New South Wales Government

Department of Industrial Relations
Division of Occupational Health

Joseph Street
Lidcombe, N.S.W. 2141
Address reply to
P.O. Box 163, Lidcombe, N.S.W 2141

N. Caruana
Head of Building Services
A.B.C.
GPO Box 9994
SYDNEY 2001 00

Our reference 3963
Your reference

1/5/28:CT:JMcB
Phone: 646 0222

Copied F+SO d4/7

15 June 1984

A N A L Y S I S

Sample No.	Submitted by	Date Received
D412	N. Caruana	1/6/84

Origin of Sample

Sample from ceiling insulation - Studio 22, Gore Hill

Description of Sample	Assay Results
Soft brown fibrous material	Amosite asbestos

Remarks

The sample was analysed by polarising microscopy and found to contain amosite asbestos as a major component.

Any work carried out on the above materials to be in accordance with Regulation 84A-J "Construction Work Involving Asbestos or Asbestos Cement" 1983, as amended, of the NSW Construction Safety Act, 1912.

R. MAYO-RAMSAY
Technical Officer (Scientific)
Industrial Hygiene Branch

R.C. JONES
Officer in Charge
Industrial Hygiene Branch
For Director

EVA FRANCIS
Scientific Officer

New South Wales Government

Department of Industrial Relations
Division of Occupational Health

Joseph Street
Lidcombe, N.S.W. 2141
Address reply to
P.O. Box 163, Lidcombe, N.S.W 2141

N. Caruana
Head of Building Services
Australian Broadcasting Corp.
145-153 Elizabeth St
SYDNEY 2000 00

Our reference 3963
Your reference 1/5/28:ct:JMcB

Phone: 646 0222

A N A L Y S I S

15.8.84

Sample No.	Submitted by	Date Received
D629 D630	N. Caruana	31.7.84

Origin of Sample

PROPERTY STORE, GORE HILL
D629 Painted fibro
D630 Unpainted fibro

Description of Sample	Assay Results
D629 Grey compacted fibreboard with one painted side	Chrysotile asbestos & cellulose in a bonded cement matrix.
D630 Grey compacted fibreboard	Amosite asbestos & cellulose in a bonded cement matrix.

Remarks

The samples were analysed by polarising microscopy and the results are above. Any work carried out on the above material is to be in accordance with Regulation 84A-J "Construction Work Involving Asbestos or Asbestos Cement" 1983, as amended 1984, of the NSW Construction Safety Act, 1912.

R. MAYO-RAMSAY
Technical Officer (Scientific)
Industrial Hygiene Branch

R.C. JONES
Officer in Charge
Industrial Hygiene Branch
For Director

EVA FRANCIS
Scientific Officer

A.B.C. INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

From (Desig'n): FedFP&SO (Dep't/State): HO Phone Ext'n: 272

Our Ref/File No: GDG:JS Your Ref/File No: Date: 17.8.84

To:

S
ndRels
tn: Mr. K. Connolly
TV
&E

Subject: INTERIM REPORT ON ASBESTOS - GORE HILL STUDIOS

On phoning the Commonwealth Institute of Health on 13.8.84, the following information has been verbally given:-

Static Samples	Results
1) Ceiling of studio 21	Asbestos (Amosite)
2) Airconditioning intake studio 21	Non-Asbestos
3) Behind insulating tiles studio 23	Non-Asbestos
4) Control Room 23	Non-Asbestos
5) Iron Roof studio 22	Asbestos (Amosite)

Air Sampling Result

All samples analysed gave a negative result, i.e., there were no measurable amounts of asbestos.

This information was related by Mr. G. Dennis and he advised that a complete written report would be forthcoming as early as possible.

G.D. GEORGESON

COPIED: 7.3.85
A/CAS
HdBuildS
L. Kelly (2)
IndRels

Commonwealth Institute of Health
in the University of Sydney

Department of Occupational and Environmental Health

Telephone: (02) 660 9222
Telex: C.I.O. H.S.U. AA71942
REF:

Building A27,
University of Sydney,
NSW Australia 2006

10th September, 1984.

The General Manager,
ABC Television Studios,
2 Pacific Highway,
GORE HILL. N.S.W. 2065.

Attention: Mr G. D. Georgeson,
Federal Fire Prevention and
Safety Officer.

Dear Sir,

Presence of Asbestos Materials
Gore Hill Studios

Officers of the Commonwealth Institute of Health visited the Gore Hill TV Studios, numbers 21, 22 and 23, at your request, in the company of: Mr K. Conolly, ABC Industrial Relations Officer; Mr A. Duncan, an officer of the ABC Staff Association, N.S.W. Branch; Mr G. D. Georgeson, ABC Federal Fire Prevention and Safety Officer.

The purpose of the visit was to inspect locations in the TV studios and in the connecting corridors where asbestos containing insulation was suspected to be present; to sample and assess the condition of these insulations; to determine if any health risk was posed to the occupants of the studios and, finally, to make professional recommendations for future preventive actions.

This report addresses a number of issues as follows:

1. The extent and condition of the asbestos material
2. The level of potential health risks associated with the asbestos based material
3. Our recommendations
4. Asbestos Management Programme.

