

I certify that this and the following 41 pages contain all of those true copies of parts of the minutes of board meetings of CSR Limited between 1943 and 1955 inclusive relating to Midalco Pty Limited.

John E. Smith, Assistant Secretary, CSR Limited

Extracts from CSR Board Minutes (1943-1967 incl)
concerning the Wittenoom Asbestos Venture.

4 May 1987

Date.

Extract from Board Minutes

1943

24th March, 1943

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the Acting General Manager.

The registration of the Asbestos Company in Western Australia under the name of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited was sanctioned.

21st April, 1943

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

Mr C W R Powell outlined his visit to Western Australia in connection with asbestos, and it was agreed to take up further shares in Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd, for the purpose of building a settlement, and that the Company would respect the Managing Agency of the Asbestos Coy at a fee to be arranged later.

23rd June, 1943

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

The Agreement (in duplicate) between Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd and this Company, appointing this Company Managing Agents and sole distributors was signed and sealed.

14th July, 1943

Present: E R Knox (Chair), E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

... the Company appointing Mr C W R Powell, and failing him, Mr G N Worledge, its proxy to vote at meetings of Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd, were signed and sealed

13th October, 1943

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

It was agreed to apply to the Treasury for permission to issue 40,000 additional 1 Pound shares in Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
WV-03891

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

10/47/00

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases; Abrams lead and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

M F I 643

MINUTES OF CSR

1948-51 and 1955

Produced in the matter of
Asbestos Personal Injury Cases;
Abrams Lead & copied to
Richard F. Scruggs.

1944

22nd March, 1944

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

A memorandum dated 16th instant, by Mr C W R Powell was read, and it was agreed to authorise a further call on the shares already held in Australia Blue Asbestos Ltd of 20,000 Pounds, also to rent plant and machinery to the latter company on a 12 54 basis to the value of 32,000 Pounds

12th July, 1944

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

A report by Mr C W R Powell on Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd, dated 11th July, 1944, was submitted, and it was agreed that this company should apply to the Treasury for permission to issue a further 20,000 Pounds of ordinary capital, and that the CSR Co Ltd would take this up from time to time, also that the CSR Co Ltd would finance plant and asbestos fibre through its Mining plant Account up to a total of 48,000 Pounds

8th November, 1944

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

The position at the Asbestos Mine, due to shortage of labour etc, as outlined in Mr Powell's note of the 1st instant, was reported

29th November, 1944

Present: N W Kater (Chair), E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

Photographs of the settlement and plant of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited at Wittenoom were submitted

1945

3rd January, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

It was agreed that the Company should take up a further 50,000 ordinary shares in Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd

31st January, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

It was agreed to pay a further call of 6/- per share on 50,000 new shares held by the Company in Australian Blue Asbestos Limited

7th February, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, and the General Manager.

It was decided, as a result of Mr C W R Powell's oral report, to continue operations by Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd at Wittenoom, ; further, that Messrs C W R Powell, I L Gilmour and M King should proceed to the United States, and possibly Great Britain, to obtain information concerning building materials generally

14th March, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and R W Harman.

Damage caused by heavy rain at Wittenoom was reported

4th April, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson and the General Manager.

The Board were informed that the de Benales group in Western Australia were receiving assistance from the State Government in respect of the mining and/or marketing of Blue Asbestos

16th May, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

A letter from Mr C W R Powell dealing with Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd was circulated amongst the Directors

13th June, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

A memorandum by Mr G R Worledge dealing with future operations of Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd were read; also a cable from Mr C W R Powell, dated 11th instant

PROCESSED BY THE
INJURY CASES SECTION
NOTED TO RICHARD F. LEECH

25th July, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

It was agreed to apply for a further 50,000 ordinary shares in Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd

1st August, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

Extracts were from Mr Powell's letter, dated 12th ultimo; also from a Perth letter outlining the interview by Mr Tucker with the Minister for Mines in connection with the development of Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd

8th August, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

A request by W A Blue Asbestos Fibres Co Ltd to the State Government of Western Australia for a subsidy per ton of fibre produced was made known

5th September, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

A letter from the Mines Department, Western Australia, in connection with the request of Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd for a subsidy was made known, and the Company's reply there to indicated

12th September, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

Further information was given concerning negotiations by Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd with the Government of Western Australia in the matter of assistance to the Asbestos industry

17th October, 1945

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

The Directors' Report for the year ended 30th June, 1945 on Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd was read, also a letter from the Secretary of that Company to the Managing Director, dated 13th instant, concerning the proposed embargo on Asbestos

1946

23rd January, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

A serious accident in connection with the breaking of a crankshaft in the Ruston engine at Wittenoom was reported,

6th February, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

Mr C W R Powell reported orally on Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd and it was agreed to continue operating this Company and for the time being to call up no additional capital, but to finance the project in accordance with the suggestion contained in Mr Powell's memorandum of the 22nd January

27th February, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

It was agreed that the Company should endeavour to make a selling arrangement with the Johns-Manville Corporation for the disposal of Blue Asbestos in North and South America, also that Tasmanian Asbestos Pty Ltd should discontinue operations, and the plant and buildings at Zeehan should be dismantled and disposed of

20th March, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and R W Harman.

A letter, dated 12th March, 1946, from Felt & Textiles of Australia Ltd in reference to Asphalt Floor Tiles was read; also a communication from Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd concerning the exemption from taxation of industries in North West Australia

24th July, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

A memorandum by Mr C W R Powell, dated 23rd instant, in connection with Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd, was circulated amongst the Directors

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Abrams lead and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

7th August, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and Dr R W Harman.

It was agreed to proceed with the development of Australian Blue Asbestos, Limited, to attain an output of 3,000 tonnes of fibre per annum along the lines recommended by Mr Powell in his memorandum of 23rd July, 1946. This involves the support and assistance of the West Australian Government, the appointment of a Mine Manager and an Underground Manager, and additional capital expenditure of 130,000 Pounds, of which 81,663 Pounds is for development of mine and mill and the remainder for working capital. It was resolved that the Company approves an application to the Treasury by Australian Blue Asbestos, Limited, for permission to increase the nominal capital of that company of 400,000 Pounds.

