



IMERYS Wollastonite USA, LLC
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Supervisor Gilliland,

I am writing in response to your inquiry about the Imerys Wollastonite USA, Inc. (IWUSA) facility in Willsboro. As you know, we temporarily suspended production at the facility last week.

IWUSA is committed to the quality of our products and the safety of our people and the communities in which we work. We regularly perform tests on our ore and finished products for the presence of mineral fibers. We also conduct twice yearly industrial hygiene testing in our production facility, and none of these tests have shown asbestos fibers in the working environment, in the dust produced from the facility or in the air.

Recently, following a third-party lab's finding, IWUSA performed additional tests on samples taken from products made in our Willsboro, NY facility throughout 2018. Using various techniques at both our internal lab and a highly-respected third-party lab, IWUSA found very low levels (around 0.005%) of asbestos in less than half of the tests conducted. Because of these erratic test results and the very low levels of asbestos found, we cannot say whether products we produced during the past 12 months may have contained asbestos in similar trace amounts. The results we found during this investigation are nearly undetectable, and they are far below the 0.1% standard that would require notification under U.S. law.

We believe that the Willsboro plant remains a safe place to work. Our industrial hygiene testing continues to show no asbestos in the air at our facility, and we have no reason to believe that the products we have produced are unsafe for handling and use.

Nonetheless, out of an abundance of caution, we have temporarily suspended production at the Willsboro facility and are working to identify the earliest possible date to resume production with ore that meets our standards.

During this temporary shutdown, all employees are receiving pay and benefits as we work to resume production.

We remain committed to producing high-quality wollastonite in Willsboro. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Kelleen Loewen
General Manager
Imerys Wollastonite USA