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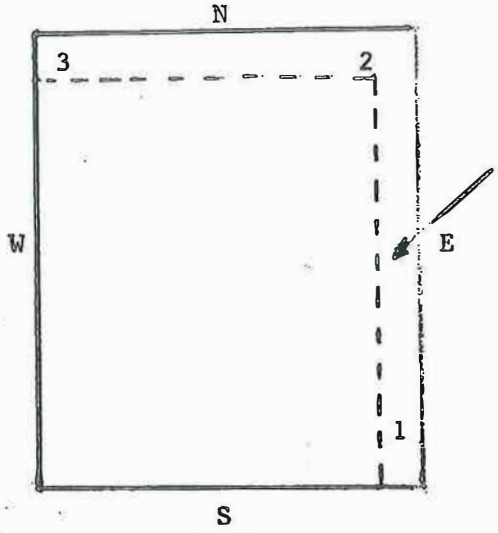
1. Extent and Condition of the Asbestos Material

Studio 21



Not to scale. 1, 2 and 3 indicate areas on the ceiling where bulk samples were taken

The ceiling of Studio 21 is lined with fibre glass panels covered with a yellow textile fabric. Behind the panel, there is a layer of sprayed amosite (brown asbestos) in a cementitious binder [see Plates 1 and 2]. The distance between the suspended fibre glass batts and the sprayed amosite is approximately 10 cm. The asbestos insulation is well tamped on and it is, generally, in a good condition. In some areas, where maintenance work has been carried out and where the suspended ceiling has been attached, small areas of asbestos have become detached.

In the Control Room that connects to Studio 21 there is a false metal ceiling with fibre glass insulation on the back of the metal tiles. As the tiles could not be moved, it is not known whether there is any asbestos behind the tiles.

Studio 22

Ceiling insulation, eastern aspect. This insulation is similar to Studio 21. The asbestos, however, is not quite as firmly tamped as in Studio 21. Where cables have been ducted and metal straps fastened to the ceiling, the asbestos has been damaged.

In the north-eastern corner the asbestos is tamped to a dimpled appearance.

The northern and western aspects of the ceiling insulation are similar to the north-eastern corner, i.e. the asbestos is dimpled.

../3

Studio 23

The false acoustic ceiling was so firmly fastened that tiles could not be removed. A sample of the insulation, taken through a gap, has been identified as fibre glass, using optical microscopy, polarised light/first order red and dispersion staining techniques. We were unable to ascertain what is contained behind this layer.

Passage-way behind Studio 23

The removal of the ceiling tiles revealed soundly encapsulated insulating material, later identified by optical microscopy using polarised light/first order red and dispersion staining techniques as amosite (brown asbestos). The encapsulating white paint is in excellent condition.

For the protection of maintenance workers the Asbestos Warning Sign should be displayed between the tiles and the encapsulated asbestos.

2. The Level of Potential Health Risks associated with the Asbestos Based Materials

Due to concern by staff of the possibility of showering dust during placements of lights, it was decided that monitoring for airborne asbestos should be carried out in Studio 22, on three occasions, representing, ideally:

maximum activity
normal activity
zero activity

Monitorings were carried out on 25th, 27th July and 10th August, 1984 for approximately four hours, according to the NH & MRC 'Membrane filter method for estimating airborne asbestos dust', using acceptable modifications to the graticule and counting criteria.

Results are shown in Tables 1, 2 and 3.

TABLE 1. Result of Sampling for Airborne Asbestos Fibres in Studio 22, Gore Hill, 25th July, 1984. "Normal Activity"

Location	Fibres per millilitre of air
Control Room	less than 0.01
One metre from mid section of southern wall	less than 0.01
One metre from mid section of western wall	less than 0.01
One metre from mid section of northern wall	less than 0.01
On the "cat-walk", two metres from air conditioning outlet	less than 0.01

Actual conditions during sampling: Air conditioning was operating; fire door was open; activity best described as minimal to normal

TABLE 2. Results of Sampling for Airborne Asbestos Fibres in Studio 22, Gore Hill, 27th July, 1984. "Maximum Activity"

Location	Fibres per millilitre of air
Control Room	less than 0.01
One metre from mid section of southern wall	less than 0.01
One metre from mid section of western wall	less than 0.01
One metre from mid section of northern wall	less than 0.01
One metre from mid section of eastern wall	less than 0.01
On the "cat-walk", two metres from air conditioning outlet	less than 0.01

Actual conditions during sampling: Air conditioning was operating; fire door was open; activity was maximum during the first hour then normal for the remainder of sampling time

TABLE 3. Results of Sampling for Airborne Asbestos Fibres in Studio 22, Gore Hill, 10th August, 1984. "Zero Activity"

Location	Fibres per millilitre of air
Control Room	less than 0.01
One metre from mid section of southern wall	less than 0.01
One metre from mid section of western wall	less than 0.01
One metre from mid section of northern wall	less than 0.01
One metre from mid section of eastern wall	less than 0.01
On the "cat-walk", two metres from air conditioning outlet	less than 0.01

Actual conditions during sampling: Air conditioning was not operating; fire door was open; T.V. acting training was conducted in the first hour, with lights on then all activity ceased, lights were switched off and there was no activity thereafter

Microscopic examination of the dust collected indicated the presence of the usual grit and mineral matter. Counting all fibrous material (usually paper fibres and not necessarily asbestos) indicated that the air in these locations contained values much less than 0.01 fibres per millilitre of air which is the practical detection limit

../5

of this method. The current occupational health standard for amosite asbestos is 0.1 fibres per millilitre averaged over an 8-hour day, 40-year working life.

Based on the results of this monitoring and this Department's experience in observing and measuring asbestos exposures in similar situations, we can conclude that the exposure to asbestos fibres of the occupants of this building under normal working conditions would be extremely low, if not zero, and therefore there would be no measurably increased health risk to the occupants of this building due to the presence of the asbestos materials.