14th August, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and Dr R W Harman.

It was agreed that, should Australian Blue Asbestos, Limited, decide to raise additional capital by giving a mortgage or floating charge over its assets as an alternative to increasing its share capital. The Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, would grant a loan up to 130,000 Pounds on terms to be mutually agreed. Transfer of 5 deferred shares, numbered 80,026 to 80,030 inclusive, in Australian Blue Asbestos Limited, from the Company to W J Baird was, by resolution, signed and sealed.

25th September, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

It was agreed that Mr C W R Powell should proceed to Perth with the view of negotiating the purchase of plant and leases from West Australian Blue Asbestos Fibres Company, Ltd, for a consideration of up to 100,000 Pounds Ordinary Shares in Australian Blue Asbestos, Ltd, at present held by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Ltd.

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Abrams read and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

9th October, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and Dr R W Harman.

Extracts were read from Mr C W R Powell's letters of the 3rd and 7th October (written from Perth) dealing with Australian Blue Asbestos Limited, and approval was to the proposal to take a three months' option to cover Mr Faye's latest offer, viz, that for a consideration of 50,000 Ordinary Shares in Australian Blue Asbestos, Limited, to be transferred by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, to Western Australian Blue Asbestos Fibres, Limited, The Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, should acquire the whole of the assets of Western Australian Blue Asbestos Fibres, Limited, and should take over a liability of 25,000 Pounds owing by Western Australian Blue Asbestos Fibres, Limited, to the National Bank of Australasia, Limited

16th October, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and Dr R W Harman.

Extracts were read from Mr C W R Powell's memorandum of the 16th October giving further information regarding the results of his recent visit to Western Australia, and an application by The Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, for 50,000 shares in Australian Blue Asbestos, Limited, and the allotment by that Company, was confirmed

6th November, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

The following documents were, by resolution, signed and sealed :-

- 1 Agreement between this Company and Lionel Chrysotile Asbestos Limited, granting to us the option of purchasing the whole of its Mining Tenements
- 2 Agreement between the Company and West Australian Blue Asbestos Fibres Company Limited, granting to us the option of purchasing the whole of the assets of that Company situated in the Hammersley Range

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Asbestos 100000
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

11th December, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

The breaking in to the freezer and the removal of beer and the subsequent happenings at Wittenoom, culminating in the main offender being found guilty of disorderly conduct, was made known

24th December, 1946

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

The General Manager was authorised by the Board to sign an agreement between the Company and Australian Blue Asbestos Limited, dealing with the hire of plant from the former to the latter Company

1947

22nd January, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

It was agreed to take up a further 50,000 1 Pound ordinary shares in Australian Blue Asbestos Limited

29th January, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and Mr G N Worledge.

It was decided that The Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited should exercise its option to take over the assets of West Australian Blue Asbestos Fibres Company Limited on the terms as reported to the Board on the 9th October, 1946

12th February, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

The following documents were, by resolution, signed and sealed :-

Extensions (in duplicate) to 31st March 1947 of the undermentioned options :-

- (1) OPTION OF PURCHASING THE WHOLE OF THE ASSETS OF West Australian Blue Asbestos Fibres Company Limited
- (2) Option of purchasing the whole of the Mining tenements of Lionel Chrysotile Asbestos Limited

15th April, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

The following documents were, by resolution, signed and sealed at the Board Meeting held on the 9th April, 1947 :-

Extensions (in duplicate) for three months to 30th June, 1947, of the undermentioned options :-

- 1 Option of purchasing whole of assets of West Australian Blue Asbestos Fibres Co Ltd
- 2 Option of purchasing whole of mining tenements of Lionel Chrysotile Asbestos Ltd

23rd April, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, H N Pope and the General Manager.

It was agreed that Australian Blue Asbestos, Limited, should finance Messrs Barrett & Radly in the purchasing of a truck

14th May, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

The Western Australian Government's delay in arriving at a decision concerning the proposal to further the mining of Blue Asbestos at Wittenoom was reported

28th May, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

Further information was given regarding Mr W J Baird's negotiations with the Western Australian Government in connection with assistance at Wittenoom

4th June, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

Further information was given in connection with Mr W J Baird's negotiations with the Western Australian Government in connection with the work at Wittenoom

Produced in Asbestos Personal Injury Cases: Abrams led and copied to Richard F. Scruggs

9th July, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

The following documents were, by resolution, signed and sealed :-

- 1 Extension of Option (in duplicate) of purchasing the whole of the assets of West Australian Blue Asbestos Fibres Co Ltd for a further period of three months to 30th September, 1947
- 2 Extension of Option (in duplicate) of purchasing the whole of the mining tenements of Lionel Chrysotile Asbestos Ltd for a further period of three months to 30th September, 1947

13th August, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

Mr C W R Powell reported on his recent visit to Wittenoom and the prospects of this venture to Wittenoom and the prospects of this venture now that it seemed clear that both the Government of Western Australia and the Federal Government would assist the establishment of the Asbestos industry

20th August, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, H N Pope and the General Manager.

It was agreed to advance further plant to Australian Blue Asbestos, Limited, by increasing the value of this item from 59,000 Pounds to 112,000 Pounds, also that this Company should issue a further 100,000 1 Pound shares and apply for permission to increase their Authorised Capital from 400,000 Pounds to 500,000 Pounds

1st October, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson and Dr R W Haman.

