



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

NOV 24 2003

OFFICE OF
PREVENTION, PESTICIDES AND
TOXIC SUBSTANCES

Mr. Dino Privitera
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
1701 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2921

Re: Response to Request for Correction (RFC) regarding the United States (US) Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Guidance for Preventing Asbestos Disease Among Auto Mechanics (the Gold Book) pursuant to the U.S. EPA's Information Quality Guidelines (RFC# 12467).

Dear Mr. Privitera:

We are responding to your request of August 19, 2003, concerning the publication entitled "Guidance for Preventing Asbestos Disease Among Auto Mechanics." EPA is embarking on an overall effort to update and revise, as appropriate, various information materials associated with the Agency's Asbestos program. As part of this effort, EPA has begun the process of updating the auto mechanics' brochure. We intend to engage all interested stakeholders and to provide the general public with an opportunity to review and comment on changes to the brochure before it is finalized. We anticipate it being available for comment in the Spring of 2004. In the interim, both the hard copy and electronic version of the brochure will include a note that states that the Agency is in the process of updating the material in the document.

We look forward to reviewing your comments as well as those of other interested parties and stakeholders as we proceed with updating our asbestos information materials. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at 202-564-2910.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Susan B. Hazen in black ink.

Susan B. Hazen
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator

cc: Kimberly T. Nelson, Assistant Administrator, Office of Environmental Information, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency