

FILE NAME: Colonial Sugar Refinery (CSR)

DATE: 1963 Mar 28

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COPY ONLY

Government of Western Australia,
Department of Public Health,
57 Murray Street,
PERTH.

J. Boyland,
Assistant State Mining Engineer,
Mines Department,
PERTH.

Dear Mr. Boyland,

The enclosed reprint may interest you. The Dr. Wagner referred to, has expressed interest in our Asbestos problem and has repeated the warning that Blue Asbestos may be harmful after only the slightest exposure, especially in the young. That is why I have always protested against the use of mill tailings for pathways etc. in the township.

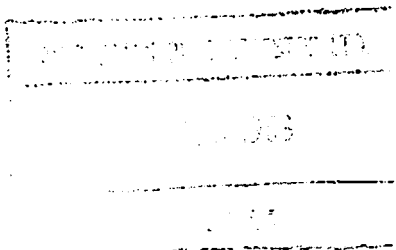
Harrington (Nature Magazine 193,43 1961) found a primitive oil 3:4 benzpyrene in Blue Asbestos fibre, from South Africa and is investigating the possibility that this oil is responsible for the cancer rather than the fibre itself.

Dr. Wagner has requested samples of our Asbestos Ore for experiments and tests and we would be grateful for his interest.

The samples, about 7 lbs should be obtained among the undisturbed ore after firing and before any other mining process has been carried out on it. They should be placed in guaranteed oil-free containers. This will prevent accidental contamination by extraneous oil.

Your help in obtaining samples will be appreciated.

J. McNULTY
ASSISTANT PHYSICIAN



JB/

28th March, 1963.

The District Inspector of Mines,
Mines Department,
PORT HEDLAND

Dear Sir,

The attached will be of great interest to you. Will you please obtain three samples under the conditions outlined by Dr. McMulty.

The samples should be taken from different areas in Australian Blue Asbestos Colonial Mine and you should endeavour to include only the immediate rock casing. There should be at least 7lbs Asbestos in each sample.

When the samples are obtained will you please carefully pack them and airfreight them to this office.

Yours faithfully,

W. J. BOYLAND

J. BOYLAND
ASSISTANT STATE MINING ENGINEER

AUSTRALIAN BLUE ASBESTOS PTY. LIMITED

MEMORANDUM TO

THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT
PERTH.

THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT PERTH.
1 - APR 1963
PERTH, W.A.

PRIVATE : 202

28th March, 1963.

HEALTH MATTERS

We are enclosing copies of letters written to the District Inspector of Mines Port Hedland. Mr. Ibbotson arrived here today to collect the samples.

The report referred to is from The Medical Journal of Australia dated December 15th, 1962 - pages 953 and 954. It is an article by Dr. McNulty on the results of an autopsy performed on a previous employee of ours, presumably Jack Sawyer. It is quite an interesting article.

UNION MATTERS : YOURS P841

We regret the omission of copies of the correspondence they are enclosed with this letter.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT : YOUR P841

We shall make one of the new type houses available for the Hospital Secretary.

HOUSING : YOUR P839

All work on the new house construction has ceased until I can get a clear picture of the costs to date and the anticipated cost to complete them. We shall have the figures ready for discussion during your visit next week.

HOUSING CONTRACTS : YOUR P839

We are investigating the overall position. We consider that there is still some money outstanding. We shall forward a report on our findings.

PERISHABLES : YOUR P841

We regret that this letter has not been answered. The change of staff during holidays has evidently led to the letter being misplaced.

Yours faithfully,

J. P. Sloan