WOODROW NELSON, M. D.
111 EAST [illegible]
LIBBY, MONTANA 59923

AMERICAN BOARD OF SURGERY

PHONE [illegible]

8/25/64

Joseph Kelley, President
Zonolite Division
W.R. Grace & Company
135 So. LaSalle Street
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Kelley,

In 1959 an x-ray survey of all Zonolite employees at Libby was carried out under Wm. Little, M.D., (Radiologist), of Kalispell, Montana, and James Cairns, M.D., of Libby. An unusually high incidence, (approximately 1/9), of basilar fibrosis was found in this series.

This survey was repeated this year, after a meeting of the local doctors and Libby Zonolite administration. At this meeting, the consensus of local medical opinion was that an important increased incidence of chronic respiratory disease existed in Zonolite employees who had prolonged exposure to dust.

As a result of this, I suggested and offered to carry out studies of lung function by respiratory capacity measurements, to be compared with lung pathology as measured by the x-ray survey.

The x-ray summary has been completed and films read by Dr. Little, including comparisons with the films of 1959. Total and timed respiratory capacity studies have been completed under my supervision and % standards computed on the employees. I have begun analysis of results and correlation with x-ray findings.

In my opinion the analysis of data so far obtained should be carried out to a stage of reasonable clinical completeness because preliminary analysis shows distinct and important change in respiratory function and pathology.

WOODROW NELSON, M. D.
111 EAST 22ND
LIBBY, MONTANA 59923

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8/25/64

PHONE 293-4197

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135 So. LaSalle Street
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