It was reported that, in accordance with previous approval by the Board, Australian Blue Asbestos Limited had, on the 30th September, exercised the options on the assets of West Australian Blue Asbestos Fibres Company Limited and Lionel Chrysotile Asbestos Limited

Produced in Asbestos Personal Injury Cases: Abrams lead and copied to Richard F. Scruggs

22nd October, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

The Chairman's speech at the Annual Meeting of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited was read, and details were given of the Balance Sheet figures for the year ended 30th June, 1947, also those of earlier years

29th October, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

Mr C W R Powell explained the shortage and price of asbestos on the world's market, and dealt with our application for an increase in the price of blue asbestos, also the working of the mine and plant at Wittenoom

5th November, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

The following documents were, by resolution, signed and sealed :-

Transfers of Shares (2) in Australian Blue Asbestos Limited, pursuant to an agreement dated 30th day of October, 1946 :-

- 1 42,500 fully paid ordinary shares numbered 250,001 to 292,500 inclusive from The Colonial Sugar Company Limited to West Australian Blue Asbestos Fibres Company Ltd
- 2 7,500 fully paid ordinary shares numbered 292,501 to 300,000 inclusive from The Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited to Lionel Chrysotile Asbestos Ltd

Produced in Asbestos Personal Injury Cases: Abrams lead and copied to Richard F. Scruggs

19th November, 1947

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

By resolution, the undermentioned documents were signed and sealed :-

Transfers of Mining Tenements (11) from Lionel Chrysotile Asbestos Limited to CSR Co Ltd :-

5 Mineral Claims Nos 233H/237H
5 " " Nos 296H/300H
Mineral Claim No 201H

Transfers of Mining Tenements (28) from West Australian Blue Asbestos Fibre Company Ltd to CSR Co Ltd :-

3 Mineral Claims Nos 164H/166H
Mineral Claim No 168H
" " No 171H
" " No 182H
" " No 188H
13 Mineral Claims Nos 220H/232H
Mineral claim No 177H
3 Mineral Claim Nos 248H/250H
Mineral claim No 309H
2 Miners Homestead Leases Nos 5L and 6L
Subterranean Water Right No 8H

1948
14th January, 1948

Present: E R Knox (Chair), E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

The destruction by fire of a barracks at Wittenoom was reported

1st April, 1948

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and Dr R W Harman.

Agreement (in duplicate) whereby the Company sub leases to Australian Blue Asbestos Limited certain mining tenements for the purpose of mining asbestos fibre, for a period of ten years from 1st January, 1948, was, by resolution, signed and sealed

28th April, 1948

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

Mr C W R Powell's memorandum, dated 27th April, 1948, on Australian Blue Asbestos Limited, was read

Produced in Asbestos Personal Injury Cases: ALJama lead and copied to Richard F. Scruggs

5th May, 1948

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

Bond for 500 Pounds, the Company in conjunction with Australian Blue Asbestos Limited, for the due erection of proposed licensed premises at Wittenoom was, by resolution, signed and sealed

2nd June, 1948

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

A memorandum, dated 28th May, 1948, written by Mr C W R Powell, dealing with Australian Blue Asbestos Limited, was circulated amongst the Directors

16th June, 1948

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

Mr C W R Powell was present during the discussion and it was decided to agree to the recommendations set out in his memorandum, dated 28th May, about Australian Blue Asbestos Limited

28th July, 1948

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

Mr C W R Powell was present during a further discussion following his recent visit to Perth in connection with Australian Blue Asbestos Limited

9th September, 1948

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson and the General Manager.

A copy of Mr C W R Powell's letter of the 3rd September, 1948, to the Premier of Western Australia was tabled

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Abrams lead and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

22nd September, 1948

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

The Board agreed to the purchase of 9,800 deferred shares in Australian Blue Asbestos Limited from the L G Hancock Asbestos Company at not exceeding 6s 0d per share

It was agreed that Mr C W R Powell should proceed to England and America for the purpose of engaging a Mining Engineer, and that calls of up to 40,000 Pounds on Australian Blue Asbestos Limited capital be made as required, also to order further equipment up to 64,000 Pounds, through CSR Hired Plant, for the Australian Blue Asbestos Mine

20th October, 1948

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

It was agreed to make a counter-offer to the L G Hancock Asbestos Co of 8s 6d per share of their holding of 9,800 deferred shares in Australian Blue Asbestos Limited

27th October, 1948

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

The General Manager pointed out that the Auditor's fair valuation of the deferred shares in Australian Blue Asbestos Limited was 12s 6d per share. Consequently, notwithstanding the Minute passed last week, he had declined the seller's original offer of 2 Pounds per share and advised that the Company was not prepared even to pay the Auditor's valuation for the shares, and this action was confirmed

22nd December, 1948

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

The General Manager's action in applying for 50,000 ordinary 1 Pound shares in AUSTRALIAN Blue Asbestos Limited was confirmed

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Asbestos 10-1 and
copied to Richard H. Burgess

1949

5th January, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

The receipt of a claim for 24,613 13 9 Pounds from S Rhys, of London, against Australian Blue Asbestos Limited was reported, and Mr C W R Powell's letter of the 16th December, 1948, was read and discussed

12th January, 1949

Present: Sir Norman Kater (Chair), E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

Mr C W R Powell's cable from Johannesburg of 8th instant was read and discussed, and it was decided to ask him to advise the proposed basis of employment Mr Worcester before engagement

19th January, 1949

Present: Sir Norman Kater (Chair), E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

Mr C W R Powell's two cables of the 13th instant from Johannesburg were read, and it was agreed that he should be advised that his proposed offer to Mr Worcester was approved

26th January, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

L G Hancock Asbestos Company's letter of the 17th instant to the Managing Director, Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd, was read, and it was reported that Mr Powell had engaged Mr Gwyn Morgan as Manager of the Blue Asbestos Company for three years

2nd February, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

It was reported that Mr J Worcester had withdrawn his application for employment with Australian Blue Asbestos Limited, and Mr C W R Powell, following his return from England, South Africa and America, outlined to the Board his work while overseas

16th February,

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

1949 The offer made to the Company by Mr E A Wright for the sale of 9,800 deferred shares in Australian Blue Asbestos Limited at 1 Pound each was reported

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Asbestos read and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

2nd March, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther, the General Manager and the Secretary, Mr F A Tindale.

