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AUSTRALIAN WORKERS' UNION

WESTRALIAN BRANCH——MINING DIVISION

C. BOULDER,
BRANCH SECRETARY
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TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
"UNION" PERTH

PROVISIONAL SECRETARY
MINING
C. T. OLIVER,
[illegible] MALL, BOULDER
TELEPHONE [illegible]
P.O. BOX 16

BOULDER, 29th April, 1948.
W.A.

Mr. J. Foxall,
State Mining Engineer,
Mines Department,
P E R T H. W.A.

Dear Sir,

Further to my letter of the 19th instant relative to conditions at Australian Blue Asbestos Wittenoom Gorge, I have to advise that a report on the said conditions has been given to the Management of my Union, and I am now directed to urge on you the immediate necessity of an inspection, by a competent officer of your Department.

We are aware that an inspection was made by District Inspector Lloyd in January of this year, but our information is that the Mill was under repair during the Inspector's visit for which reason dust counts could not be taken. However, I suggest it is unnecessary to have the Mill in operation to have a proper appreciation of the amount of dust created during milling operations - everything in the vicinity of the Mill is laden with a thick covering of dust.

A large power unit failed because fine asbestos fibre was breathed into the engine and blocked the oil screen. I witnessed this and quote the incident merely to emphasise the danger employees of the Company are subjected to.

If the industry of producing asbestos is to continue, my Union will insist on every precaution be taken to eliminate dust from the working places, and is with confidence that we request immediate action by your Department in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

SMC
6.5.48.

4-5-48.

SECRETARY A. W. U.
Mining Division

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
WV-03998

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