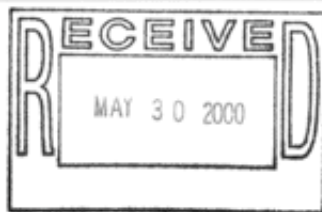


CF/aji

23 May 2000

Dr C. W. Jameson
National Toxicology Programme
MD EC-14
PO Box 12233
Research Triangle Park
NC 27709 USA

Dear Dr Jameson



NTP 10th Report on Carcinogens – Talc (Non-asbestiform)

My organisation, the CTPA, represents UK manufacturers of cosmetic, toiletry and perfumery products and we include manufacturers of cosmetic talc products within our membership.

I understand that NTP has initiated the process that may lead to a review of talc (non-asbestiform) with a view to possible listing in the 10th Report on Carcinogens. I also understand this substance was nominated for possible review by NIEHS Review Committee based on an NTP Technical Report (TR 421, 1993).

Having read this report, I understand it refers to lung neoplasms in female rats following an inhalation study. Certain human epidemiology studies among pottery workers have also been cited as evidence. All these data would have been available to those participating in the open workshop on talc that was held in 1994 co-sponsored by the FDA (reference 1).

In view of the conclusions reached by the participants of that workshop and after a careful appraisal of studies published since then, I wish to record the fact that CTPA believes the weight of evidence does not justify listing cosmetic talc (reference 2) as a probable or possible human carcinogen.

I would welcome the opportunity to present the evidence for our belief at the appropriate time and look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Dr Christopher Flower.

Dr Christopher Flower
HEAD OF SAFETY AND TOXICOLOGY

References

1. *Workshop on Consumer Uses and Health Perspectives*
International Society of Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology/US Food and Drug Administration.
National Institute of Health, Bethesda, MD, January 31-February 1, 1994
2. *Cosmetic Talc – A CTPA Guide*
Published by the Cosmetic, Toiletry and Perfumery Association Ltd.
February, 1996

cc CTPA Talc Sub-committee, Dr L Loretz (CTFA)

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