International organisations involved in formulating public health policies have published comments on the health risks to building occupants from the presence of asbestos.

1. The Canadian Royal Commission concludes "that the presence of friable asbestos in buildings does not present a health hazard to building occupants except in special circumstances where work disturbs friable asbestos-containing insulation"[1] (our emphasis)

2. The British Advisory Committee on Asbestos concludes "Our evidence of the non-occupational risk is not such as to prompt us to recommend the general removal of asbestos from existing buildings"[2] (our emphasis)

3. The overseas experience has been reviewed by Major and Rogers (Health Implications of Buildings incorporating Sprayed Asbestos, Clean Air, August 1984, 76-78) and conclusions presented for Australian buildings.

4. The National Consultative Committee on Occupational Health and Safety comments ... "Such asbestos if controlled does not represent an unacceptable risk ... Much of the asbestos found in structures today is not in need of immediate removal".

Conclusions

It can be concluded from the three sets of results of Sampling for Airborne Asbestos Fibres that since the sprayed-on asbestos is in a good condition and further protection is provided by the thick layer of fibre glass batts, no detectable amount of asbestos reaches the air of

../6

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[1] Dupré, J Stefan (Chairman): Report of the Royal Commission on Matters of Health and Safety Arising from the Use of Asbestos in Ontario. Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General, 1984, page 593.

[2] Simpson, W. (Chairman): Advisory Committee on Asbestos, Final Report Vol. 1. London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1979, page 91.

the work place in Studio 22. Some of the insulation batts are deteriorating and release man-made mineral fibre (mmmf) when disturbed. This will not constitute a health hazard but may lead to technical failures in some more sensitive equipment.

The studio is, therefore, safe for continued occupation.

3. Recommendations for Remedial Action

Bssed on our monitoring results, the overseas experience and on the excellent condition of the asbestos material, we do not recommed that the asbestos based material be immediately removed from these areas because of the possibility of contamination of the building during removal.

From our experience in supervising and monitoring asbestos removal work, we warn against unplanned wholesale removal of all asbestos materials from buildings. Our experience has been that such removal results in incresed exposure of the removal work force and increased exposures to the present and future occupants.

We recommend the implementation of an Asbestos Management and Custodial Programme that would ensure that any person involved in procedures that are likely to create asbestos dust carry out the work in a manner that will minimise his exposure and hence eliminate the potential risk to the worker and minimise any contamination of the work site.

4. Asbestos Management Programme

An effective asbestos management programme requires that any work, which is likely to disturb the asbestos material, is carried out in a manner which results in minimal exposure of the worker and minimal contamination of the area. Such a programme should include the following points.

1. An Asbestos Register should be set up by a specially nominated officer of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. In this Register, all locations where asbestos or asbestos-containing insulation has been found to be present, should be listed together with the condition of the asbestos and the date of inspection. Thereafter, the inspection of the asbestos in all the listed locations should become part of the annual maintenance programme. Results of these inspections must be noted in the Register.

2. A general clause should be inserted into all contracts let for this building. This clause should state that there is asbestos material in the building and that every time a contractor comes across this material, it must be treated in the manner outlined in the Asbestos Management Programme.

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3. Warning signs should be placed on or near all asbestos material advising persons intending to do any work in the vicinity not to break the surface of the material. If the material is to be disturbed, then the sign should advise workmen to report to a designated safety officer conversant with the Asbestos Management Programme.

4. When asbestos materials are repaired or replaced, only non-asbestos products should be used.

5. All asbestos waste should be stored in a separate container with a securely fitting lid and disposed of in the manner approved by the local waste authority.

6. All workmen involved in any work that is likely to disturb asbestos, e.g. installation of new lights, must be outfitted with the proper protective equipment. This equipment includes approved respirators (a minimum of a 3M 8710 disposable respirator) and disposable overalls. Only asbestos approved vacuum cleaners must be used [Appendix A].

7. When workmen remove fibre glass batts to carry out simple maintenance they should carry out the following procedures:

   a) workmen carrying out this work should be equipped with suitable respiratory protection (a minimum of a 3M 8710 disposable respirator) and disposable overalls

   b) all personnel and furniture should be removed from the immediate vicinity of the work area for the duration of the work

   c) plastic sheeting (0.2 mm thick polyethylene) should be placed on the floor to catch any asbestos material that may fall from the tiles; on completion of work this plastic must be vacuumed with an asbestos approved vacuum cleaner, then carefully folded and placed into asbestos approved plastic bags

   d) batts should be taken down carefully so as not to disturb any dust

   e) any large pieces of asbestos on the batt can be placed by hand into a pre-wetted asbestos approved plastic bag (0.2 mm thick polyethylene)

   f) each batt must be thoroughly vacuumed with an asbestos approved vacuum cleaner [Appendix A]

   g) all asbestos waste, used disposable respirators and overalls must be placed into asbestos approved plastic bags; these bags should then be disposed of in the manner approved by the local waste authority.

../8

8. When extensive renovations are planned for any area that will involve major disturbance to the sprayed asbestos material, or at demolition of the building, then the asbestos material should be removed using the methods outlined in the NH & MRC code for the safe removal of asbestos based thermal/acoustic insulating materials (October 1979 - amended June 1981) by a contractor experienced in asbestos removal.

   Our experience of similar removal jobs in many cities around Australia has shown that thorough planning and strict supervision prior to, during and after the job by experienced personnel is necessary to ensure that the procedures outlined in this code are followed by the contractor and that the building is not contaminated. This Institute will be available to advise on the preparation of contracts.

