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18 AUG 1981

D. J. O'CONNOR

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Dr. D.J. O'Connor,
Environment & Occupational Health,
C.S.R.,
G.P.O. Box 483,
SYDNEY. N.S.W. 2001.

Dear Dr. O'Connor,

I noticed at our recent meeting that one of your lawyers appeared a little anxious when I told him that we were contacting all the former Wittenoom miners who had completed questionnaires indicating that they smoked suggesting that they should give up smoking. I thought that he might be interested to see a copy of the letter which we sent to them and it is therefore enclosed.

Michael Hobbs also asked me to give you precise details of present information on asbestosis in the Wittenoom miners. The situation as derived from the records of the State Government Insurance Office are that of 253 miners who have filed claims for compensation 180 have been approved by the Pneumoconiosis Board, 34 declined, 12 judged to have no claim, 5 pending and in 22 we have not been able to locate the file and determine what the outcome was. These figures are probably minima as they are based on those claims listing Australian Blue Asbestos as the last employer. We are certain that other claims will have come in through other employers and we are shortly to embark on trying to identify these.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Bruce Armstrong
DIRECTOR

August 25, 1981.

PS. Steve Woodward has asked me to remind you about the print-out of the asbestos references.