

**Submission
No 138**

**INQUIRY INTO PLANNING AND DELIVERY OF SCHOOL
INFRASTRUCTURE IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Mr Aldrin Mendonca

Date Received: 7 September 2022

7th September 2022

To
Parliament of New South Wales
Castle Hill High School - Asbestos Committee
Sydney
NSW 2000

Please find below my submission. This submission is on seeking the facts concerning safety of over 1900 students and 200 staff members who walk in and out of the school buildings every day.

I request the following personal to be present for this committee hearing on 19th September 2022

- Hon Sarah Mitchell – NSW Minister for Education
- Steven Nikolovski – State Inspector SafeWork NSW (Parramatta)
- Kristy Charlton – Director SafeWork - Better Regulation Division Dept of Customer Service

Our concerns are below.

1. Can you please confirm if Australian Government Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency has been involved in this ongoing investigation? <https://www.asbestossafety.gov.au/>
 - a. If the agency is involved, please present all relevant findings
 - b. If the above agency was not involved, please explain why?

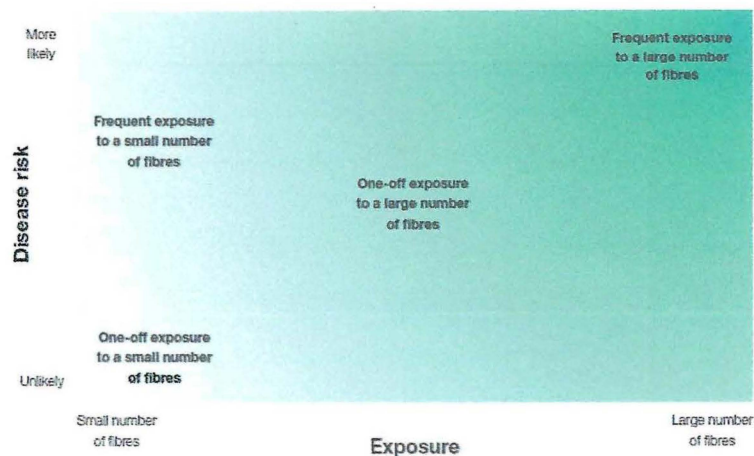
Refer to page 13 – Disease risk exposure chart Public Consultation Version 2022 – Frequent exposure to a small number of fibres “More likely”

Public Consultation Version 2022

Be careful using visual descriptions of disease risk

It can be tempting to use visual aids to describe the risk of disease. For some people, a visual representation can be easier to understand than words alone.

However, be aware that people can interpret visual information in different ways, which may result in unintended consequences. Take the example below:



2. Reference to Australian Safety and Compensation Council – Commonwealth of Australia 2008 risk chart table 38.1

TABLE 38.1 Estimated Lifetime Cancer Risks for Different Scenarios of Exposure to Airborne Asbestos Fibers*

Conditions	Premature cancer deaths (lifetime risks per million exposed persons)
Lifetime, continuous outdoor exposure 0.00001 f/mL from birth (rural) 0.0001 f/mL from birth (high urban)	4 40
Exposure in a school containing ABM, from age 5 to 18 (180 days/year, 5 h/day) 0.0005 f/mL (average) 0.005 f/mL (high)	6 60
Exposure in a public building containing ABM, age 25 to 45 (240 days/year, 8 h/day) 0.0002 f/mL (average) 0.002 f/mL (high)	4 40
Occupational exposure from age 25 to 45 0.1 f/mL (current occupational levels) 10 f/mL (historical industrial exposure)	2000 200,000

The first exposure of asbestos was in 2016. With continued investigation and “DoE band aid solutions” which confirm a minimum reading of 0.01ml /gm

We have over 1800 students attend this school daily

- a. 7 hours per day x 5 days per week. = 35hrs per week
- b. 35hrs x 10wks per term = 350 hrs per term
- c. 350hrs x 4 terms = 1400hrs of continued “low exposure” per year
- d. Teachers attend this school and spend more hours per day than students

3. From various Air Monitoring operational reports during 2019 to 2021

- a. I conclude that air monitors have been in operation from 2019 for approximately 1-4hours per day costing the NSW Government over \$470,000
- b. Reference to Australia Safety and Compensation Council review report 2008 – page 9 “Consequently, it may be most appropriate in the absence of more definitive information to assume that there is no safe – or threshold - dose of chrysotile and other forms of asbestos fibres”.

1.2 TOTAL SAMPLE DURATION AND NUMBER OF SAMPLES Sample duration is influenced primarily by the reason for sampling, the level of fibre concentration to be measured, the concentration of non-fibrous dust and the requirements of the analytical method. This may result in more than one single sample being required. The Total Sample Duration should never be less than four hours, and preferably over an entire shift.

- c. Can the NSW Government Department of Education please explain – Why are air monitoring devices in operation for under 4hrs and why sampling duration is not conducted for the entire shift over all 5 working days during school week ?

4. Refer to Asbestos Register 27page Report CHHS 8382 reviewed by Greencap 15th Aug 2014 and last Revised 27th Aug 2020 – result where asbestos is present
 - a. B00A (music technological & Applied Studies),
Interior B005, R0011, R0012, R0013, R0015, R0020, R0028, R0030, R1001, R1002 to R1006, R1010 to R1017 (Music Learning space)
 - b. B00B (Pupil facilities / physical education ceiling voids)
 - c. B00C - Technological & applied studies
Exterior - Underfloor voids, ceiling voids (brown, blue and white asbestos)
R005, R0011, R0014 to R0016
 - d. B00D (administration / general learning)
Exterior - Underfloor voids, ceiling voids (brown, blue and white asbestos)
R0006 to R0021, R0036 to R1017 (in staff study, bulk store, printing/photocopy room, general learning space, administration clerical room areas)
 - e. **Can the NSW Government Department of Education please explain – what strategies do they have in place to eliminate asbestos in Castle Hill High School?**

5. Wanted to share with NSW Parliament CHHS Asbestos committee P&C email dated September 2022
 - a. For your reference P & C meeting dated 17th August 2022 agenda is enclosed. During this meeting parents were not allowed to ask questions to guest speakers from NSW Department of Education and from Red OHSM. Parents were only allowed to email questions to

 - b. Also enclosed is email dated 1st September 2022 confirming minutes for the P&C meeting dated 17th August 2022 “are not being circulated and not yet finalized”

Look forward to your reply to question 1 a & b, 3 c and 4e

Regards

CHHS Asbestos parent committee

Aldrin Mendonca | ALG AU

From: P&C Association President - Castle Hill High School <
Sent: Thursday, September 2022 6:43 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Aug 2022 P&C meeting minutes

H [REDACTED]
I am well. Thanks for checking
Those minutes have not been circulated as they are not yet finalized.
The agenda is always sent in advance of a meeting

Best Regards
Liga

Liga Hegner
Castle Hill High School, President
Executive Councillor, North West Sydney Electorate

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 1, 2022 5:16:44 PM
To: P&C Association President - Castle Hill High School <
Subject: Aug 2022 P&C meeting minutes

EXTERNAL EMAIL. Do not open unless you know the sender and email address

Hi Liga
how are you doing.

Can you please email me the minutes of our 17th Aug 2022 meeting. I got the Agenda but haven't received the minutes

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

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