9. When workmen conduct repair work or maintenance on the asbestos or fibre glass batts, they should carry out the following procedures:

   a) workmen conducting this work should wear suitable respiratory protection (a minimum of a 3M 8710 disposable respirator) and disposable overalls

   b) they should work in a manner that does not involve breaking the surface of the asbestos

   c) if any asbestos material is disturbed, then it should be immediately cleaned up with an asbestos approved vacuum cleaner

   d) all disposable respirators and overalls should be disposed of as asbestos waste.

10. When renovations or maintenance work is planned for the area above the fibre glass batts, e.g. installation of new lights and this will involve disturbance of the asbestos material in small areas only, then consideration should be given to using alternate routes for these services. If alternate routes cannot be found then the area involved in the work should be stripped of asbestos material using methods available from this Institute.

We hope that you will find this report useful. Should you, or any of your contractors, have any questions about our recommended procedures related to asbestos, please do not hesitate to phone us on 660 9240.

Yours sincerely,

A. Rogers,
Lecturer in Occupational Hygiene.

G. Denes,
Scientific Officer.

../9

Attachments:

List of Asbestos Approved Vacuum Cleaners

N.S.W. Government Asbestos Regulations

Plates 1 and 2

Copy to: Mr Arthur Duncan,
ABC Staff Association,
N.S.W. Branch,
164 William Street,
KINGS CROSS. N.S.W. 2011.

Copy only

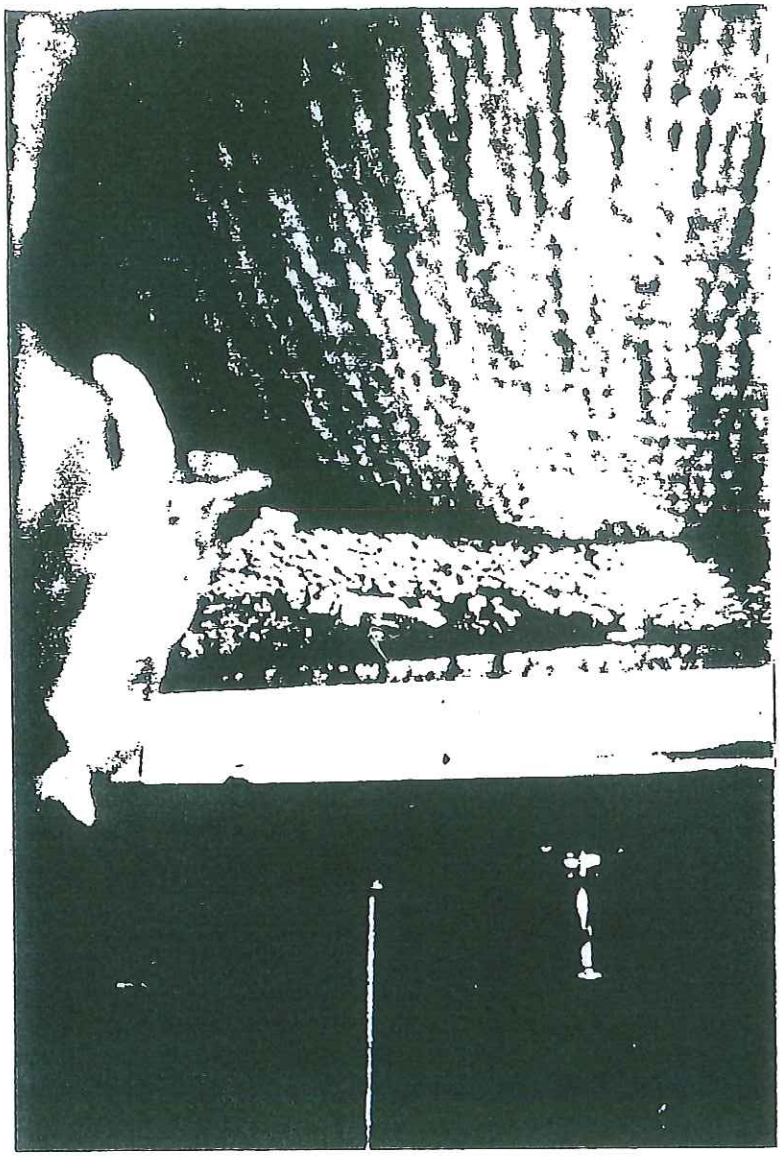

PLATE 1 Ceiling insulation in Studio 22, showing sprayed on asbestos, visible when the fibre glass is pushed back

