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10/30/1985 - Survey Finds Asbestos

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--A professional survey of Eastern Illinois University buildings for asbestos-containing materials revealed areas affected most seriously are mechanical rooms, basement areas, pipe elbow joints and insulated pipes.

The study by Carnow, Conibear and Associates, Ltd. of Chicago, authorized for Eastern in April and Western Illinois University in February by the Board of Governors of State Colleges and Universities, was received earlier this week and is being analyzed by her staff, according to Dr. Verna Armstrong, Vice President for Administration and Finance.

The BOG approved hiring the Chicago-based consultants to conduct the asbestos survey in all 36 academic/administrative buildings and 24 revenue bond buildings in order to identify asbestos-containing materials and to recommend remedial actions, accompanied by cost estimates for needed work.

"While the report is of very serious concern to the University, the amount of asbestos found will not necessitate the closing of any part of any building except when repairs are being done. We have already initiated steps to handle immediate, serious potential hazards," Armstrong said.

From her first review of the report Armstrong believes that the remedial work needed may cost Eastern more than \$3 million over a five year span. After her staff has completed its study of the report, a more detailed analysis of costs and a calendar to accomplish the repairs will be determined.

The report also showed, according to the EIU vice president, that there are a few areas such as hallways with small amounts of asbestos in some ceilings where it is contained in materials sprayed on as a fire retardant and sound barriers.

The consultants separated the asbestos-containing areas into four groupings with group 1 areas identified as those which should be given attention first for

removal or encapsulation of asbestos materials. Group 2 is of less serious nature. Groups 3 and 4 have no current hazard potential.

Armstrong indicated Eastern will use current operating funds to repair or encapsulate the most immediate, potentially serious problems, such as those containing damaged or seriously deteriorated asbestos-containing materials.

Five areas of group 1 in her initial analysis have been identified as needing attention as soon as feasible. The locations with the problem in parenthesis are:

1. Physical Science - various areas (pipe insulations, some ceiling tiles)
2. East Hall - textured ceilings (ceiling plaster)
3. Taylor-Lawson kitchen pipes (elbow compound)
4. Thomas-Andrews kitchen pipes (elbow compound)
5. Thomas Hall pipes - in rooms (elbow compound)

Following the in-depth consideration of the report, plans will be made for removal of asbestos-containing materials in all of group 1.

APPROPRIATED BUILDINGS

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Material</u>
Booth House Basement	Duct insulation
Booth Library Mechanical Rooms	Duct and pipe insulation
Janitor's House Basement	Duct and furnace insulation
Lantz Gymnasium Mechanical Rooms	Pipe insulation
Lantz Gymnasium Laundry Room 136	Pipe and tank insulation
Life Science Annex Mechanical Room	Tank, elbow, pipe insulation
Old Main Basement	Pipe insulation
Heat Plant Piping, Boiler	Pipe, tank, elbow/joint cpds.
Student Services Building Piping	Pipe insulation

BOND REVENUE BUILDINGS

Carman Hall Mechanical Room	Tank insulation
Douglas Hall Building Piping	Pipe and tank insulation
Ford Hall First Floor Hallways	Ceiling plaster
Gregg Triad Basement Mechanical Room	Pipe insulation
Lincoln Hall Basement	Ceiling plaster(?)
McKinney Hall First Floor Hallways, Telephone Booths, Storage	Ceiling spray-on
Pemberton Hall (Orig. section) Mechanical Room, Hallways	Soft ceiling plaster
Stevenson Tower Food Service	Elbow compound
University Union (Orig. Section) Second and Third Floors	Ceiling spray-on
Taylor Hall Pipes (in rooms)	Elbow compound

Treatment of less serious asbestos-containing areas will be completed as soon as possible through use of operating funds, appropriated capital funds, and bond revenue funds "in accordance with the advice and priorities suggested by the consultants."

Information will be provided Eastern students and employees regarding locale of potentially hazardous materials and any precautions which should be taken, Armstrong said. "It will be important," she said, "for students and employees and students not to cause damage to asbestos-containing areas."

Eastern is purchasing monitoring equipment to measure the presence of air-borne asbestos to be used for areas identified as potential hazards on a regular basis. Special vacuums are also to be purchased for areas where ceiling plaster contains asbestos.

"We and Western received permission at the BOG meeting on Oct. 24 to refinance revenue bonds over the next four to eight years to provide funds, if needed, to pay for removal or treatment of asbestos in bond revenue buildings," Armstrong said.

Such buildings are residence halls and the University Union.

Eastern received approval to refinance revenue bond issues up to \$2.5 million to implement the recommendations of the consultants. The figure for Western is \$3 million.