

Dear Mr. Oren,

Re: Disclosure of Cape documents and £10m mesothelioma research donation

My wife died on 11th October 2022 of Mesothelioma after being exposed to asbestos in the school in Sunbury on Thames where she was a teacher.

The funeral was on what would have been on our 48th wedding anniversary on 26th October. This followed the diagnosis in October 2021 which was terrible shock to our family as was her inevitable death. She died just a few days beyond the 12 months after her diagnosis.

Her death is all the more devastating for knowing that this disease was entirely preventable. If the warnings on the dangers of asbestos had been acted upon, thousands of families would not have had to mourn the loss of so many loved ones.

Julia was a fit and dynamic person of many activities and interests. Even in her mid 70s she was playing tennis three times a week through the winter and more during the summer. She also had a love of the outdoors and nature and was active in several local groups in her community.

More than that she was a doting grandmother. She was 'Nanny' to our two granddaughters then aged 4 and 7. They in turn lost someone to whom they were devoted as she imparted her own life skills of craft, swimming and love of reading and when she took them for walks and picnics.

I have also lost my best friend and the love of my life. This year would have been our golden wedding anniversary.

Now, to find out that Cape, one of the largest asbestos companies in the world, knowingly withheld from the authorities the real danger of their asbestos products, for profit, has added to our trauma. This would never have come to light, but for the legal case taken by the Asbestos Victims Support Groups Forum (AVSGF) to force disclosure of Cape's documents.

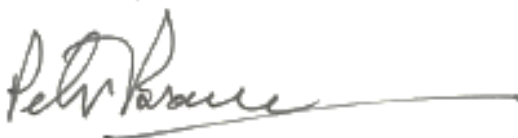
Your company, Altrad, bought Cape in 2017 and has benefitted financially from the purchase of a very profitable company. From 2017 to 2020 Cape, at enormous cost, fought AVSGF in court to prevent disclosure of its historical documents, when you should have simply handed over the documents in the interests of public health. The documents are significant for public health reasons because Cape Asbestolux was used in the construction of schools, hospitals and many other public buildings. These buildings are now deteriorating and schoolteachers, pupils, doctors, nurses and many others are being exposed to asbestos by simply being in those buildings. It is significant that the younger the age a person has been exposed to asbestos, the higher the risk, that person is likely to develop mesothelioma.

On average there are just over 5,000 deaths from asbestos diseases per year. This figure includes just over 2,500 deaths from mesothelioma. That is why AVSGF has campaigned for Altrad/Cape to honour its moral obligation to atone for the destruction of so many lives by donating £10 million towards mesothelioma research.

Yours is a multinational company with huge resources, still trading profitably under the stewardship of your group President, the much publicised billionaire, Mohed Altrad..

A significant donation for mesothelioma research would help restore your company's reputation. My hope is that you will now agree to such a donation in the memory of all those who have needlessly died and to give those who are suffering, some hope for the future.

Yours sincerely



Peter Browne