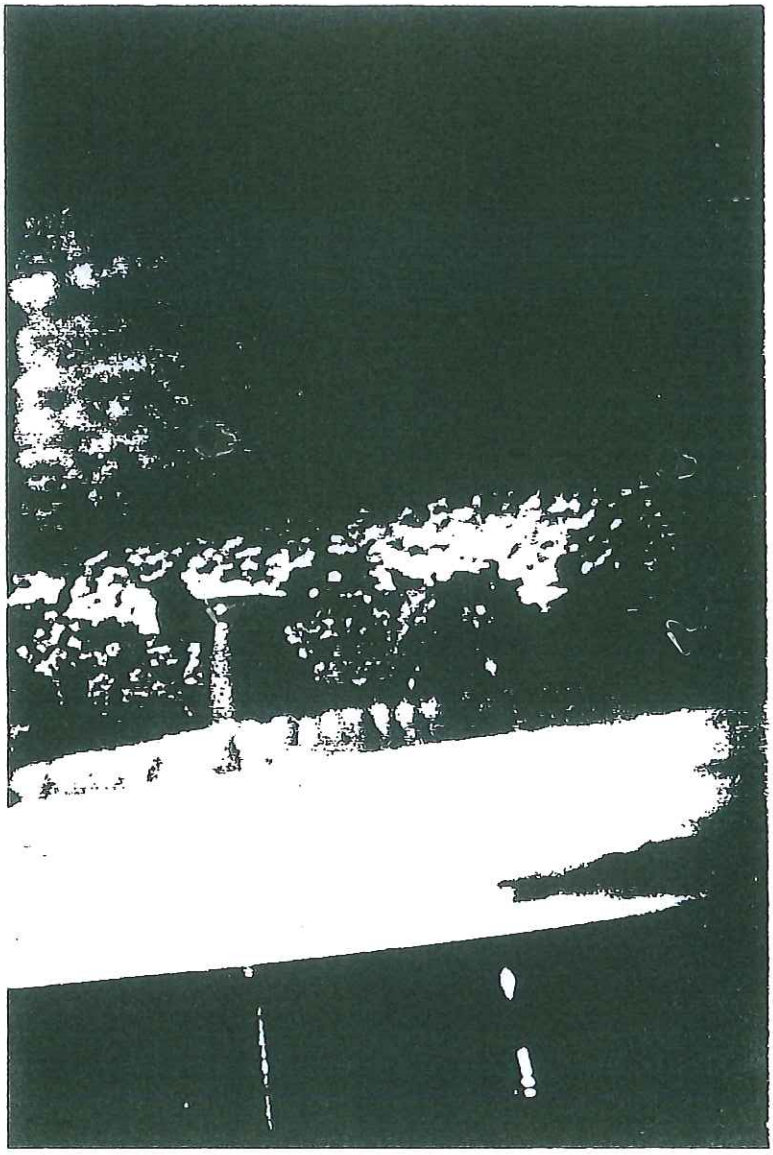

PLATE 2 Close-up of a damaged area

APPENDIX A

Department of Industrial Relations,
Division of Inspection Services

VACUUM CLEANERS

APPROVED AS PER FACTORIES, SHOPS AND INDUSTRIES ACT.
ASBESTOS REGULATIONS AS AT 30 JUNE, 1981

Brand Name	Identification No.	Approved No.
Nilfisk	GA 70	1062
	GA 71	1063
	GA 72	1064
	GA 73	1065
	GB 733	1066
	GT 31	1067
	GS 80	1232
	GS 81	1233
	GS 82	1234
	GS 83	1235
BVC	EV 21S	1068
	EV 41A	1069
	EV 51A	1070
	TH 4A	1071
	TH 6A	1072
	T 17A	1073
	T 18A	1074
	T 331A	1075
	T 338A	1348
Amano	V 3	1076
	V 5N	1077
	V 7.5	1078
	AWG 5	1300
Pullman	JB 55	1097
	JB 75	1098
	JB 105	1099
	JB 365	1100
	JB 502	1101
	JB 503	1102
W.A.P. - Turbo	M 15	1302

J. N. Williams,
CHIEF INSPECTOR,
FACTORIES, SHOPS & INDUSTRIES

Metropolitan Waste Disposal Authority

SPECIAL CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO OCCUPIERS OF PREMISES ON WHICH ASBESTOS WASTE IS CREATED

CATEGORY 1: Waste asbestos - based thermal/acoustic insulating material

CATEGORY 2: Asbestos - containing dust waste

CATEGORY 3: Waste materials containing asbestos in a bonded matrix such as asbestos cement.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ASBESTOS WASTE CATEGORIES 1 & 2

1. The occupier shall ensure that the above trade wastes are stored separate from all other wastes.
2. The occupier shall ensure that the above trade wastes are stored in a wetted condition acceptable to the Authority.
3. The occupier shall ensure that the above trade wastes are stored in 200 micrometre thick, low density polythene bags of maximum size 1.2m high by 0.9m wide, containing not more than 25kg total weight and sealed by tying with wire ties acceptable to the Authority.
4. The occupier shall ensure that the above trade wastes in sheet, block, pipe, etc form are stored in sealed 200 micrometre thick polythene sheeting.
5. The occupier shall ensure that the above trade wastes removed by dust collection systems are collected in impervious bags and if unable to be wetted are to be packaged in an outer sealed metal dust-proof container marked 'CAUTION - ASBESTOS' in letters of minimum height 40mm and complying with AS 1319.
6. The occupier shall ensure that polythene bags and sheeting in which the above trade wastes are stored are marked 'CAUTION - ASBESTOS' in letters of minimum height 40mm and complying with AS 1319.
7. The occupier shall ensure that polythene bags containing the above trade wastes are stored in leak-proof metal containers maintained in a clean condition both internally and externally.
8. The occupier shall ensure that the leak-proof metal containers are only used for the storage of the above trade wastes and are labelled in letters of minimum height 50mm and complying with AS 1319 as follows:

   DANGER - ASBESTOS WASTE ONLY
   AVOID CREATING DUST

9. The occupier shall ensure that the leak-proof metal containers have a close fitting cover which prevents spillage or dispersal of the above trade wastes to the atmosphere.
10. The occupier shall ensure that the person transporting the above trade wastes from said premises is the holder of a current licence to transport the above trade wastes.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ASBESTOS WASTE CATEGORY 3

1. The occupier shall ensure that the above trade waste is stored separate from all other wastes.
2. The occupier shall ensure that the above trade waste is stored in a wetted condition acceptable to the Authority.
3. The occupier shall ensure that the above trade waste is covered during storage.
4. The occupier shall ensure that any dust generated from the above trade waste is subject to the special conditions applicable to asbestos waste categories 1 and 2.

