ASBESTOS STREET, Prieska South Africa.

During 1930 Cape Plc build a crushing mill in close proximity to residential and business areas, in Prieska. The mill was in operation until approximately 1964. During this period residents of Prieska were exposed to asbestos fibres, either as employees or in their daily activities around the town.
STEF JANSEN, 44, Mesothelioma.

"I never worked at a mine but we stayed near a mine dump in Prieska. Now I spend almost the whole day in bed. My movements are very limited and I drink morphine every 4-6 hours for pain. I am still young and the thought of dying is not nice. I have 3 children and I cannot be a mother for them anymore. No member of my family has reached the age of 60 because of the asbestos. Why did they not warn us? They should at least not have brought the mill into the town."
BETTIE JACOBS, 75, Mesothelioma.

"Because of the mill there was a lot of asbestos dust in Prieska. I never worked at the mine but we walked past the mill when we went to the river. The health inspector, Mr. Cilliers used to take dust samples from my porch, because the wind blew a lot of dust in the direction of my house. According to the doctor, I've lived in Prieska too long. Mietjie helps me in the house. She must help me to dress, because I get too tired to do it myself. I don't hate Cape, but I feel there is a lot they can do for the people."
Community protest action against delays in the legal system in Britain.
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Blue Asbestos fibres. Unrehabilitated mining site Westerberg, Koegas.
HENDRIK AFRIKA, 56, Asbestosis.

"I've made my peace with the fact that I am dying. I am unhappy with those people who took all those millions and who led us to our death. My mother died because of the dust. Today, they deny us. I'll never forgive them. I worked as a sample boy at the Prieska mill and they never warned us that is was dangerous work we were doing. They must give back what they took from the people."
DIEDERICK OOR, Born 12/05/34 - Died 20/09/99.

"My dad used to work at Koegas. He suffered a lot before he died, and that makes me sad. My mother died from the same asbestos dust. Maybe my sister will also die from it. These things happen…"

Adam Oor
ANN VAN STADEN, 51, Asbestosis.

"My father worked in the time office at Koegas. I was still at school when we used to play on the asbestos after the miners tipped the 'koekoepanne.' I've worked at this hospital for 21 years and I've seen many, many people die from asbestos dust. When you see them gasping for breath you think: 'Lord, what will my hour be like?' I never thought this same fate would befall me. My youngest daughter also has a spot on her one lung. The doctor says it is the disease of Prieska. I am unhappy with Cape because we never knew that this was death."
AUDREY VAN SCHALKWYK, 54, Asbestosis.

"I was 12 when I started helping my parents work asbestos at Koegas. Now asbestos will be my end. For the past 23 years I've worked at the hospital and I've seen many people end up in the mortuary. Little did I know that I would also end up here because of asbestos. My father died in 1993 because of the dust and my mother is also suffering because of it. We are five children and three of us are also have it. I wish Cape can see how our people are suffering."
HAROLD VAN SCHALKWYK, Asbestosis.

"I worked for Cape, and I am suffering because of them. If I die now who will look after my children? Both my parents both because of the dust."
GLODIA MOGORO, 66, Asbestosis.

"I was 15 when I started to work for Cape, and now the doctor tells me I have asbestos on my lungs. They never told us about the dangers of asbestos. What can we do about it now? I have a constant pain in my chest and I am weak. We will probably never get anything from Cape."
WILLEM OLYN, 63, Asbestosis.

"Cape exploited us and they make us suffer every day. Prieska is polluted. One day our children will suffer as a result of it. My father, my mother and my sister died because of mine dust. My wife also has asbestosis. The asbestos is eating me up and it is taking me to my grave. We are dying here."
JAN VAN STADEN, 70, Asbestosis.

"I am ready to die. But there are five people depending on my pension and when I die they will have no income."
RAGEL OLYN, 66, Asbestosis.

"We worked hard for Cape and now we hear the dust was poisoning us. The dust was everywhere, in our houses in our clothes and when you coughed the phlegm was full of dust. Now my health is poor, I cough and my chest pains. The dust has eaten holes in my lungs. Must I just accept it?"
HENDRIK SAIMAN, Age 70.

"My whole family worked for Cape. I can't say if my father died of the asbestos dust, but he did complain about his chest and he had a bad cough. I was 12, or even younger, when I started to work at Koegas. We had to cope with the dust, it was how we earned a little money. It is only now that I hear that the dust effects your lungs, those days we knew nothing."
SARAH THYS, wife of a farm worker, Koegas.

"The asbestos lies blue in front of my house and we have to be careful, but the children still play with it especially this one."
ISAK PRETORIOUS, 65, Mesothelioma.

"Give back what belongs to me. My health!"
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