It was agreed to reject the offer of the L G Hancock Coy for their 9,800 deferred shares in Australian Blue Asbestos Limited at 1 Pound each, and to counter-offer a like number of fully paid ordinary shares, or 12s 6d per share

It was also agreed to increase the nominal capital of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited to 1,000,000 Pounds, and to seek permission to issue and call up a further 100,000 Pounds in ordinary 1 Pound shares

6th April, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, J G Crowther and Dr R W Harman.

The holders, having decided to accept the Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited's offer authorised by the Board on 2nd March, 1949, of selling their Deferred Shares in Australian Blue Asbestos Limited to The Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited at the Auditor's fair valuation of 12s 6d per share, the following transfers were, by resolution, signed and sealed:-

1	3,900	from L G Hancock
2	1,000	" L G Hancock
3	1,950	" E A M Wright
4	500	" E A M Wright

20th April, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

It was decided that Australian Blue Asbestos Limited should install the new units in the new Power House at an estimated cost of 3,000 Pounds

27th April, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

It was decided to reply to Mr S Rhys' letter in accordance with the draft submitted, and to approach the Federal Government as to whether or not blue asbestos could be exported to S Rhys

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Adams' and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

4th May, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and the General Manager.

It was agreed that Australian Blue Asbestos Limited should purchase two 5-ton Ford trucks and 2,500 ft of 8" piping

22nd June, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and Dr R W Harman.

It was agreed to engage Mr Alan Taylor as Leading Counsel to Mr J D Evans as Junior to determine the extent of our commitment in connection with supplies of asbestos fibre to S Rhys, of London

3rd August, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and C W Rothe.

Mr C W R Powell's memorandum of 29th July, in connection with Australian Blue Asbestos Limited, was circulated amongst the Directors

17th August, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and C W Rothe.

Mr C W R Powell's memorandum of 29th July was discussed in his presence, and it was agreed to confirm the expenditure of 5,850 Pounds already incurred for items not previously listed, and the expenditure of 15,000 Pounds through The CSR Co Hired Plant Account for the purchase of 6 Elanco Loaders, 4 Heavy Scrapers and 15 Mine Cars for Australian Blue Asbestos Limited.

Extracts were read from the Auditor's report on the operations of Asbestos Products Pty Ltd, which disclosed a profit of Pounds 31,941 for the year ended 30th June, 1949, before providing for Income Tax.

14th September, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, E W Fairfax, D Wilson, J G Crowther and Dr R W Harman.

The Board approved of the draft of the two letters to be sent to S Rhys, of London, as recommended in Mr C W R Powell's memorandum of the 12th September, 1949

Produced in Asbestos Personal Injury Cases; Abstracted and copied to Richard F. Scruggs

2nd November, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, D Wilson, J G Crowther, J W Dunlop and C W Rothe.

Two memoranda from Mr C W R Powell, and one from Mr P H Reagan, were circulated amongst the Directors

9th November, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, D Wilson, J G Crowther, J W Dunlop and C W Rothe.

Mr C W R Russell explained his memoranda, which have been read by members of the Board during the week, and the Board agreed with Mr Powell's recommendation that there should be a change of management of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited. Further consideration was deferred until next week

16th November, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), N W Kater, D Wilson, J G Crowther, J W Dunlop and C W Rothe.

It was reported that the Manager of Australia Blue Asbestos Limited, Mr G Morgan, had posted his resignation

23rd November, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson, J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and C W Rothe.

It was decided that all senior officers of the Australian Blue Asbestos Limited staff (i.e. those earning over 600 Pounds on the CSR scale in the table appended to Mr C W R Powell's memorandum of 22nd November, 1949) should be invited to join the staff of The Colonial Sugar Refining Co Ltd, and that the transfer of junior staff officers of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited should be considered from time to time on the recommendation of the Manager

The staff and salary changes indicated in Mr Powell's memorandum of 22nd November, 1949, were agreed to, and, in addition, it was decided to transfer the registered office of Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd from Perth to Wittenoom

IT ALSO ALSO DECIDED THAT NO FURTHER Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd capital should be issued at present and that operations at Wittenoom should be financed by CSR Co Ltd funds loaned without interest and advanced as required, subject to the approval of the Board

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Abrams and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

14th December, 1949

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

The following documents were, by resolution,
signed and sealed:-

- 1 Transfer of five (5) deferred shares in
Australian Blue Asbestos Limited from
W J Baird to the Company

1950

4th January, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

The death of Mill Shift Boss Cyril Tolson by
drowning at Wittenoom on Christmas Day was
reported

It was agreed that 695 Pounds should be
expended on recreation facilities at
Wittenoom

16th January, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

It was agreed to expend 770 Pounds at
Wittenoom in connection with the market
garden

8th February, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

It was agreed that Australian Blue Asbestos
Limited should spend a further 6,390 Pounds
to complete the power house, and incur
expenditure of 720 Pounds to facilitate fire
fighting

26th April, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

It was decided to equip the miners employed
by Australian Blue Asbestos Limited with
battery cap lamps

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Abrams lead and
copied to Richard F. Scaggs

3rd May, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

It was agreed that we should endeavour to
obtain a Mine Superintendent for Wittenoom
from America

24th May, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop and C W Rothe.

The Board were advised that the cost of
installing engines and generators at the new
power house, the cost of two new mine
locomotives, and the installation of new
pumping plant and reticulating pipes for the
water supply, all for Wittenoom, had
increased by 8,119 Pounds and this additional
expenditure was approved

14th June, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

Mr G B Kater's report on his visit to
Wittenoom Gorge, having been read by members
of the Board, was discussed

21st June, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

It was agreed that Mr P H Reagan should
endeavour to secure the services of
Mr R P Luke for Australian Blue Asbestos
Limited

28th June, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and C W Rothe.

