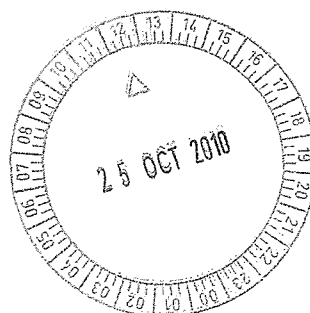


PUBLIC

15th October 2010

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

Dear Ms Omar,

We would like to draw your attention to our concerns regarding the Cockburn Cement lime and cement plant on Russell Road, Munster.

Since moving to the above address approximately one year ago we have been very disappointed to experience an unacceptable level of dust contamination both to the inside and more noticeably the outside of our property. Despite being regularly washed down our patio furniture and barbecue are constantly covered in a layer of powdery, grey dust. This residue is thick and cloying and very difficult to completely remove. This dust is also noticeable inside our home but to a lesser degree. The outside of our property is similarly affected with our tiled roof now quite discoloured.

While we are unable to offer any proof that this dust is causing health problems we have both suffered chest infections since moving to the area. Certainly as nurses we both know any foreign material inhaled or ingested is detrimental to good health and that avoiding exposure to this dust is impossible.

Further more an unpleasant odour is discernable at certain times when there is a westerly wind. This makes sitting out in the garden an unattractive option.

We are concerned that the action taken by Cockburn Cement to install a filter to one of it's kilns is quite insufficient as we understand that the remaining kilns will not be modified. Also not carrying out this work for a further two years is an unacceptable delay in action.

We would also question the role of the Department of Environment and Conservation and their issuing of licences to operate Cockburn Cement when clearly there are issues regarding health and environmental damage from the working of this plant.

We both appreciate the Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs initiating an inquiry into the community concerns regarding the workings of Cockburn Cement. We hope that our opinions and views are of help.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Judith Buchanan".

Judith Buchanan

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sheena Dalrymple".

Sheena Dalrymple