

IN THE HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA  
SOUTH GAUTENG HIGH COURT, JOHANNESBURG

Case No:

In the matter between:

**BANGUMZI BENNET BALAKAZI**

**First Applicant**

**WATU LIVINGSTONE DALA**

**Second Applicant**

**ZWELAKE DALA**

**Third Applicant**

and

**ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI LIMITED**  
(Registration number 1944/017354/06)

**Respondent**

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**FILING SHEET**

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**KINDLY FIND UNDERCOVER** hereof the affidavit of Dr. Richard Clapp.

Dated at JOHANNESBURG on the 20<sup>TH</sup> day of AUGUST 2012.

**ABRAHAMS KIEWITZ ATTORNEYS**

**PER:**

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**TO: THE REGISTRAR**  
South Gauteng High Court  
JOHANNESBURG

**AND TO: ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI LIMITED**  
Respondent  
76 Jeppe Street  
Newtown  
Johannesburg

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AFFIDAVIT OF RICHARD CLAPP, D.Sc.

I. OVERVIEW

1. I am an epidemiologist with over 30 years of scientific experience researching, studying and publishing on causes of human disease, primarily cancer.

2. This Affidavit is submitted at the request of attorney Charles Abrahams of the law firm of Abrahams Kiewitz.

3. I was asked to provide an opinion about the risk of silicosis, pulmonary tuberculosis, silicotuberculosis, chronic obstructive lung disease ("COLD"), and lung cancer in silica-exposed gold miners in South Africa.

4. As I describe in greater detail in this declaration, it is my opinion to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty that:

a. Several lines of evidence in humans and laboratory animals lead to the conclusion that chronic exposure to quartz dust containing respirable silica causes silicosis, silicotuberculosis, COLD, and lung cancer and that this exposure contributes to pulmonary tuberculosis.

b. Airborne average concentration of respirable silica of greater than 0.025 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for an eight-hour day is widely recognized as hazardous to workers' lungs.

c. In reaching these opinions and conclusions I have relied on peer-reviewed scientific literature, in addition to my education, experience and training. In doing so, I applied the Bradford Hill guidelines for assessing causation. This methodology is discussed in subsequent paragraphs of this declaration.

II. PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

5. I am an epidemiologist specializing in the study of cancer and other diseases

1 caused by toxic chemicals and other environmental agents. I received the BA degree from  
2 Dartmouth College in 1967 with a major in biology and received a MPH degree from the  
3 Harvard School of Public Health in 1974 with a concentration in what was then called Health  
4 Services. In 1989, I received a Doctor of Science degree from Boston University School of  
5 Public Health; this degree was in Epidemiology with a specialization in cancer epidemiology.  
6 My dissertation was entitled "Methods of Cancer Surveillance," and was based upon data from  
7 the Massachusetts Cancer Registry, where I served as Director from 1980 to 1989. In 1988 and  
8 1989, I was also a Visiting Scholar at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, where I  
9 attended conferences and analyzed cancer incidence data.

10           6.       My role as Director of the Massachusetts Cancer Registry involved establishing  
11 a statewide cancer incidence reporting system in order to track the patterns of cancer in  
12 communities and among working populations. As part of this work, I examined data on  
13 malignancies in communities and among specific populations of Massachusetts workers and  
14 veterans. In particular, I participated in a study of cancer incidence by industry and occupation,  
15 which identified an excess of testis cancer in those employed in several occupations. I also  
16 participated in numerous conferences and scientific meetings and presented results of a variety  
17 of cancer studies during this decade.

18           7.       From 1989 to the present, I have been a consultant providing technical  
19 assistance to numerous citizens groups and governmental agencies regarding the health effects  
20 of toxic exposures.

21           8.       In 1990, I became Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of  
22 Environmental Health at the Boston University School of Public Health, lecturing in courses  
23 such as Cancer Epidemiology, Survey of Environmental Health, and Cancer Prevention as a  
24 Public Health Problem. In 1995, I became an Associate Professor and in 2002 I became a full  
25 Professor and continued to teach courses, advise Masters' and doctoral students, participate in  
26 research and administrative committees as a member of the Faculty until my retirement in 2010.  
27 I currently hold the title of Professor Emeritus at Boston University School of Public Health and  
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1 Adjunct Professor at the University of Massachusetts - Lowell. I have lectured in courses at  
2 other Massachusetts universities, including Harvard School of Public Health, Massachusetts  
3 Institute of Technology, Tufts University, and the University of Massachusetts. I have been a  
4 guest lecturer in several courses at the University of Cape Town Medical School over the past  
5 two decades.