Mr C W R Powell attended and reported on his
recent visit to Wittenoom

5th July, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

It was agreed that Australian Blue Asbestos
Limited should expend 5,600 Pounds for the
installation at Wittenoom of two Aspirating
systems and a conveyor to increase the
recovery of asbestos, also to loan 10,000
Pounds to Messrs Barrett & Radley to enable
them to purchase two new Leyland trucks

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Abrams lead and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

26th July, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

It was agreed that Australia Blue Asbestos Ltd should dispose of the Joy Loaders, also that that Company should expend the sum of 14,000 Pounds for the purchase of a Crossley engine and generator to replace the Ruston units and thus standardise the power plant at Wittenoom with Crossley products

16th August, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

Extracts were read from the Manager of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited's letter P No 316, dealing with the half-yearly accounts

20th September, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
Dr R W Harman.

Approval was given to Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd to purchase a bus and a 60" ventilation fan for Wittenoom, also to preliminary steps being taken to obtain a crew of mine foremen from America

4th October, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

Approval was given to Mr C W R Powell's proposal that five mine foreman should be obtained from America

1st November, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

Mr C W R Powell, reported the conditions at Wittenoom, and it was agreed that Australian Blue Asbestos Limited should endeavour to obtain some 25 machine miners from Ecuador.

15th November, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

Mr C W R Powell's memorandum of the 13th instant, dealing with Australian Blue Asbestos Limited, was circulated amongst the Directors

29th November, 1950

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

The recommendations contained in Mr C W R
Powell's memorandum of the 13th instant
concerning Australian Blue Asbestos Limited
were approved

1951

14th February, 1951

14th February, 1951

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

It was decided that Australian Blue Asbestos
Limited should carry out the terms of the
agreement with CSR Co Ltd in connection
with the minimum payment of 1,000 Pounds per
annum for leases

14th March, 1951

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

Mr P H Reagan's cable was read reporting that
35 Jackhammer Operators had been selected in
Italy, and that it was hoped that they would
be despatched by air to Wittenoom almost
immediately

21st March, 1951

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

The fire and explosion in the magazine at
Wittenoom on 12th instant was reported

8th March, 1951

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and C W Rothe.

Contracts of Sale between the Company, J M
Rhys and Minerals Fibres Ltd for the sale of
392 tons of blue asbestos fibre to Minerals
Fibres Ltd in settlement of a claim against
the Company in respect of our alleged breach
of contracts to supply fibre was, by
resolution, signed and sealed

2nd May, 1951

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, G B Kater, and C W Rothe.

It was agreed that Australian Blue Asbestos
Ltd should incur additional expenditure
amounting to 8,165 POUNDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE MEMORANDUM DATED 27TH April 1951

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Abrams v. ... and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

27th June, 1951

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
C W Rothe.

Mr Powell also reported on his recent visit
to Wittenoom

11th July, 1951

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

The expenditure to be incurred by Australian
Blue Asbestos Limited for the year ending
31st December 1951 as recommended in Mr C W R
Powell's memorandum of the 4th instant, was
discussed and approval given for the
expenditure of 22,005 Pounds on capital items

Mr P H Reagan's resumption of his original
position of Consulting Engineer and Mr R P
Luke's appointment as Manager were confirmed

5th September, 1951

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

The expenditure of 3,700 Pounds by Australian
Blue Asbestos Limited on the purchase of an
ore drier was agreed to

24th October, 1951

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

It was agreed to provide an additional 50,000
Pounds to finance the operations of
Australian Blue Asbestos LIMITED TO THE END
OF THE YEAR, AND THAT THAT Company should
increase the loan to Messrs Barrett & Radley
by 1,680 Pounds for two years, interest to be
charged at the rate of 5% per annum

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Inquiry under the 1982 Act and
copied to Richard P. Scruggs

30th January, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

The letter dated 21st January 1952 from the
President of the Johns-Manville Corporation
asking for further information about
Australian Blue Asbestos Limited was read and
the proposed reply approved

The decision of the West Australian Prices
Commissioner to grant increases of 50 Pounds,
25 Pounds and 20 Pounds per ton in the prices
of Nos 1, 2 and 3 grade fibre respectively
was reported, also details of an application
for further increase in the price of Nos 2
and 3 grade fibre

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Asbestos Ltd and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

6th February, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

The accounts of Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd
for the half-year ended 31st December 1951
were discussed

2nd April, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

The destruction of the Government Hospital at
Wittenoom by fire on the 23rd March was
reported

23rd April, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W
Dunlop, G B Kater, and R W Harman.

Several matters were discussed, Mr K O Brown
being present, and it was decided to agree to
the recommendations in Mr K O Brown's memorandum
of the 21st April 1952, in connection with
Australian Blue Asbestos, these including
further capital expenditure over the next three
months to a total value of 25,000 Pounds and a
contribution of 750 Pounds per annum towards the
remuneration of a Doctor at Wittenoom

28th May, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

The General Manager reported that he had
discussed the supply of blue asbestos fibre
from Wittenoom with Mr Thyne Reid, of James
Hardie & Co Pty Ltd, who stated that his firm
would be willing to accept 60 tons of
asbestos per month

25th June, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

Approval was given to Mr R P Luke's request
that he be permitted to return to America

30th July, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop and R W Harman.

