

FILE NAME: Colonial Sugar Refinery (CSR)

DATE: 1951 Dec 10

DOC#: CSR165

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Govt Memo Stating it Takes 5-10 Years on Average for Asbestosis to Develop, though May Occur Sooner

PHD.618/48

(67)  
LH/08

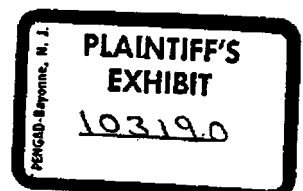
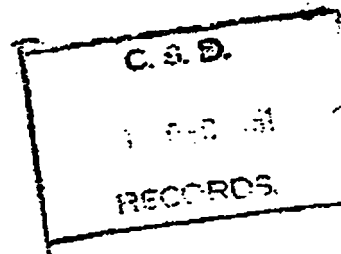
10th December, 1951.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MINES.

With reference to your memorandum of the 25th October, 1951. concerning asbestosis, the enclosed comments have been prepared by Dr. Alan King, the Director of the Tuberculosis Control Branch, for your information.

LINLEY HENZELL  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Enclos.1.



diaphragm and a felted or "porcupine" appearance at the periphery of the cardiac silhouette, the last caused by the pleuropericardial adhesions.

NB

The onset of the disease is insidious with gradual increase in cough, expectoration, dyspnea, loss of weight and, in time, inability to work. The physical examination is not revealing. Wood and Gloyne draw attention to a peculiar earthy complexion of the face and a slight, violet tinge in the cheeks and lips of some individuals. Occasionally, asbestos corns occur in the skin of the hands caused by the penetration of asbestos fibres into the superficial epidermis. It takes, on the average, ~~on the average~~, between five to ten years for asbestosis to develop, although it may occur in as short a period as two years where working conditions are bad. Whether the disease can progress after contact is broken with asbestos dust is still unsettled. Death results from tuberculous or nontuberculous infection, congestive heart disease or other intercurrent diseases. The measures listed for the prevention of silicosis apply also to asbestosis.

*W. K.*

DIRECTOR.  
TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL BRANCH.

X Reference: 'Diseases of the Chest' - Rubin.  
'Dust and its Effects on the Respiratory System' - Gill.

GE.  
16.11.51.