6 9. As part of my work as a researcher, educator and consultant, I continually read  
7 epidemiologic literature in order to keep abreast of the current knowledge in the field of cancer  
8 epidemiology and methods for conducting and assessing the statistical meaning of  
9 epidemiologic studies.

10 10. I am a member of several professional societies, including the Society for  
11 Epidemiologic Research, the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, and the  
12 American Public Health Association. I have been an Associate Editor of Environmental Health  
13 Perspectives and on the editorial board of New Solutions, a policy journal in environmental and  
14 occupational health; I have served as a peer reviewer of articles submitted to several scientific  
15 journals, including the New England Journal of Medicine, Cancer Research, Environmental  
16 Research, Statistics in Medicine, Environmental Science and Technology, International Journal  
17 of Cancer, and Public Health Reports.

18 11. I have been a member of several scientific advisory panels and I have testified  
19 before three committees of the U.S. Congress regarding the health effects of toxic exposures to  
20 military veterans. I have made numerous scientific presentations on this topic.

21 12. I have over 30 years of experience investigating, obtaining, interpreting and  
22 evaluating epidemiologic evidence, as a writer, reviewer, researcher and teacher with his special  
23 area of emphasis being cancer epidemiology.

24 13. My *Curriculum Vitae* provides additional information regarding my  
25 qualifications. A true and correct copy of my *Curriculum Vitae* is attached as **Exhibit A**.

26  
27 **III. METHODOLOGY UTILIZED IN FORMULATING OPINIONS**

28 **A. *Materials and Information Reviewed***

1           14. I have reviewed the following documents, some of which were provided to me  
2 by plaintiff's counsel:

- 3           a. Peer-reviewed scientific literature and government reports;  
4           b. Authoritative documents from the International Agency for Research on  
5 Cancer and the American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists.

6  
7                                   B. *Summary of Methodology*

8           15. In forming my scientific opinions in this matter, I applied my education,  
9 experience and training in the field of epidemiology and in my specialty, the study of cancer  
10 caused by toxic chemicals and other environmental agents.

11           16. I have used my qualifications in considering the set of causation guidelines  
12 known as the Bradford Hill viewpoints. As an aid to the Court in understanding how  
13 epidemiologists use the Bradford Hill guidelines, attached hereto as **Exhibit B** is an article I co-  
14 authored entitled: "Environment and Health: Vital Intersection or Contested Territory?"

15  
16                                   C. *Bradford Hill Guidelines*

17           17. Physicians and scientists concerned with the causes that contribute to human  
18 cancer risk routinely use the Bradford Hill viewpoints or "guidelines" as a set of useful tools  
19 for drawing scientific inferences and deductions about causation from all the available relevant  
20 principles, data, information, and observations.<sup>1</sup>

21           18. In performing a Bradford Hill analysis of the evidence establishing a causal  
22 relationship between lung disease and the silica exposures at issue, I assess the overall  
23 coherence, strength, consistency, and biological plausibility of that evidence.<sup>2</sup>

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1 19. These viewpoints are further explained as follows:

2 a. Strength of the association: The stronger the association the more likely  
3 it is to be causal. The reasoning is that unknown confounders (*i.e.*, unknown  
4 factors leading to non-comparability) are unlikely to be powerful enough to  
5 explain a strong association. It should be stressed that nothing in the Bradford  
6 Hill guidelines requires that associations satisfy any particular test of statistical  
7 significance in order to show a strong association; a major reason that statistical  
8 significance is *not* a requirement is that often the size of the population available  
9 for study is simply not large enough for a positive association to reach statistical  
10 significance. In this matter, however, numerous studies consistently show  
11 moderate to strong associations that are both statistically significant and  
12 biologically plausible.