It was reported that the accounts of
Australian Blue Asbestos Limited disclosed a
loss of 67,860 Pounds for the year ended 30th
June, 1952

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Abrams lead and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

18th February, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

The main features of the operating report of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited for the four weeks ended 27th January were made known

25th February, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

Transfers of Mining Tenements (39) from the Company to Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd for a consideration of 52,700 Pounds as under, were, by resolution, signed and sealed:-

- (a) 36 Mineral claims
- (b) 2 Miners' Homestead Leases
- (c) 1 Subterranean Water Right

4th March, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

Mr K O Brown's memorandum of 3rd March 1953, in connection with Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd was circulated amongst the Directors

11th March, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

Mr K O Brown's memorandum of the 3rd March dealing with Australian Blue Asbestos Limited, was considered in his presence, and it was agreed that some mine development work should be started in Colonial Gorge

25th March, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

Mr K O Brown's report on his visit to the Secretary of the Department of National Development was discussed, Mr Brown being present, and the draft of a letter to the Minister for National Development approved

29th April, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

A fatal accident to a loco-driver in the mine at Wittenoom was reported

Produced in Asbestos Personal Injury Cases: Asbestos Ltd and copied to Richard F. Scruggs

13th May, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

CSR accounts disclose plant hire etc to AEA

20th May, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

It was agreed to make a loan of 20,000 Pounds
To Australian Blue Asbestos Limited for a
period of three months, when the position is
to be reviewed

The Board were informed that Mr K O Brown had
interviewed the Minister for National
Development about marketing the products of
Australian Blue Asbestos Limited

10th June, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

The Board agreed to assist Mineral Fibres
Ltd, London, by reducing their contract price
to 150 Pounds per ton and the quantity from
320 to 160 tons as recommended in Mr Brown's
memorandum of 4th June

17th June, 1953

Present: J G Crowther (Chair), J W Dunlop,
G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

The Board approved of the proposal that
Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd should call up
1s 0d per share on 1,000,000 shares at
present paid to 17s 7d per share

Mr M G King's report, dated 15th June, 1953,
on his visit to Europe in connection with
asbestos markets, was considered

Annual reports covering the work of all
Building Materials Division activities were
discussed, Mr K O Brown being present

8th July, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

The Board approved of Australian Blue
Asbestos Limited calling up the balance of
uncalled capital on 1,000,000 shares, viz ,
1s 5d per share, as and when required

5th August, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

Approval was given to Australian Blue Asbestos Limited to call up 10s 0d per share on 50,000 shares

19th August, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

The quarterly reports on the work of the various factories of the Division were discussed, Mr Brown being present

30th September, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer, the General Manager and J Vernon.

As recommended in Mr K O Brown's memorandum of the 22nd September, 1953, dealing with Australian Blue Asbestos Limited, the Board approved of the waiving of the Company's loan of 1,300 Pounds to the Wittenoom Race Club

7th October, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

The Board were informed of Mr K O Brown's discussions with Senator Spooner and Customs' Department officials on ways and means of increasing the use of blue asbestos in Australia

Reports on the work of the various Building Materials Division factories for the year ended 30th June 1953 were considered

21st October, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

The fatal accident to Desmond de Vaurno at Wittenoom on the 12th October was reported

Produced in Asbestos Personal Injury Cases: Abrams v. United and copied to Richard F. Scruggs

4th November, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J W Dunlop,
W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

It was reported that the Coroner's finding at the inquest on the death of a miner due to an accident at Wittenoom on 12th October 1953 was "accidental death with no blame attributable to anyone"

The Board agreed that we should ask for a Tariff Board Inquiry on blue asbestos, as recommended in Mr K O Brown's memorandum of the 3rd November 1953

11th November, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J W Dunlop,
G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

The Board were advised that the occupants of the Western Australian Housing Commission at Wittenoom were refusing to pay the increase of 16s 0d per week in rent, and that Australian Blue Asbestos Limited could offer to pay half the increase until the next wages determination

16th November, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater and the General Manager.

The Board agreed to write off plant hired to Australian Blue Asbestos Limited amounting to 2,945 Pounds

It was reported that Australian Blue Asbestos Limited were continuing to make deductions of increased rents from wages and had not yet made an offer to pay part of the increase, that the tenants were continuing work and that Mr C H Broadhurst was going to Perth to discuss the matter with representatives of the Australian Workers Union

9th December, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J W Dunlop,
G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

Reports on the work of the factories of the Building Materials Division for the quarter ended 30th September, 1953 were discussed

Produced in Ashes' 20 Personal
Injury Cases: Abrams Fund and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

1954
6th January, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, and the General Manager.

Approval was given to Mr K O Brown's
recommendation of the 4th January, 1954, that
Australian Blue Asbestos Limited should call
up new capital amounting to approximately
30,000 Pounds per month for the next six
months

10th February, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and
J Vernon.

Good rain was reported at Wittenoom

The Board were advised that the Minister for
Trade and Customs had referred the questions
of protection for the production of asbestos
fibre to the Tariff Board for inquiry and
report

17th February, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater and J Vernon.

The Board were informed that the Tariff Board
hearing on asbestos fibre production was
likely to take place in May

24th February, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager and J Vernon.

Mr K O Brown's memorandum of the 18th
instant, together with summarised accounts of
Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd for the
half-year ended 31st December 1953 was
considered

The Board discussed the statement reported
to have been made to the "Sun" newspaper
regarding the use of Australian asbestos
fibre and of our proposed statement in reply

10th March, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

The quarterly reports on the work of the
factories of the Building Materials Division
were discussed

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: AGPS lead and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: AGPS lead and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

1952

2nd January, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

The Board approved of a loan of 25,000 Pounds
being made to Australian Blue Asbestos
Limited to meet expenditure until the end of
January, 1952

9th January, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

Mr K O Brown's memorandum of the 7th instant
was considered and it was decided to ask the
Johns-Manville Corporation whether they were
interested in the project before approaching
users of asbestos and the Commonwealth
Government concerning steps to be taken to
increase the selling price of asbestos
Meanwhile, approval was given for the
expenditure of 75,000 Pounds over the next
three months on operating costs and capital
items already approved and up to an
additional 30,000 Pounds on expansion of the
mill

It was agreed that Mr K O Brown should take
the place of Mr C W R Powell as Managing
Director of all B M D subsidiary Companies
and that Mr M G King be appointed a Director
in each of them

23rd January, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson,
J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and
R W Harman.

The General Manager reported his discussion
with the Minister for Trade and Customs
concerning Wittenoom

Produced in Asbestos Personal
History Collection and
copied to Richard M. Struggs

20th August, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson, J G Crowther, J W Dunlop and the General Manager.

