



Maurice M Heiner

MBBS (Qld) FRACP, FRCP (C) Internal Medicine
FRCP (C) Thoracic Medicine, FCCP

Consultant Thoracic Physician
Consultant Sleep Physician

HEAD OFFICE
Wesley Medical Centre
Suite 26, Level 2, 40 Chasely Street
Auchenflower Qld 4066
Ph: (+61 7) 3870 4468
Fax: (+61 7) 3371 3677

QML Suites
Arbour Lane
Robina Town Centre Qld 4230
Ph: (+61 7) 5593 2016
Fax: (+61 7) 5593 1950

After Hours Emergency
Ph: (+61 7) 3862 1946

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Mr Mullins

Dear Mr Mullins

Silicosis is caused by the deposition of fine sand particles within lung tissue. The particles obviously have to become air bound. I have had the opportunity to review the planned project at Maroochydore Sands. This process is a wet dredging and washing process. There is no mechanical drying of sand and no dry screening of sand, and consequently silica particles will not become airborne. As no sand drying or sand screening occurs in the process, airborne silica is not a risk factor.

Also the sand to be dredged is located close to the point of sale and hence sand pollution from particulates from moving trucks is not problematic.

Maroochydore Sands is more accurately a wet sand extraction site and not the sand mine where sand drying does occur. The sand will be pumped, washed and stored on site in Maroochydore. The work can be likened to the council pumping of sand to restore eroded beaches and hence there is no risk to public or workers of airborne sand particles.

There is no need for community concern about health risks associated with the Maroochydore Sands project.

Should further details be necessary I would be delighted to supply them.

Yours faithfully

MAURICE HEINER

MH/vm