13 b. Consistency: Is the association seen in one study also seen in other  
14 studies using different designs, different populations, and different  
15 investigators? If so, it is less likely that the association is the result of some  
16 unseen design flaw or chance occurrence. As the literature discussed below in  
17 paragraphs xx through xx shows, in the case of occupational exposures to silica  
18 and lung abnormalities, there is broad consistency in the findings.

19 c. Specificity: If the effect is limited to certain kinds of workers and/or  
20 certain diseases (*e.g.*, cancer at a specific site), this may be itself a strong  
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22 <sup>1</sup> The historical context of these viewpoints is of interest: Sir Austin Bradford Hill proposed his viewpoints  
23 in the 1960s, well before the International Agency for Research on Cancer ("IARC") had begun promulgating its  
24 lists and categories. Moreover, he proposed them in the context of whether cigarette smoke – a complex mixture –  
causes human lung cancer. Years later the United States Surgeon General relied on Bradford Hill's analytical  
framework when he issued his findings that cigarette smoking causes human cancer.

25 <sup>2</sup> As many commentators have explained, coherence means that while a precise knowledge of the  
26 mechanism of disease is not required before a causal connection can be made, it is important that the alleged  
27 causal connection not conflict with generally known facts about the disease. Thus, in addition to the strength and  
28 consistency of the epidemiologic and toxicologic evidence in favor of causation, and the evidence showing there  
was a biologically significant exposure, the overall proof should correspond with and not contradict what is  
generally understood about how the disease occurs. Mechanistic, toxicologic and epidemiologic evidence on  
which I rely is strong, consistent and coherent within the meaning afforded these terms by Sir Austin Bradford Hill  
and numerous commentators.

1 argument for causation. Specificity is particularly relevant with “black lung”  
2 from coal mining or mesothelioma from asbestos exposure, where diagnosis is  
3 virtually pathognomonic confirmation of the prior causal exposure. Similarly,  
4 the diagnosis of silicosis in exposed workers is strong and specific evidence of  
5 prior silica exposure.

6 d. Relationship in time: Did the “cause” precede the effect? As applied to  
7 the issue of general causation regarding silicosis and silica-related lung cancer,  
8 in all of the studies I have reviewed, the exposure being examined occurred  
9 before the diagnosis of the disease.

10 e. Biological gradient (dose-response relationship): If we increase the level  
11 of exposure, is there an increase in risk? Bradford Hill noted that when a dose-  
12 response relationship is seen, it can be a persuasive argument for causality, but if  
13 it is not seen, its absence is *not* a persuasive argument against causality. One  
14 reason for this is that the dose-response relationship may be more complex than  
15 a simple monotonically increasing function of dose, a particularly relevant  
16 consideration when the endpoint in question is human cancer.

17 f. Coherence of evidence: While a precise knowledge of the mechanism of  
18 disease is not required, the alleged causal association must not conflict with  
19 generally known facts about the disease; the association should have coherence  
20 with those facts. Thus with lung cancer, proposed causal associations with silica  
21 are biologically plausible, but the relationship between fibrotic lung disease and  
22 cancer development is not precisely understood. That said, and while knowledge  
23 from animal and laboratory experiments is relevant and can greatly strengthen  
24 the hypothesis of causation and may even determine the actual causative agent,  
25 lack of such evidence cannot nullify the epidemiological observations in human  
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1 beings.<sup>3</sup>

2 g. "The Experiment": Bradford Hill suggested that it may be possible to  
3 find instances where intervention was followed by a decrease in the disease,  
4 providing what he called a kind of "natural experiment." The results of such an  
5 experiment might support an inference of causation.

6 h. Reasoning by analogy: Analogy can be a valuable heuristic device. In  
7 the case of lung cancer and the question whether occupational silica exposures  
8 are causal factors, one relevant analogy is to Dr. Percival Pott's study of scrotal  
9 cancer in chimney sweeps. By looking at the occupational environment of  
10 young boys with scrotal cancer, Pott identified exposure to what are now known  
11 to be carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons but which in Dr. Potts' era  
12 were simply called "soot." The epidemiologic association was strong and  
13 consistent even before the carcinogenic properties of "soot" were demonstrated.

