



Attorney General; Minister for Electoral Affairs

Our Ref: 67-39845

Ms Melita Markey
Chief Executive Officer
Asbestos Diseases Society of Australia
PO BOX 1394
OSBORNE PARK WA 6916

By email: melita@asbestosdiseases.org.au

Dear Ms Markey

Melita,

COMMENCEMENT OF THE *CIVIL LIABILITY AMENDMENT (PROVISIONAL DAMAGES FOR DUST DISEASES) ACT 2024 (WA)*

I am writing to inform you that the *Civil Liability Amendment (Provisional Damages for Dust Diseases) Act 2024 (WA)* has officially commenced operation as of 1 December 2024. This landmark legislation represents a profound advancement in addressing the injustices faced by individuals impacted by asbestos and silica-related dust diseases.

The commencement of the legislation will improve access to damages for those suffering asbestos and silica diseases, by modifying the once and for all rule that applies to these damages claims. This will allow plaintiffs to seek further damages under certain circumstances.

The passage and commencement of this reform reflect the Government's strong commitment to addressing the significant issue of asbestos and silica-related diseases in Western Australia. We recognize the profound impact these illnesses have on individuals and their families and remain deeply sympathetic to those affected. This Government is steadfast in its efforts to enhance measures that protect the community from dust diseases and to alleviate the hardship faced by sufferers and their loved ones.

I acknowledge the important work the Asbestos Diseases Society has undertaken since 1979. Your commitment to supporting families affected by dust diseases, raising awareness, and funding research across medical, allied health, legal, and advocacy fields continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of many.

I extend my gratitude for your support and assistance in preparing these critical reforms.

Yours sincerely

Hon. John Quigley MLA

ATTORNEY GENERAL; MINISTER FOR ELECTORAL AFFAIRS

12 DEC 2024