N.B. Occupiers are advised that transporters of waste for fee or reward are required to be licensed by the Metropolitan Waste Disposal Authority.

Your attention is also drawn to the Acts and Regulations administered by the Department of Industrial Relations in respect of the handling of asbestos or material containing asbestos.

R&L/PC/04
August'84.

1/2

A.B.C. INTER - OFFICE MEMORANDUM

From (Desig'n): FedFP&SO (Dep't/State): HO Phone Ext'n: 272

Our Ref/File No: GDG:JB Your Ref/File No: Date: 13.2.85

To:

HdBuildS

Copy:

CAS

Subject: ASBESTOS - NSW BUILDINGS

Attached please find a listing of buildings known to contain asbestos and its location.

Could you, as a matter of priority:-

1) Check the list against your information.

2) Add where applicable any areas omitted.

3) Advise (and attach documentation) of removals and sealing of any area that has been treated.

As you are aware, this problem is again receiving a high profile, therefore, I would appreciate your reply as early as possible.

G.D. GEORGESON

Messrs. EDD & K.M.

Is there anything you could add to the attached list?

V.C. 18.2.85

NC
EDD
KM
JH

1/5/C 28

ADDRESS	LOCATION	TYPE	PURPOSE	INSPECT./QUALIF. COMPANY/AUTHORITY	CONDITION REC. ACTION	LAST PERIODIC INSPECTION
NCHS FOREST STUDIOS atic Drive, ingah						
STUDIO COMPLEX ific Highway E HILL	Scenic Runway Studio. Build	Chrysotile and Amosite		Occupational Health and Radiation Div.		14.5.79
	N,W,M & E Corridors Studio Build.	Amosite				
	Maz. floor No. M3 - Plan Room	Amosite				
	Lower ground floor, Studio Build.	Amosite				
	Rooms 507,517,520 - Tech. Service Corridor	Amosite				
	Ceiling, Studio 21,22 23	Amostie				
	Lwer Ground Fl, Pipe Lagging - Studio Build	Amosite				
	Ceiling void - Studio 23	man-made mineral fibre				
	Ceiling void - Dubbing Theatrette	man-made mineral fibre				
	Dyeline copying machine Tower Build - 7th fl.	Amosite, asbestos in a plaster cement base				
O STUDIOS Forbes St inghurst.	Studio 207	0 fibres/mililitre		Health Comm. of NSW Div. Occupational Health and Radiation Control.	good	8.10.80

ADDRESS	LOCATION	TYPE	PURPOSE	INSPECT./QUALIF. COMPANY/AUTHORITY	CONDITION REC. ACTION	LAST P ODIC INSPEC ION
IO STUDIOS Forbes St. linghurst Cont.	Plant Room 208	0 Fibres mililitre		Occupational Health and Radiation Control	good	8.10.80
	5th level	Amosite				30.4.79
	6th level	Crocidolite ~~Chrysotile~~				30.4.79
	Ceiling of Corridor and underside of air duct - Plant Room - 7th level	Amoste				14.5.79
	Technical area corridors 5th level	Amosite				14.5.79
	PMG PABX Room - 6th level	Crocidolite ~~Chrysolite~~				14.5.79
	Plant Room - 7th Level	Amosite		Occupational Health and Radiation Control	Remove or seal affected areas	
	Acoustic Tile Ceiling - Level 3	Asbestos ~~Crolidolite~~ Crocidolite				8.10.80
	Pipe Insulation - Level 5-9	Amosite				8.10.80
	Ceiling of PABC - Level 6	Crocidolite ~~Chrysotile~~ Asbestos				8.10.80
	Smoke relief rent outer Level 13 - Lift machine room - Nth end	Amosite Asbestos				20.8.80
	a/c supply duct - Level 7 N/S corridor	Amosite Asbestos				20.8.80
	Plumbing Duct - Level 5-9	Amosite Asbestos				20.8.80
	Cleander Room - Level 3	Crocidolite ~~Crolidolite~~ Asbestos				20.8.80

ADDRESS	LOCATION	TYPE	PURPOSE	INSPECT./QUALIF. COMPANY/AUTHORITY	CONDITION REC. ACTION	LAST PERIODIC INSPECTION
ADIA THEATRE toria Ave, tswood						
J + Offices William St. gs Cross	Studio 217 - air conditioning ducts Editing Booth - 3rd Fl air conditioning ducts	Asbestos Asbestos				
etta Building Campbell St and erve Road, ARMON						
lotta Street, 77 Carlotta Street ARMON						
ndos Street, 33 Chandos Street, LEONARDS	All airconditioning ducts					
g Street, Cleg Street, ARMON	Office Area, fire retardent - sprayed on steel beams					

ADDRESS	LOCATION	TYPE	PURPOSE	INSPECT./QUALIF. COMPANY/AUTHORITY	CONDITION REC. ACTION	LAST PERIODIC INSPECTION
e Cameron Building 76 Dickson Ave, ARMON	Air conditioning ducts					
8 Dickson Ave, RMON						
nic Hall field Ave, FIELD						
neering Training hiting Street, RMON						
Shop REPOINT						
io 228 es Street INGHURST						
ac Elizabeth Street EY						
dcast House 153 Elizabeth St. ey						