14 20. Except that the claimed cause must precede the claimed effect in time, Bradford  
15 Hill made clear that none of the viewpoints is a prerequisite for the conclusion that there is an  
16 actual causal association between a given exposure and subsequent outcome. Moreover, none  
17 of these viewpoints can bring indisputable evidence for or against a cause-and-effect hypothesis  
18 and equally none can be required as a *sine qua non*, except that the cause must precede the  
19 effect. What the viewpoints can do, with greater or less force, is to help answer the following  
20 fundamental question: Is there any other way of explaining the set of facts? Is there any other  
21 answer equally, or more likely than cause and effect? Finally, the Bradford Hill guidelines are  
22 not meant to replace common sense and judgment but to aid them.

23 21. In my years of work as an epidemiologist I can aver that these guidelines have  
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25 <sup>3</sup> While the scientific community does not and should not expect an agent causing cancer at one site in an  
26 animal will necessarily cause it at the same site in humans, if such correspondence is shown, the probative value of  
27 the animal data in demonstrating site-specific human carcinogenicity is that much more powerful. The IARC's  
28 upgrade of ethylene oxide from a Group 2A to a Group I carcinogen was based upon what IARC refers to as  
"supporting evidence from other data relevant to the evaluation of carcinogenicity and its mechanisms." IARC  
includes evidence of genotoxicity (*i.e.*, structural changes at the level of the gene) within the data it considers. In  
fact, IARC specifically considered evidence of genotoxicity in its decision.

1 served the scientific community well. Additionally, they are a generally accepted method of  
2 determining which particular factors are substantial contributing causes of cancer.

3  
4 **D. *Design of Epidemiological Studies***

5 22. While many of the issues and distinctions in study design and methodology will  
6 seem arcane to non-epidemiologists there are some concepts that are beyond dispute.

7 23. To assess potential causal associations between a chemical or physical agent and  
8 a cancer or disease, one should review and be familiar with the pertinent literature. If  
9 epidemiologic data are available that are germane to the topic, such a review should customarily  
10 include evaluation of individual epidemiologic studies for considerations including study  
11 design, methodology, and analysis of results. If an epidemiologic study reports an association  
12 between potential risk factor "A" and a given cancer but does not collect, analyze or control for  
13 potential risk factor "B" for that cancer then that study provides no evidence at all from which  
14 to rule out factor "B" as a potential risk factor or contributing cause.

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16 **IV. AN EPIDEMIC OF OCCUPATIONAL LUNG DISEASE IN SOUTH AFRICAN**  
17 **GOLD MINERS**

18 24. Multiple investigators have characterized the toll of lung disease in South  
19 African gold miners as an "epidemic," going back to the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and continuing  
20 to the present.

21 25. Dr. G.W.H. Schepers, a South African doctor who monitored the occurrence of  
22 disease at the South African Silicosis Medical Bureau from 1944-1956, gave a paper in 1963  
23 and explained that "almost 50 percent of the black miners would die of tuberculosis," and many  
24 would suffer both "tuberculosis combined with silicosis." (McCulloch, 2009).

25 26. Doctors Murray, Davies, and Rees of the South African National Institute of  
26 Occupational Health (NIOH) and the University of the Witwatersrand have recently stated that,  
27 "South African miners face an epidemic of occupational lung disease," and summarized 10  
28

1 studies of different design evaluating health outcomes in white and black miners, as well as  
2 living and deceased miners, all showing significant proportions of the populations studied  
3 suffering from silicosis. (Murray, 2011).

4 27. Dr. Churchyard and a group from the School of Public Health and Family  
5 Medicine, University of Cape Town, studying silica exposure and black gold miners found the  
6 data “reaffirm the existence of a significant epidemic of silicosis in the industry.” (Churchyard,  
7 2004).

8 28. Dr. Davies summarized the topic of silicosis and tuberculosis among gold  
9 miners by calling the diseases “epidemics” amounting to “a public health disaster of  
10 unprecedented proportions.” (Davies, 2006).

11 29. Silica exposure has been shown to cause several occupational lung diseases in  
12 South African gold miners, including silicosis, pulmonary tuberculosis, silicotuberculosis,  
13 COLD, and lung cancer.

