

TO: CELOTEX ASBESTOS TRUST CLAIMANTS' COUNSEL

I am writing to remind all claimants' counsel that the Celotex Trust Claims Resolution Procedures (CRP) and Instructions for Filing a Claim permit claimants to defer the Trust's review by so notifying the Trust in writing of the request to defer consideration. A claimant does not waive any rights to that claim because he/she elected to defer review. The claimant may later choose any then available method of review or payment option.

Deferral is an appropriate election when a claim is pressing against a statute of limitation, but the claim is not ready to review because it is missing necessary documentation. This serves the interests of the claimants in two ways. First, it allows a claimant to toll the running of the statute of limitations that may bar a claim under ♣7.12. Notifying the Trust of the desire to defer is considered the filing of an asbestos related personal injury disease and becomes the tolling event under ♣7.10 as of the date the Trust is notified. Second, it preserves Trust funds by not wasting time reviewing claims that are deficient simply because they are not ready for review.

Deferral works as a placeholder for the claim in the Trust's FIFO queue. You can provide the missing documents or claim information at your convenience. The Celotex Trust currently does not have any deadlines for when you must activate the deferred claim. However, the Trust retains the right to establish deadlines in the future. When you do activate the deferred claim, it retains the original filing date for the review queue.

In order to seek a deferral, the Trust requires written notification of the claimant's name and social security number and an expression of the claimant's intent to defer the claim.

I am also enclosing a tip sheet that provides guidance about filing claims with the Celotex Trust. Please share this with anyone preparing and submitting claims to the Trust.

Please call me if you have any questions.

John L. Mekus
Executive Director