



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting between the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and EPA regarding Asbestos Part 1: Chrysotile Asbestos; Proposed Regulation of Certain Conditions of Use Under Section 6(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)

Date and Time: 3:00 p.m. EDT, October 4, 2023

EPA staff held a virtual meeting with NEI representatives at EPA's request regarding the use of asbestos sheet gaskets by NEI members. Topics discussed included the number of facilities with ongoing (non-legacy) use of asbestos gaskets. NEI stated that, based on its survey of members, some commercial power reactors, research reactors, and fuel fabricators (fuel suppliers) still use asbestos sheet gaskets. In total, less than 20 responding facilities are using asbestos gaskets (with a 40-45% response rate from their members to the survey). NEI noted that their largest supplier of specialty gaskets for nuclear applications reported that it does not supply asbestos gaskets. NEI believes that nuclear performance specifications for gaskets can be met without asbestos, since the suppliers are providing non-asbestos gaskets for that purpose. Non-radioactive uses for asbestos gaskets were also noted, specifically in steam lines and chemical lines. Transition timing was discussed; one member company told NEI it could phase-out its asbestos gasket uses in 5 years. Other legacy uses of asbestos identified by NEI, valve stem packings and arc chutes, were also discussed.

Attendees:

NEI:

Stew Yuen, NEI Senior Project Manager
Jerry Bonanno, Deputy General Counsel
Marc Tannenbaum, Senior Technical Executive

EPA:

Ana Corado, Chief, Risk Management Branch 3, ECRMD, OPPT
Robert Courtnage, Team Leader, RMB3, ECRMD, OPPT
Peter Gimlin, Environmental Protection Specialist, RMB3, ECRMD, OPPT
William Silagi, Economist, ECRMD, OPPT