#### 14 A. *Silicosis*

15 30. The recognition of silica dust as a cause of lung disease extends back into  
16 antiquity (Harley and Vallyathan, 1996). Some of the earliest cases were apparently described  
17 by Agricola, in the first century AD, and Paracelsus in the 1500s (see Taylor, 1938). The  
18 occupational origins of silicosis were noted two centuries later by Ramazzini, considered by  
19 many to be the founder of occupational medicine. It was further described as a pneumoconiosis  
20 or “dust disease” of the lung in 1866 by von Zenker (Zenker, 1866) and Visconti (Visconti,  
21 1870). Studies published in the early part of the twentieth century documented increased  
22 silicosis and tuberculosis in Australian gold miners (Nelson, 1929) and South African miners  
23 (Miners Phthisis Bureau, 1933, cited in Taylor, 1938).

24 31. An animal model for the production of silicosis from inhalation of free silica in  
25 air was published in 1934 (Gardner, 1934), and clinical observations and lung x-rays showed  
26 typical fibrotic patterns in South African miners at approximately the same time (Simson, 1930).  
27 Clinical symptoms and criteria for differential diagnosis of silicosis were summarized by Taylor  
28

1 in the same decade (Taylor, 1938). The classical picture of silicosis was summarized recently  
2 by Greaves as comprising central nodules surrounded by fibrosis and inflammatory cells in both  
3 the lungs and nearby lymph nodes (Greaves, 2000). In advanced cases, the lung tissue may be  
4 so damaged that it results in respiratory failure, heart failure and death. Silicosis is a latent  
5 disease. There is no cure for the disease and it can be fatal.

6 32. Silicosis is a progressive disease. Extremely high exposure to fine silica  
7 particles can lead to rapid onset of massive fibrosis and death. This condition is referred to as  
8 acute silicosis, although the more common scenario is silicosis due to chronic and lower-level  
9 exposure. One of the largest industrial disasters in the United States, in which acute silicosis  
10 killed hundreds who worked on the Hawk's Nest Tunnel in West Virginia, began in the late  
11 1920s and began to be documented in the 1930s (Cherniack, 1986). The incidence of silicosis  
12 in miners is related to the dose and concentration of silica breathed by the miner, and thus is  
13 related to the level of dust control and working conditions in the mines.(McCulloch, 2009 p.838;  
14 Burke, 1977 p.148-157; Churchyard, 2004 p. 811).

15 33. A recent summary of the world literature (ACGIH, 2010) concluded that current  
16 exposure limits for crystalline silica of 0.05 mg/m<sup>3</sup> of respirable dust are insufficiently  
17 protective of workers' health. The health risks cited in this authoritative review included  
18 silicosis, silicotuberculosis and lung cancer, and the report recommended that industrial  
19 hygienists seek to control worker exposure to the level of 0.025 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

20 34. Studies documenting excess rates of lung disease in South African miners date  
21 back to the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Burke and Richardson documented "six major  
22 investigations into the health conditions of miners on the Rand and in Cornwall." (Burke, 1977,  
23 p. 159).

24 35. The Chamber of Miners in South Africa in 1902 reported that mortality among  
25 miners who had worked in the Rand caused "...considerable alarm..." (Burke, 1977, p. 164).

26 36. The 1994 Leon Commission Report indicated silica dust conditions present in  
27 the mines were probably unchanged from the 1940's up until the Report. (McCulloch, 2009)

1           37.     Dr. Trapido's research indicated as many as 196,000 miners in South Africa and  
2     84,000 more migrant miners from neighboring states have suffered silicosis. (McCulloch,  
3     2009). Others estimate that some 500,000 cases of occupational lung disease meeting the criteria  
4     for compensation have occurred, although investigators conclude that the rates of occupational  
5     lung disease in this population have not been adequately studied and have been underestimated.  
6     (Marks, 2001p.3; Murray, 2011 p.S 68; Rees, 2006 p.59; Ehrlich 2007 p. 11,13;Trapido 1998  
7     p. 305).

