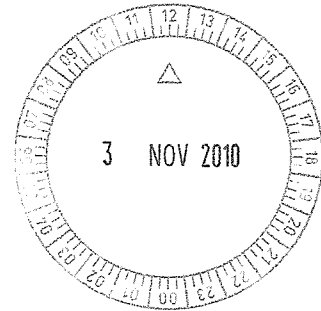


30 October 2010

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



Dear Ms Omar

**Re: Legislative inquiry into Cockburn Cement Ltd. - Munster**

I write this letter as a concerned grandparent. My daughter and family have lived in Beeliar for over four years and I visit at least weekly. I am concerned about the affect of dust and odour from the cement works and associated health problems.

**Dust:** The thick layer of dust which covers the windows, flyscreens, outdoor furniture, garbage bins and even the strappy leaved plants is frightening. I have no idea what it contains and it most certainly is not something anyone should be breathing in. I also expect it is damaging the paintwork on cars and house exteriors.

**Odour:** Whilst the burnt acrid odour from the cement works doesn't occur everyday, it is an awful smell. I close the windows and certainly won't let my grandchildren play outside when the odour is bad and it makes outdoor entertaining a problem.

**Health issues:** My 2½ year old grandson suffers from asthma and eczema. Whilst it is unclear if living close to Cockburn Cement is the cause, I am concerned about what is in the air in this area. I often suffer from itchy eyes when I visit.

I realise that Cockburn Cement was built long before the houses in Beeliar. However, the State Government must bear some responsibility as it allowed the release of this land in Meve knowing how close it was to the cement works' buffer zone. Unfortunately, no-one advised prospective residents of the dust/odour issues when the land was for sale and, if a buyer inspected the area on a "good" day, they didn't know until too late.

A lot of the residents in Meve are young families and many are first home buyers who do not have the money available to sell and relocate to another area. Cockburn Cement have made large profits and should immediately install all the necessary equipment to stop the dust and odour. The State Government have a responsibility to the residents, particularly the children, to ensure that the modifications are made now. No more procrastinating with dust monitors, just visit my daughter's house to see how thick the dust is.

I look forward to an early resolution to this problem.

Yours sincerely

**Janet A Carr**