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INTERIM CHEMICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Fifth session

Geneva, 2 – 6 February 2004

Review of outcome of the tenth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee

Identification of alternatives to chrysotile for review by International Programme on Chemical Safety

1. The following alternatives to chrysotile asbestos have also been identified by Australia.

Asbestos Alternatives Identified in Use in Australia in 1999

The asbestos alternatives identified by NICNAS in 1999 are the basis of a commissioned health assessment of alternate material to chrysotile asbestos commissioned and released by NOHSC in 2001.

aramid (kevlar)

para-aramid

moulded aramid

fiberglass

polytetrafluoroethylene

polyethylene

polyvinylchloride

vinyl compositions

semi-metallics

steel fibres

ductile iron

aluminium silicates

carbon/graphite (fibres/composites)

cellulose / vegetable fibres / cork composites

refractory ceramic fibres / glass

phosphate

asphalt

mica

wollastonite

fiberglass

mineral fibres/wool

titanate fibres

Alternatives with Health Effects Data in the NICNAS report

Synthetic vitreous (mineral) fibres

insulation wools - glass wool, rock (stone) wool, slag wool, and new bio-soluble insulation wools

special purpose glass fibres

refractory ceramic fibres (RCF)

refractory fibres other than RCF

calcium magnesium silicate (CMS) high temperature wools

continuous filament glass fibres

Natural mineral fibres (other than asbestos)

attapulgitite

wollastonite

Synthetic organic fibres:

aramid fibres

carbon and graphite fibres

Natural organic fibres:

cellulose fibres