

While it is clear that tremolite is not removed from the chrysotile through any of the ways that are mentioned above, the Canadian asbestos industry has continued to insist in the literature that there is no tremolite in today's chrysotile. For example, Kevin Browne writes:

"You may say, as many have done, that unless you can separate out the tremolite, which you can't, it doesn't matter to the unfortunate person concerned what fibre the mesothelioma is due to. That is certainly true, but there are two reasons why it is no longer such a concern. It has been shown that for a miner to collect enough tremolite in his lungs to cause a mesothelioma he had to have very heavy exposure in the high tremolite areas, enough to cause asbestosis¹¹. But in the past, the percentage of tremolite in the fibre could be as high as 1%, whereas the high tremolite-contaminated mines in the central Thetford area have closed, and in any case the high geological research has shown that tremolite is not uniformly mixed with the chrysotile, but occurs in separate seams which can be identified and avoided. And lastly, there is evidence that much of the tremolite is lost in the milling, so that what is delivered to the manufacturer will have an even lower content. So present and future supplies from these sources have and will have minimal tremolite"

(Browne 200a)

Williams-Jones et al claim that "Amphibole-free chrysotile can be produced from the Jeffrey mine, and other chrysotile mines, provided that appropriate measures are taken to avoid contamination of the ores."(Williams-Jones et al. 2001) While this maybe true, the inference that current or past production has utilized this method is incorrect and misleading. For despite the