



ACT Planning &  
Land Authority

**ASBESTOS AWARENESS** Helping everyone breathe easier

Dear Home Owner

### Loose Asbestos Insulation Removal Program 1988-93

We are writing to you as the owner of . Loose fill asbestos insulation was removed from this house in the 1988-93 Asbestos Removal Program.

This letter provides advice for when you are considering extensions or renovations to this house. (If this property is not owned by you, please pass this letter on to the owner. If you are not aware who the owner is, please phone 62078103 so that we can ensure that a copy is delivered to the correct person/s).

Over the period 1968 to 1978, loose asbestos insulation was sold by one local firm as ceiling insulation for houses in Canberra and, apparently, in some New South Wales towns. The insulation was pumped into the roof cavities of houses.

Because of the potential danger associated with this loose asbestos, a government-funded program was put in place to identify these houses in Canberra and to remove all visible and accessible loose asbestos insulation.

In 1988 all Canberra houses built before 1980 were surveyed. The survey identified that your house contained that loose asbestos insulation. Subsequently it was safely removed from your roof cavity, and all accessible roof and wall cavities were sealed with the adhesive, poly vinyl acetate (PVA).

While the PVA acted to bond and make safe any possible residual loose asbestos in accessible locations, some residual fibres may remain in inaccessible wall cavities.

The Asbestos Branch at the time wrote to all the homeowners recommending that they contact Building Control when considering extensions or renovations, for advice as to how to proceed. The current Asbestos Task Force believes that it is time to reinforce that message.

**If you are considering extensions or renovations, you should advise your builder that your house was part of the Loose Asbestos Insulation Removal Program, and instruct your builder to contact a licensed asbestos removalist to undertake the safe removal of any residual fibres during the removal of wall or ceiling lining.**

If you are undertaking this work yourself, contact a licensed removalist direct. Asbestos removalists are listed in the Yellow Pages telephone directory under 'Asbestos'. Asbestos removalists should contact a building certifier regarding building approval for this work.

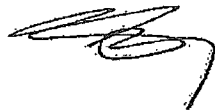
If you wish to obtain a copy of documents relating to the Asbestos Removal Program from your Building File, an application form is attached to this letter.

If you have queries about your building file, please contact the ACT Planning and Land Authority;

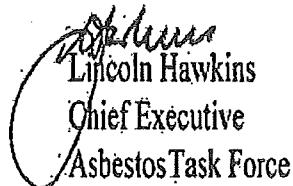
- By phone on (02) 62076262,
- By post to GPO Box 1908 Canberra ACT 2601,
- via e-mail to [ACTPLAIS@dpa.act.gov.au](mailto:ACTPLAIS@dpa.act.gov.au)
- or in person at the Mitchell Customer Service Centre, Corner Hoskins & Lysaght Streets Mitchell. Please bring a copy of this letter with you.

New laws apply to home owners regarding asbestos. Information about these new laws is provided in the booklet accompanying this letter.

Yours sincerely



Neil Savery  
Chief Planning Executive  
ACT Planning and Land Authority



Lincoln Hawkins  
Chief Executive  
Asbestos Task Force