Extracts were read from the operating report of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited for the four weeks ended 15th July 1952

3rd September, 1952

Present: J G Crowther (Chair), D Wilson, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

A letter dated 22nd August from the President of Johns-Manville Corporation was read, stating they were not in favour of joining in with our ABA project. Mr Brown's memorandum of 2nd September reporting on his visit to the Premier of Western Australia, and on general plans for ABA, was considered and a further capital expenditure of 20,000 Pounds was approved.

24th September, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

Proxy - the Company appointing K O Brown, or failing him J A Elmslie, its proxy to vote at meetings of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited was, by resolution, signed and sealed

5th November, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

Reports following the visit to Wittenoom of Messrs Thyne Reid and J S Proud were considered, and it was decided to ask James Hardie & Co Pty Ltd to join in the formation of a Company for marketing asbestos

It was decided that Australian Blue Asbestos Limited should increase its paid up capital by an amount approximating 850,000 Pounds to repay The Colonial Sugar Refining Company Ltd for the amount of advances made by way of loans and current account, and to take over the asbestos leases owned by The Colonial Sugar Refining Company Ltd

19th November, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson, J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

. . . Memorandum dated 17th November 1952, about Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd were discussed Mr K O Brown being present

. . . It was decided that Mr Brown should visit America in connection with sales of blue asbestos

3rd December, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson, J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

The Board were advised the receipt of consent from the Capital Issues Control Board for Australian Blue Asbestos Limited to issue one million ordinary shares of 1 Pound each for cash subscriptions.

17th December, 1952

Present: E R Knox (Chair), D Wilson, J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

A summary was given of letters from Canadian and Swiss firms to Mr A T Reid, sent on by him to us, dealing with the sale of blue asbestos and the Board approved of the engagement of Mr R P Luke as Consulting Engineer for Australian Blue Asbestos Limited for three months from January 1953, at a salary of 1,500 dollars per month.

24th December, 1952

Present: J G Crowther (Chair), D Wilson, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

Extracts were read from Mr K O Brown's letter from New York, dated 14th December, dealing with the sale of blue asbestos.

1953
14th January, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, and the General Manager.

The sale of 400 tons of No 3 grade asbestos fibre to Mineral Fibres Ltd, London at A155 Pounds per ton, and 2,000 tons of No 3 grade fibre to Johns-Manville during 1953 at A150 Pounds per ton, both contracts f o b Fremantle, was reported.

28th JANUARY, 1953

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

It was reported that the accounts of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited for the half year ended 31st December showed, on the basis of valuation of stock at current selling price, a loss of 10,979 Pounds.

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Abrams v. British
copied to Richard H. Burgess

14th April, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

The results of Mr C H Broedhurst's discussions on Australian Blue Asbestos affairs with several Members of parliament and Government Officers in Canberra on 12th April were made known

28th April, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

The General Manager was authorised to sign an Agency agreement appointing Mineral Fibres Ltd of London our selling agents in Europe for a period of two years

2nd May, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

CSR accounts disclose plant hire etc to ABA

19th May, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

The case in support of our application to the Tariff Board for a protective duty on imported asbestos fibre was considered, Mr M G King being present

2nd June, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

It was agreed that Australian Blue Asbestos Limited should call up, as required, a further 125,000 Pounds during the period ending 30th September, 1954

9th June, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

The General Manager outlined the proceedings at the Tariff Board Inquiry on an application for duty by Australian Blue Asbestos Limited held in Sydney on 2nd, 3rd and 4th June, 1954

Produced in Asbestos Personal Injury Cases: Abrams lead and copied to Richard F. Scruggs

16th June, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

The Board were informed of the evidence to be
submitted at the Melbourne hearing of the
Tariff Board Inquiry into asbestos fibre, Mr
K O Brown being present

7th July, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

It was decided that the selling price abroad
of No 3 grade asbestos should be reduced to
110 Pounds per ton f o b Fremantle, as
recommended in Mr K O Brown's memorandum of
the 6th July, 1954

8th August, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

The Board were advised that the Annual
Accounts of Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd for
the year ended 30th June 1954, showed a loss
of 57,711 Pounds

1st September, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

The Board agreed that it was sufficient to
have B M D activity reports half-yearly only

15th September, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

Reports on the work of the factories of the
Building Materials Division were considered,
Messrs K O Brown and M G King being present

The Board approved of Australian Blue
Asbestos Limited issuing new shares to the
value of 75,000 Pounds to be called up as and
when required, as recommended in Mr K O
Brown's memorandum of 14th September, 1954

29th September, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

The annual accounts of Australian Blue
Ltd for the year ended 30th June
1954 were submitted

27th October, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

Mr K O Brown presented his report, dated 20th October 1954 on the operations of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited at Wittenoom, and it was decided to change to two-shift operation about January, 1955; to reduce the price of asbestos to Johns-Manville to 100 Pounds per ton and that Australian Blue Asbestos Limited should issue further share capital to enable 100,000 Pounds to be called up before the end of the year

3rd November, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J W Dunlop,
G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

The Board agreed to accept an offer of 3,250 Pounds for the Australian Blue Asbestos powerhouse steelwork, and that the balance outstanding, viz, 1,981 Pounds should be written off

17th November, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

The Board were advised that it would be some time before the Tariff Board report on Australian Blue Asbestos Limited was issued

it was reported that the Johns-Manville Corporation were still interested in purchasing blue asbestos fibre at about 100 Pounds per ton f o b Fremantle and had ordered an additional 480 tons

1st December, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, and the General Manager.

It was reported that Johns-Manville had indicated that they would take 3,000 tons of asbestos in 1955 at 100 Pounds per ton

15th December, 1954

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

The half-yearly reports on the work of the factories of this Division were considered, Mr K O Brown being present

Produced in Asbestos Personal
Injury Cases: Abrams lead and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

1955

5th January, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

The Board were advised that a cyclone at Wittenoom on the 31st December 1954 had caused minor damage through floods

12th January, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, W J V Windeyer and the General Manager.

