

FILE NAME: Colonial Sugar Refinery (CSR)

DATE: 1950 Feb

DOC#: CSR154

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Govt Letters RE Inspection Results &
Conditions at Wittenoom Gorge

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GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

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Memoandum.

MINES DEPARTMENT, CUE,

To: The State Mining Engineer,

14th February, 1950

Mines Department,

PERTH.

17th Feb

17 FEB 1950

RECORDS OFFICE

Re Wittenoom Gorge Plant, File 1301/47.

I have received your memo of 6th instant.

On 19th and 20th ultimo, I visited and inspected the workings of this mine and found conditions generally fairly good. As I was going out with another man on a jeep, to look at certain machinery, there is every possibility that the Management was aware of my intentions and had conditions prepared.

My only complaints at the time were that bidders were not using the water hoses supplied, to water broken stone, and that venturis were not being kept close enough to faces. Regarding venturis, I think that I must insist they be kept closer to faces than do other inspectors.

Owing to storms approaching, I could not delay any longer at the Gorge.

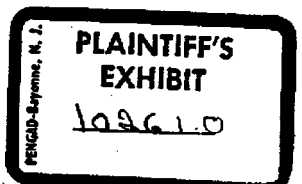
On both days, there was a mild gale blowing up the Gorge and there was certainly dust blowing through the mill, but most of this was natural dust from outside. I should think that the mill, situated in the Gorge would always have windy conditions.

I can quite visualise that conditions normally would be fairly dusty and the only way to overcome this would be to totally enclose the milling section and install numerous dust collectors in the ceiling. However, I do not know where they would get the necessary building material.

Workmen's Inspector Hunter was to visit the mine last week, and I am waiting on his report. In the meantime I have written to the Management, requesting they enclose the Milling Section and install exhaust dust collectors

G. W. Boyd
DISTRICT INSPECTOR OF MINES.

Smk
17 FEB 1950



PHD 573/63
For 28

HON. MINISTER:

I have discussed this matter fully with the Acting State Mining Engineer who has advised me that his Inspectors have been carefully watching the dust position at the Asbestos Mill at Wittenoom Gorge.

During the visit by our main Dust inspector in November last he was advised by the Manager that the present treatment plant would be discarded and a new one built, but no action along these lines has yet been taken.

Another Inspector is shortly visiting Wittenoom and he has been asked to go into the matter again with the management, and also to recommend whether he considers the company should be required to appoint a ventilation officer.

This report will be submitted

R. L. Lyster

7/2/50
AHT/VD

UNDER SECRETARY FOR MINES

C.S.D.
15 FEB 1950
RECORDS

Amble Hill. for Health.

For info. information

8. 2. 50

*To be
now.*

Re: Asbestos

Commission, P.D.

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