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Internal Correspondence

CSR

TO Mr. M.G. King

NUMBER E.O. 39/77

FROM B.M. Munday

DATE 27th October, 1977

SUBJECT ABA - PERTH VISIT

I will be arriving in Perth from Adelaide on Sunday, 6th November. Mr. Leith has told me that you and Mr. Blaxland have appointments on Monday, 7th November, with Professor Hobbs at 9.00 a.m. and Dr. McNulty at 11.00 a.m. Do you wish me to accompany you on both these visits?

On a related matter, I saw Dr. A.Cumpston yesterday in Sydney. He is in charge of occupational health and air pollution control in the W.A. Department of Public Health. I told him that I wished to see him whilst I was in Perth, and mentioned (as a matter of courtesy) that CSR people would probably be seeing Dr. McNulty.

Dr. Cumpston told me that he has just returned from Wittenoom township, where he made dust surveys. He is now writing his report, but made the following comments:

- blue asbestos dust is visible on the ground throughout the township;
- dust levels recorded whilst driving around the town (monitor hanging out of the car boot) gave consistent readings of 1-2 fibres/ml;*
- Lang Hancock wishes to construct 80 houses in the town, presumably for iron ore operations. I received the impression that Dr. Cumpston feels that the town should never be expanded.

C 3670

. CSR liabilities from Wittenoom will continue for a long time;

. the next chapter of the Wittenoom story will be presented at the pneumoconiosis conference in Sydney next year.

I feel you should be aware of these comments. Dr. McNulty may raise them as part of what he may see as CSR's continuing liability and/or responsibilities resulting from ABA operations.

* U.K. occupational exposure limit for crocidolite is 0.2 fibres/ml.

B.M.M.

cc: Mr. C.W. Davis

Mr. M.G. King E.O. 39/77

B.M. Munday 27th October, 1977

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C 3672

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