



Submission No 66

Inquiry into RAAF F-111 Deseal/Reseal Workers and their Families

Name:

Name withheld

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 26 June 2008 4:53 PM
To: Committee, JSCFADT (REPS)
Subject: Deseal/Reseal

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is [REDACTED] and I am both wife and carer for my husband [REDACTED] who has been classified as a Tier1 in the Deseal/Reseal.

I do not know if it is proper protocol for me to be contacting you or not. But due to my husbands condition I know that he will not sit and type this email, although will verify all that I will say if you wish to phone [REDACTED] and I will get him to the phone. So if you wish to read on I'll tell you all that I know and part of what I live with each day.

His history is that he was at Amberley 1982-1983 as a boiler attendant and in this time he carried blocks of foam that were used to soak up this fluid, to the incinerators where he then burnt them. All the time not being covered by suitable protective clothing or breathing apparatus.

His accepted conditions and what they have done to him are as follows:-

Depression/Anxiety causes him to be unable to do simple things like type this email, open mail or answer the phone. Our social life depends on his moods.

Erectile Dysfunction he believes was a large contributing factor to the breakdown of his first marriage, because any normal healthy marriage between people in their mid thirties should involve a healthy sex life which he was unable to achieve. When we first married in 1994 he was able to achieve an erection and perform penetrating sex maybe twice a month with help, and that was at the age of 39. Within 2 years of marriage he was down to maybe once every 3 months and slowly decreased until 2000 when even with viagra he has not been able to achieve anything at all. This is a big knock to his manhood and always in the back of his mind is "will Glenda leave me too for someone younger who can act fully as a husband". To receive \$38,000 to compensate for never being able to have sex ever again to him is a joke (his words).

He suffers from a rash on his forearms and torso which is worse in the heat, this has isolated him from his daughter, grandchildren, mother, 4 brothers and their families who are all living in Townsville.

His memory loss was the cause of him leaving his last place of employment in 1998. He was employed to measure and cut carpet, but, after too many mistakes he had to resign. This memory loss for such an intelligent man makes him very angry.

He shakes his head at the decisions that have been made, with one doctor telling him that he was fit for his age and then another stating that he was like an old man. Recently we applied to go to one of the life management courses put on for the Deseal/Resealers and were knocked back because he was Tier1 not Group1, why? This is the sort of thing that irritates and frustrates him so. We both need help to live with the problems that he has now, and were looking forward to meeting with others to learn how to cope with all of his problems, and because of the buildup of these chemicals in his system, what we face in the future.

There are other issues that he has in common with his old workmates of which I'm sure that you will be aware.

So thank you for reading this and I do hope that you will help us with our future.

Yours Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

27/06/2008