FILE NAME: Colonial Sugar Refinery (CSR)

DATE: 1950

DOC#: CSR152

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Govt Letters RE Conditions at Wittenoom Gorge

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT 10,224

COPY FROM MINES FILE NO. 879/50.

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.
MINES DEPARTMENT,
KALGOORLIE. 17th July, 1951

State Mining Engineer,
Mines Department,
PERTH.

WITTENOOM GORGE.

Attached please find a copy of a letter received yesterday from Inspector Boyland.

Dealing with the ventilation, Mr. J. Lloyd late Inspector of this Department made an inspection of the above mine last September no doubt you have a copy of his report on your file. You will note that at that time Mr. Lloyd stated that the ventilation of the mine was good.

Re the change room being built for Aluminium Therapy, as the silica content of the rock mined is very high, I would be pleased to have further information on this matter. I am inclined to agree that the rock has silica, but not so much as Mr. Boyland states. In reading one of the Canadian Mining Journals lately, I came across an article which stated that Aluminium Therapy had not been used in Asbestos Mining, therefore, there is some doubt as to the beneficial result of the treatment or otherwise. It may be that Aluminium dust for Asbestos miners is not beneficial and until some medical authority makes a decision it may be best for us to hold our hand in the installations of same. Anyway, I shall be guided by your comments, and shall be pleased to receive same at an early date.

I have notified the Manager to advise me of the new appointment of a ventilation officer, also to forward me the ventilation plans. When these arrive a true picture of the ventilation will be available to us.

I think it would be a good idea to send Mr. Faichney to the mine and make a ventilation inspection. Should you agree to this proposal, I will arrange for him to proceed to Perth to catch the plane to the Gorge. Please supply a time table of the flight to the mine.

It is also noted in Mr. Boyland's letter that he had to dismiss 13 Italians dismissed for not being able to pass the language test as is required under the Mines Regulation Act. In Mr. Lloyd's report of last September, he stated that there were 254 men employed on the mine.

Will you please advise me, if the Company have had instructions to prepare for Aluminium Therapy treatment or not.

Should Mr. Faichney make the trip, I will get him to take dust samples in the mine and give them a very close inspection for silica contents. The samples taken by Mr. J. Lloyd last September were mostly from the Mill and under the microscope showed a large count of fibre.

(sgd) J.H. Verran

SENIOR INSPECTOR OF MINES.

19.7.51

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

UNDER-SECRETARY FOR MINES

Inspector Boyland's letter
of Australian Blue Asbestos mine and plant at W
od will note that he does not anticipate
gard

I visited this mine myself
Underground ventilation appe
satisfactory, but conditions in the plant itself
This, however, is being taken care of and the
attention. One Harman dust collector has been
ordered but was unavailable at the time
constructed at the mine and installed. The
sit and will be installed on arrival in Perth
Following the Inspector's that a sit the
of suction pipes in the roof of the building
draw off the dust as it forms

I feel that, under the
receive every co-operation in this matter.

14th July, 1950.
JSF/G

STATE MINING ENGINEER

M.D. 52

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT 10967.0