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Port Hedland 4th March 1962.

The Senior Inspector of Mines,
Kalgoorlie.

re:- Australian Blue Asbestos Pty Ltd.-WITTENOOM.

While I was at Wittenoom last week attending to the fatal accident of 23rd. February I inspected the mine and mill workings.

Allowing for the fact that production had been below normal because of the absence of experienced miners on leave, and because of earlier weather interruptions, the conditions in both sections were quite good.

The connection between No.2 & No.3 levels in the lower seam has been completed and the airflow was quite strong. Mr. Mulholland has now resumed after leave and he should be able to maintain adequate airflows through the northern areas of No.4 level which were in need of attention.

The management desire to mine the stope between No.2 & No.3 levels but the foreman implied that you had instructed him not to commence any mining after the break through had been effected until our ventilation officers had re-checked the airflows. Would you please notify the management when they can expect to receive a visit from the ventilation inspectors.

Conditions in the plant were greatly improved by the provision of many more dust collecting hoods at points which had previously been left uncovered. The company's Konimeter has been sent away for repair so there was no way to check the actual dust concentrations.

I do not contemplate that the latest improvements will have reduced the dust counts sufficiently to meet with our approval, but at least the plant is taking on the appearance that every effort is being made to utilise the dust collecting appliances on hand.

DISTRICT INSPECTOR OF MINES, PORT HEDLAND.