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Subject: Exposure to Asbestos

The danger of air-borne asbestos fibers to health is well established and the use of asbestos-based insulation has been discontinued for some years.

It is possible, however, that you may encounter older boiler/pressure vessel installations and associated piping which are covered with an asbestos based insulation. It is also possible that you may require part of this insulation to be removed for inspection purposes, or that it is being removed to facilitate a repair or alteration.

Should such a situation arise, the authorized inspector will stay clear of the area of the removal operation and will not attempt to conduct any inspection until the work has been concluded and the air is clear and free from asbestos dust.

The employer of the workers removing the insulation has to operate within the requirements of the regulation respecting asbestos, published under the authority of the Occupational Health & Safety Act. This regulation has very specific requirements for taking precautions to protect the workers.

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