Further details were given about the flood damage at Wittenoom caused by the cyclone there on the 31st December, 1954

The Board were informed that we had, through Mineral Fibres Ltd completed negotiations for the sale to the Eternit Group of 800 tons of blue asbestos at 102 Pounds per ton f o b Fremantle less commission amounting to 5%

26th January, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, and the General Manager.

It was reported that, for the half-year ended 31st December, 1954 Australian Blue Asbestos Limited had shown a loss of 55,870 Pounds

23rd March, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

Reports on the work of the Building Materials Division factories for the half-year ended 31st December, 1954 were considered

1st April, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and J Vernon.

Approval was given to Mr K O Brown's recommendation that the Italian Eternit Group's offer of 97 16 3 Pounds per ton f o b Fremantle for approximately 2,400 tons of blue asbestos fibre be accepted. It was further agreed that the price to Johns-Manville Corporation for the outstanding balance of their current order be reduced to 98 Pounds per ton as from June next

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4th May, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

The result of Mr C H Broadhurst's visit to
Canberra in connection with the Australian
Blue Asbestos tariff application was reported

Resolved that either Keith Osborne Brown or
Malcolm George King be and each of them is
hereby authorised to sign for and on behalf
of the Company contracts for the sale of blue
asbestos fibre to overseas buyers received in
Sydney from Minerals Fibres Ltd or any other
overseas selling agent of the Company

11th May, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J W Dunlop,
G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

CSR accounts disclose plant hire etc to ABA

18th May, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

Further information was given about the
Australian Blue Asbestos tariff case

1st June, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, W J V Windeyer and the
General Manager.

Further information was given about the
application by Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd
for assistance for the asbestos industry at
Wittenoom

*5th June, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

Mr K O Brown's memorandum of the 10th June,
on the position of the Australian Blue
Asbestos Tariff Case, was discussed

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Injury Cases: Abrems lead and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

6th July, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J W Dunlop,
G B Kater, and the General Manager.

As the Tariff Board report on Blue Asbestos is not yet published and as the Federal Government has taken no favourable action, the position of Wittenoom was discussed, Messrs K O Brown and C H Broadhurst being present, and it was decided that these two officers, in person, should put to the Western Australian Premier a proposal that his Government and the Commonwealth Government should subsidise the output of Wittenoom.

20th July, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

The Board were advised of the result of Messrs K O Brown's and C H Broadhurst's discussions with the Western Australian Premier on the subject of assistance by subsidy for Wittenoom, as set out in the memorandum of 19th July 1955, Mr Brown being present.

27th July, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

Mr K O Brown's memorandum of 26th July 1955 on the tariff position in regard to Australian Blue Asbestos Limited was discussed.

10th August, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

Mr K O Brown's memorandum of 8th August 1955, dealing with the accounts of Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd for the half-year ended 30th June, 1955 disclosing a net loss of 116,877 Pounds was submitted.

14th September, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and J Vernon.

The Tariff Board's report on the application by Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd for tariff Assistance was considered and the form of a letter to Senator Spooner was agreed upon.

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Injury Cases Act 1987 and
copied to Richard F. Scruggs

21st September, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, the General Manager and J Vernon.

The Board were advised of recent discussions with members of the Commonwealth and Western Australian Governments over our application for assistance for the asbestos industry

It was agreed that Mr P C Thomas be appointed Manager at Wittenoom and that Mr C H Broadhurst should be appointed a director of Australian Blue Asbestos Limited as recommended in Mr K O Brown's memorandum of 20th September, 1955

5th October, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

A note on sale procedure for blue asbestos was circulated amongst the Directors

A letter was read from the Premier of Western Australian dated 5th September, 1955 stating his Government would give financial assistance to the extent of 5 Pounds per ton on each ton of fibre transported to Roebourne up to a maximum of 30,000 Pounds for one year beginning 1st October, 1955

12th October, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, and the General Manager.

The Board were advised that Mr K O Brown had told the Premier of Western Australia that we accepted the offer of a subsidy of 5 Pounds per ton on blue asbestos fibre, also, that Mr Brown discussed with the Premier a suitable approach to the Commonwealth Government with a view to obtaining a similar Commonwealth subsidy

19th October, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther, J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the General Manager.

The production and sales programme for 1956 for Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd was discussed, Messrs J Vernon and K O Brown being present, and it was decided that we should continue production at Wittenoom for the time being, that further examination of the extension of fibre-cement manufacture should be made and that Mr Brown should visit Johns-Manville in New York

2nd November, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

Activity Reports covering the work of the
unmentioned subsidiary companies for the
year ended 30th June 1955 were considered:-

Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd

23rd November, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

It was decided to write off 3,786 15 8 Pounds
in respect of a number of items of worn-out
plant hired to Australian Blue Asbestos
Limited.

9th November, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J W Dunlop,
G B Kater, and the General Manager.

Press reports of the extraordinary general
meeting of James Hardie Asbestos Limited and
of the remarks about the Tariff Board report
on the Inquiry into the Blue Asbestos
industry were discussed

7th December, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
and the General Manager.

The Board discussed Mr K O Brown's cable of
1st December stating that Johns-Manville
would buy a minimum of 3,000 tons of blue
asbestos per annum and probably more and
that the President, Mr A R Fisher, would most
likely visit Australia and Wittenoom in April
next year

Consideration was given to
Mr C H Broadhurst's information that the
Italian section of the Eternit Group was
discussing a firm contract for two or three
years at a firm price for a minimum of 3,000
tons of asbestos a year

21st December, 1955

Present: E R Knox (Chair), J G Crowther,
J W Dunlop, G B Kater, and the
General Manager.

Mr K O Brown attended and reported on his
visit to Johns-Manville as given in his
memorandum of 19th December, 1955

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