MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Meeting with Canadian Delegation

FROM: David L. Dull, Deputy Director
Chemical Control Division

TO: Asbestos Ban-Phase Down Rulemaking Docket

On September 10, at 10:30, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officials Mr. Fitzugh Green, Associate Administrator for International Activities, Mr. David Dull, Office of Toxic Substances, and Mr. Alan Carpien, Office of General Counsel met with a Canadian government delegation, headed by Mr. Raymond Savoie, Minister of Mines of the Province of Quebec, at the request of the Canadian Embassy in Washington. The subject of the meeting was EPA's proposed rulemaking to ban certain asbestos products, and eliminate the remainder over a ten (10) year period, and in particular the issue of whether a cross-examination hearing should be held pursuant to EPA procedural rules under section 6 of the Toxic Substances Control Act. Mr. Savoie stated that there was no scientific basis for EPA's proposed approach of eliminating asbestos use, as opposed to a philosophy of controlled use, and urged EPA to hold cross-examination hearings.

EPA personnel responded by explaining the role of a cross-examination hearing in a TSCA section 6 rulemaking, the showings that have to be made by someone requesting such a hearing, and the timeframe for submission of requests and EPA's decision on whether to grant or deny such a request. EPA officials further emphasized the Agency's goal of receiving all relevant comments on the proposed rule, and the Agency's duty to carefully scrutinize all comments and material in the record prior to making a final regulatory decision. Factors relevant to determining the timeframe for such a final decision were also discussed, in response to Mr. Savoie's statement that the EPA proposed rule was already having a significant adverse impact on the asbestos mining industry in Quebec.

Mr. Savoie's comments were substantially the same as comments previously stated by representatives of the Quebec government at EPA's public hearing held in July 1986.
INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

PROGRAM FOR

RAYMOND SAVOIE
MINISTER OF MINES
FOR QUEBEC PROVINCE

GILLIS RENY
POLITICAL ATTACHE

BRUNO PERRON
COUNSELOR FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

GEORGE DAHMEN
COUNSELOR FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

JEAN-MARC ROY
COUNSELOR FOR REGIONAL AFFAIRS

CANADA

SEPTEMBER 10, 1986

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.  OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES  811, WT

Fitzhugh Green
Associate Administrator

OFFICE OF PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

David Dull, Deputy Director
Chemical Control Division
Office of Toxic Substances

Asbestos Regulations