

FILE NAME: Colonial Sugar Refinery (CSR)

DATE: 1960 Oct 13

DOC#: CSR235

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter to Mr. Allan of Wittenoom RE his
Personal Lung Damage from Asbestos Dust Exposure

K.L. DOUGLAS

JMcN:MKV.

Date 13th October, 1960

SIMBON

Ex 143 (c)

Mr. O. A. Allan,
Australian Blue Asbestos Ltd.,
SHEPPARTON

Dear Ossie,

I regret to advise that your recent chest shows changes very suggestive of industrial disease, probably an early stage of asbestosis, complicated by silicosis. You probably picked this up in earlier years when you were more intimately concerned with the mill. As you know I was a bit suspicious last year, but the changes were too indefinite and we don't usually associate managerial staff with industrial chest disease.

No final decision has been made and you will not receive formal notice from the Honourable Minister for Mines until your condition has been further investigated. If you will be in Perth in the near future please let me know and I will arrange for you to have further x-rays, lung function and sputum tests as an out-patient, at the Perth Chest Hospital. I will not be in Perth until February 1961, but you could consult Dr. Letham at the Public Health Department - he is fully in the picture and could advise you.

There is no immediate need for concern, but naturally you should avoid further exposure to harmful dust like the plague until your chest condition has been completely investigated.

If you have any questions or need any advice, please write.

Yours sincerely,

P.S.

It will take some time to complete my review of the x-rays of your workers, but I am not too happy about the general trend.

MYERS MEDICAL OFFICER.

Copy: Dr. D. D. Letham.