ADDRESS	LOCATION	TYPE	PURPOSE	INSPECT./QUALIF. COMPANY/AUTHORITY	CONDITION REC. ACTION	LAST PERIODIC INSPECTION
72 McLachlan Ave, HCUTTERS BAY						
lstanes Building Stanley & Palmer St INGHURST	Fire retardent compound sprayed onto beam and columns - no asbestos	Vermiculite				14.5.79
field Towers William Street, SYDNEY						
PAC BUILDING 138 William St., SYDNEY	Airconditioning ducts not ventilating or exhaust systems.					
ETTI BUILDING William St., SYDNEY	Airconditioning ducts not ventilating or exhaust systems					
ngton Centre Liverpool Street, EY						
House Kent Street, EY						

National Occupational Health and Safety Commission

Occupational Health Division

Telephone: (02) 660 9222
Telex: CIOHSU AA71942

C/- School of Public Health and
Tropical Medicine, Bldg A27
THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY NSW 2006

Our ref.:

9th August, 1985

Federal Fire Prevention & Safety Officer,
Australian Broadcasting Commission,
145-153 Elizabeth St,
SYDNEY, 2000.

Attention: Mr Grant Georgeson

Dear Sir,

Re Compressed Board in
Video Tape Area 1st floor
Gore Hill Studios

This letter is to report on the bulk analysis of the compressed board sampled from the above area and received on the 30th July 1985, and the air monitoring carried out in the above area on the 29th July 1985.

The bulk sample was analysed by optical light microscopy using 1st order red and dispersion staining techniques. The sample was found to contain a minor concentration of chrysotile (white asbestos).

Air monitoring was done using the NH & MRC Membrane Filter Method with acceptable modifications to the graticule and counting criteria. All results were less than 0.01 fibres/ml air. The practical detection limit of the method is 0.01 fibres/ml of air.

While carrying out the air monitoring Mr. Gary Brennan informed us that it was a management decision to have air monitoring conducted, even though there was no longer any asbestos containing material in the room, or any evidence of a source of dust which could lead to detectable airborne fibre readings.

Officers from this division have previously carried out air monitoring for the ABC under conditions where at least there is some asbestos material present. Even though this divisions experience in monitoring under similar situations indicated that airborne fibre levels would be immeasurably low. Air monitoring has been carried out only due to staff demands and the potential

St Martins Tower, 31 Market St., SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2000
G.P.O. Box 58, SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2001
Telephone: 2902377 Facsimile: 296340

for industrial action. Under such circumstances air monitoring has been used to quantify (within the limits of the method) the amount of airborne asbestos fibre and to allay the fears and educate the staff in asbestos matters. However, it is our opinion that to air monitor where no asbestos is present is totally irrational !

We suggest that the present asbestos "witch hunts", resulting from unfounded staff and management demands, achieves the following.

1) It helps fuel peoples unfounded fears about asbestos in buildings.

2) It sets precedents which lead to massive future expenditure on asbestos removal and associated activities.

3) It wastes hygienists time, thereby distracting their activities from areas where real occupational hazards exist.

If any further information on this matter is required an officer from this division would be pleased to be of service.

Yours faithfully,

Alan Rogers
Lecturer Occupational Health

Terry Johnsen
Scientific Officer

National Occupational Health and Safety Commission

Occupational Health Division

Telephone: (02) 660 9222
Telex: 177243

C/- School of Public Health and
Tropical Medicine, Bldg A27
THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY NSW 2006

Our ref.: c.c. Lynne Kelly.

Australian Broadcasting Corporation
Head Office
Box 9994 GPO
Sydney NSW 2001

attention: Mr G. D. Georgeson
Federal Fire Prevention &
Safety Officer

Dear Sir

Asbestos Sample - Gore Hill Studios

A sample of millboard taken from the cupboard located in Control Room, Studio 24, ground floor of the above premises was received by this Division on 4th December, 1985.

The sample was analysed by optical light microscopy using first order red and dispersion staining techniques. The results are as follows:

Chrysotile (white) Asbestos - major (greater than 15%)

If any further information is required on this matter an officer from this Division would be pleased to be of service.

Yours faithfully

T. Johnsen

Terry Johnsen
Scientific Officer

18 December 1985

National Occupational Health and Safety Commission

Occupational Health Division

Telephone: (02) 660 9222
Telex: 177243

C/- School of Public Health and
Tropical Medicine, Bldg A27
THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY NSW 2006

Our ref.:

Australian Broadcasting Corporation
Broadcast House
145-153 Elizabeth Street
Sydney 2000

attention Mr G. D. Georgeson
Federal Fire Protection & Safety Officer

Dear Sir

Fibro Sheet Sample
Gore Hill, Staging Workshops
(opposite Peter Balsam Pavilion)

The sample attached to your letter of 12th December 1985 has been analysed for asbestos content using optical microscopy, polarised light/first order red and dispersion staining techniques.

Results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Results of analysis for asbestos

Location	Fibre determination
Staging Workshop	Both Chrysotile, White Asbestos, and Amosite, Grey Asbestos, present.

Yours sincerely

George Denes
Scientific Officer
31 December 1985

RECEIVED
7 JAN 1986
FIRE/SAFETY

The Australian
neral Development
Laboratories

igton Street, Frewville,
South Australia 5063
Adelaide (08) 79 1662
Telex AA82520

Please address all
correspondence to
.O. Box 114 Eastwood
SA 5063
In reply quote:

amdel

AMDEL - N.S.W. Division,
Unit 2, 32A Sirius Road,
LANE COVE NSW 2066

Telephone: (02) 428 5033

March 4, 1986.

