



STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

August 13, 1964

“B”

This is in reply to your letter of August 10, 1964.

You state that your client manufactures ceramic articles from a mixture of talc, barium carbonate, calcium carbonate and ball clay. To these ingredients are added wax and zinc stearate, which serve as a lubricant and forming aid when the material is molded to shape in a forming press. The molded article is removed from the press and fired.

It is our understanding that wax and zinc stearate are used as external lubricants in the manufacture of articles which are produced by molding. They improve the flow of the material being molded and also facilitate the removal of the molded part from the mold. In our opinion, wax and zinc stearate so used is purchased for use as a manufacturing aid and not for the purpose of resale as an ingredient of the finished product.

It is, therefore, our opinion that sales of wax and zinc stearate to your client for such purposes are taxable retail sales.

Very truly yours,

George A. Trigueros
Associate Tax Counsel

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