



United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
RESTON, VA. 22092

September 29, 1983

Mr. William H. Ashton
Johnson & Johnson
Skillman, N.J. 08558

Dear Mr. Ashton:

At your request I carefully reviewed the reports submitted by EMV Associates, Inc; Analysis of five talc samples by SEM/EDS, 3 June, 1983, and Study of one talc sample by SEM/EDS, 28 June, 1983. These studies were of talc powder lots W-154, 20754, 31314, A-304, and A-673 and included numerous scanning electron photomicrographs. None of the photomicrographs, in my opinion, showed any evidence that the samples contained asbestos. Normal talc morphology was noted. The tremolite fragment noted in the report of 3 June is not asbestos but rather normal rock-forming amphibole which is ubiquitous in the earth's crust.

I concur with the results of the testing by EMV Associates, Inc. - that no asbestos was detected.

Very Sincerely,

Malcolm Ross, Ph.D.
Research Mineralogist

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