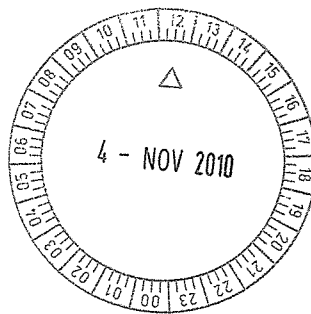


Julie Cukrov



Ms Linda Omar,
Committee Clerk,
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs,
Legislative Council,
Parliament House,
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms Omar,

Re: Legislative Inquiry into Cockburn Cement Ltd – Munster

I am writing to express my views on Cockburn Cement Ltd being located so close to residential areas.

I moved into my current house at . Last year on the 10th October 2009, I was diagnosed with Lung Cancer. Fortunately for me I caught the disease early enough for me to have the tumour and half of my left lung removed. I also had to undergo Chemotherapy.

Four years ago I gave up smoking, and at the same time had a lung X-ray which showed everything clear. A year before my cancer diagnosis (around October 2008) I started a regime of walking around the Bayview Heights area in a bid to lose weight and get fit. Quite a few times I would smell a putrid odour (which I still smell to this day – something like a gunpowder smell) emanating from Cockburn Cement. I still wonder to this day if it was the fumes from this putrid industry which caused my cancer. Some would say it was probably my long history of smoking (and maybe they are right) that caused the cancer, however, the Doctors said my cancer was a fast growing tumour and the fact that four years previous my lungs were clear, one has to wonder what indeed caused the cancer. Also while I was undertaking the Chemotherapy, numerous nurses told me that there was a definite cluster of lung cancer patients in the southern corridor surrounding Cockburn Cement.

QUESTION: Has a study ever been undertaken to ascertain how many victims of lung cancer live (or lived) around Cockburn Cement?

The other area of concern is the acid-like build up on the colour bond patio at the rear of our house. As I said previously, the house is only five years old and surely the patio should not deteriorate in that short amount of time. Not to mention the thick cement-like dust that we constantly have to wash off our outdoor furniture and windows.

QUESTION: Why would the State and Local Government allow residential areas to be built around a putrid industry that spews out god knows what on a constant basis (and quite often in the middle of the night so nobody can see). I wonder would the powers that be allow this to be built in their area – I think not!!

I have grandchildren that live in Munster and I worry what this horrible pollution is doing to their tiny lungs along with all the other children that live in the area. Something needs to be done and I can only see 2 options – **EITHER MOVE THE PUTRID COCKBURN CEMENT, OR MOVE THE RESIDENTS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

I could go on and on but the above are the main areas of my concern.

Yours faithfully,

Julie Cukrov
31st October 2010