(4)

JBF/VE.

1301/

10th May 1948.

Mr C. T. Oliver,
Secretary, A. W. U.,
Mining Division,
BOULDER.

Dear Sir,

Re Kitimoon Queen.

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 19th and 29th ultimo re above.

I have discussed all the matters mentioned with Mr Wallace, the Perth Engineer of Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd.

1. With regard to diesel locomotives underground, you are aware that the use of these machines is now accepted mining practice today in many parts of the world, including Great Britain, U. S. A. Europe and New South Wales.

Special Regulations have been drawn up, which are practically international, governing the use of these locomotives. These were incorporated in a set of draft regulations drawn up for this State, of which you have a copy.

When permission was granted to Australian Blue Asbestos to install a diesel locomotive underground, certain conditions were laid down. Such conditions, it is reported, have not been regularly complied with.

I have now forwarded to the Manager of the Mine, a copy of the draft regulations and have stressed that they must be complied with in future. Such regulations are much more stringent than the original conditions.

2. The dust in the plant, Mr Wallace advises, has been exercising the minds of Company officials for some time and they are continually endeavouring to combat the nuisance. It is fully realised that such dust is a menace not only to men, but also to the proper maintenance of the machinery. Mr Brisbane will co-operate with the Company in an endeavour to combat this nuisance.

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT WV-03999

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT 10256.0

3. Apparently you discussed with Mr Humphries personally the matter of men working with provisional certificates. Follo an an extract from a letter from Mr Wallace.

"MEDICAL. Employees before engagement are required "to be examined and have a medical certificate as set out in the terms of the Mine Workers' Relief Act. At the moment the great majority of our employees engaged in Perth obtain a provisional certificate permissible under the Mines Regulation Act. It is undergood that full examinations are possible at the Perth Public Hospital which will give an employee a certificate to comply with the Relief Act. Please visit the Perth Public Hospital and find out if this is possible and if there is anything to prevent labour that you engage being sent to the Hospital prior to coming here.

"Mr Oliver of the A. W. U. is taking the matter up with the State Mining Engineer and will probably call on you in this respect shortly. His aim is to facilitate an employee having the same medical service as one engaged in the mines at Kalgoorli at a similar cost, viz:- 10/6d. We concur with this aim".

On receipt of this letter, Mr Wallace was rather expecting a call from you and has done nothing in the matter so far. Are you coming to Perth in the near future and, if so, would you be prepared to call and discuss the matter with him

In the meantime, I shall have enquiries made as to whether it is possible for the Perth Hospital to carry out this work in conjunction with the Commonwealth Health Laboratory.

Yours faithfully,

STATE MINING ENGINEER.

Mr.
Is any further action necessary Please?
24.6.48

RO.
No further action approved JS 25/6/48
DME

Mr
Is further action necessary Please?
Nothanks JS
DME
1/7/48