Mr. Grant Georgenson
Australian Broadcasting Commission
P.O. Box 9994
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Our Ref: 1156

Dear Mr Georgenson,

We enclose herewith our report on the asbestos monitoring tests which we carried out for your organisation.

If you have any queries on the report please do not hesitate to contact us.

We thank you for giving AMDEL the opportunity to carry out the work and look forward to being of further assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

W.A. Wyatt,
Manager - Consultant Services,
for
J. Newton
Manager, NSW Division.

G.H
ASB

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service report

G. H
HSB

THE AUSTRALIAN MINERAL DEVELOPMENT LABORATORIES, FLEMINGTON STREET, FREWVILLE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5063

amdel

March 4, 1986

Australian Broadcasting Commission
P.O. Box 9994
SYDNEY NSW 2001

REPORT NO: 1156/CC04

Your Reference: Verbal

Work Required: Airborne Asbestos Monitoring

Location: ABC Workshop - Gore Hill

Investigation by: John Flint

Reported by: W.A. Wyatt, AMDEL NSW.

Summary

Following a request by the client, monitoring was carried out by AMDEL to determine the presence and level of airborne asbestos dust at the dates and locations shown in the appended data.

The method used to determine the concentrations of asbestos fibre is the "Membrane filter method for estimating airborne asbestos dust" published by the N.H & M.R.C.

amdel

APPENDIX 1

February 19, 1986

AIRBORNE ASBESTOS MONITORING RESULTS

Number	Date	Sample	Location	Time (mins)	Concentration (Fibres/ml)
Customer Ref. No:		1156			
1565	5/12/85	ABC 1	STUDIO NEAR PLAST	340	<0.01
		ABC 2	OUTSIDE STUDIO 22	345	<0.01
		ABC 3	WORKSHOP SOUTH **	340	<0.01
		ABC 4	WORKSHOP NORTH	330	<0.01
			** NOT TO NHMRC		
1580	6/12/85	ABC 5	WORKSHOP NORTH	435	<0.01
		ABC 6	WORKSHOP SOUTH	435	<0.01
		ABC 7	STUDIO NEAR PLASTIC	420	<0.01
		ABC 8	OUTSIDE MENS TOILET	425	<0.01
1622	10/12/85	ABC 9	OUTSIDE MENS TOILETS	425	<0.01
		ABC 10	PROP AREA	410	<0.01
		ABC 11	NORTH SIDE PLASTIC WORK	380	<0.01
		ABC 12	SOUTH SIDE PLASTIC WORK	375	<0.01
1636	11/12/85	ABC 13	WORKSHOP SOUTH	395	<0.01
		ABC 14	WORKSHOP NORTH	395	<0.01
		ABC 15	PROP AREA	395	<0.01
		ABC 16	OUTSIDE MENS TOILETS	395	<0.01
1643	12/12/85	ABC 17	LEFT	240	<0.01
		ABC 18	RIGHT	240	<0.01
			CLEARANCE OF ABOVE		

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National Occupational Health and Safety Commission

C/- School of Public Health and
Tropical Medicine, Bldg A27
THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY NSW 2006

Australian Broadcasting Corporation
Broadcast House
145-153 Elizabeth Street
SYDNEY 2000

11th June 1986

Attention: Mr. Grant Georgeson
Federal Fire & Safety Officer

Dear Sir,

Air monitoring for Asbestos was carried out by an officer of this Division, at your request, on the first floor offices of the Peter Balmson Pavillion, adjacent to the corrugated fibro roof of the Prop-store, on 27th May 1986.

As background information to your request, it was explained that Staff was concerned about the fibro roof releasing Asbestos to the air and on the occasions when the windows are open next to the roof, Asbestos may drift into the Office, which then may present an extra health risk to the occupant.

To measure the Asbestos that the roof may release and then can find its way to the office area, three windows were opened and monitoring pumps were placed on the three window ledges.

The air sampling was carried out using the NH&MRC approved "Membrane Filter Method for Estimating Airborne Asbestos Dust", with acceptable modifications to the graticule and to counting criteria. Analytical results are listed in Table 1.

TABLE 1. Results of analyses for Asbestos in Peter Balmson Pavillion 27.5.86.

LOCATION	FIBRES PER ML OF AIR
Admin. Office Window. right end (facing the roof)	Less than 0.01
Admin Office Window, mid position (facing the roof)	Less than 0.01
Prop. Store Window left (facing the roof)	Less than 0.01

HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT

The limit of detection for the Membrane Filter method is 0.01 fibre per millilitre of air. The Hygiene limit for Chrysotile, White Asbestos, which has been identified in the cement matrix of the roof, is 1 fibre per millilitre of air, as a time weighted average for 8 hours a day, five days a week and for a working life of 50 years.

It can be concluded from the above data as well as from numerous overseas and local publications that no measurable extra Health Risk that can be attributed to the Asbestos content of the roof, exists to the occupants of these offices.

It should be remembered, however, that the fibro roof should not be subjected to mechanical disturbance (e.g., grinding, drilling etc.) and in all instances, the NSW Government Regulations concerning the removal and disposal of fibro sheets must be followed.

Should you require any further information on any aspects of this report, please do not hesitate to contact us on (02) 265 7344.

Yours sincerely,

GEORGE DENES
Scientific Officer