

FILE NAME: Colonial Sugar Refinery (CSR)

DATE: 1951 & 1957

DOC#: CSR142

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Memos with Inspection Results & Regulations for Dust Allowance & the Wearing of Respirators

65
PHD. 618/48
Your Ref: 818/51
—BF1351

LH/OS

17th September, 1951.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MINES.

I must thank you for your memorandum of the 31st August in which you enclosed a copy of a report of the Assistant Ventilation Inspector concerning the Australian Blue Asbestos Mine at Wittenoom Gorge.

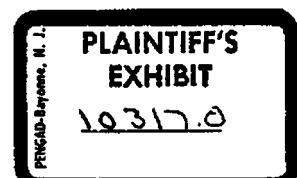
It would be appreciated if you could let me have a copy of the dust counts and the temperature readings mentioned in paragraph 1 of Inspector Faichney's report.

On reading this report it is noted that the amount of dust particles in the area is high and that the ventilation of this mine needs more supervision.

It is to be noted that the area in the vicinity of the treatment plant is still very dusty.

The interest of this Department is to be understood when it is realised that the hazard from asbestos is considerably greater than that from silica and that we have reason to believe that attention to this aspect of mining operations at Wittenoom has been inadequate in the past.

LINLEY HENZELL
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Copy forwarded Mr. C.H. Broadhurst for his information.

Mf. 690

IN REPLY PLEASE
QUOTE - GM.19B3.

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

The Secretary,
The Western Australian Employers Federation,
Box P.1225, G.P.O.,
PERTH, W.A.

14th February, 1957.

Dear Sir,

Dust Allowance.

We enclose statistical and other information, in triplicate, which may be of use to you.

Schedule No.1 includes all employees except Staff. Commencing date of 1.3.50 was chosen as at that time we commenced the introduction of migrant labour and our attempt to stabilize our labour force.

Schedule No.2. Please note that "Men Engaged" and "Men Left" figures also include interdepartmental transfers.

Schedule No.3. These figures include ~~supervising~~ supervising staff as well, as their degree of ~~experience~~ is equal to that of the mill workers. The last Mines Dept., X-Ray was held here during August, 1956. All these men have "clean" laboratory certificates.

Schedule No.6 is an indication of the rate of issue of respirators to millworkers. No man is compelled to wear a respirator but no check is made on any man who wishes to wear one. The issue is free and is made on demand without question.

When you compare Schedules 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 you will probably reach our conclusion in that incidence of the chest diseases is low, that the diseases were not directly attributable to their employment here as they had previous mining experience and that to date there is no evidence of asbestosis.

If we can be of further assistance please advise.

Yours faithfully,
GM/MS. AUSTRALIAN BLUE ASBESTOS LIMITED.

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

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