on Thorax, August 1977 would be in keeping on this point.

Page 9 - Discussion

I feel that the 17 none malignant respiratory deaths need further analysis. Perhaps in tabular form. It may well be that they have had dust exposure elsewhere.

I agree with Steve Holmes comments, and, in particular, attention should be given to the sentence "relatively minimum amounts of chrysotile in the factory study". Is this statement correct in view of the recent evidence which we have now got.

Woodall

J.G.Morris