8           38.     The U. S. Public Health Service conducted surveys of granite sheds in the late  
9     1920s and 1930s (Bloomfield, 1934) and documented the silicosis prevalence in a group of  
10    granite workers. These surveys provided historical exposure information for later studies of  
11    mortality in Vermont granite workers (Davis, et al., 1983) that documented dose-response trends  
12    of increasing deaths due to silicosis in 969 workers who died between 1952 and 1978.

13          39.     Hnizdo and Sluis-Cremer (Hnizdo, 1993) studied silicosis in 2,235 white South  
14    African gold miners who worked between 1940 and the 1970s and found a strong dose-response  
15    trend with increasing incidence of silicosis in those followed to 1991. The highest cumulative  
16    silica exposure was associated with a 77% risk of silicosis in these workers.

17          40.     Steenland and Brown (Steenland and Brown, 1995a) sought to further quantify  
18    the silica and silicosis exposure-response relationship in a cohort of 3,330 underground miners  
19    in a South Dakota gold mine. Their results were consistent with the South African findings and  
20    showed a 68 to 84% risk of silicosis in the highest exposed miners. These authors further  
21    concluded that the occupational silica exposure standard of 0.09 mg per cubic meter would  
22    result in lifetime risks of death that were unacceptably high.

23          41.     A similar analysis of the exposure-response relationship between crystalline  
24    silica and silicosis risk in the diatomaceous earth industry (Park, et al., 2002) came to a similar  
25    conclusion. The lifetime risk of death due to silicosis under current occupational exposure  
26    limits was unacceptably high, based on the findings in workers in this industry.

27          42.     A pooled analysis of data from workers in six cohorts ('t Mannelje, et al., 2002)

28

1 examined deaths due to silicosis in various industries in three countries. This pooled analysis  
2 did not include South African gold miners because of the way silicosis was recorded in South  
3 Africa differed from the conventions used in other countries. The results indicated that  
4 cumulative risk of death due to silicosis from 0.10 mg per cubic meter silica exposure over a  
5 working lifetime was 13 per 1,000 workers. The prevalence of silicosis in black South African  
6 goldminers was estimated by Churchyard and colleagues (Churchyard, et al., 2004) in a cross-  
7 sectional survey of 520 migrant contract workers. The average respirable dust exposure  
8 concentration was 0.37 mg per cubic meter and the prevalence of silicosis was approximately  
9 19% in this study. The authors note that their results indicate that the international exposure  
10 limit of 0.1 mg per cubic meter is not protective against silicosis. Recent 2007 autopsy studies  
11 indicate silicosis rates of 32% in black gold miners. (Murray, 2011 p. S 67).

12 43. In sum, the epidemiological evidence shows that silica exposure in South  
13 African gold miners has caused epidemic levels of silicosis, leading to deaths and disease over  
14 a period of time extending back to the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and continuing to the present. A  
15 recent overview describes the current extent of gold miners phthisis as “a severe epidemic.”  
16 (Ehrlich, 2007)

17 **B. PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS AND SILICOTUBERCULOSIS**

18 44. Numerous investigations have indentified that exposure to silica dust and a  
19 silicosis diagnosis are strong risk factors for pulmonary tuberculosis. (Hnizdo, 1998).

20 45. As early as 1909, deaths from “phthisis” (defined as wasting away, especially  
21 the upper body, presumably from tuberculosis) accounted for 9.6% of all deaths in the Transvaal  
22 (1,228 deaths), and the rates were particularly high in “coloured males.” (Burke, 1977)

23  
24 46. Pulmonary tuberculosis is recognized as an occupational lung disease in miners  
25 exposed to silica. (Hnizdo. 1998) Pulmonary tuberculosis is a latent, bacterial disease which  
26 causes infection in the lungs . The disease can be treated if detected early on, although if not  
27 properly treated it can be fatal. (Burke, 1977 p. 148; Hnizdo, 1998 p. 500-502).

1 Silicotuberculosis is a disease including a diagnosis of both silicosis and tuberculosis .

2 (Greaves, 2000 at 246).47. Hnizdo showed that a silicosis diagnosis increases the risk of  
3 pulmonary tuberculosis by four times after adjustment for cumulative dust and tobacco.  
4 (Hnizdo, 1998)

5 48. Silica dust also increases the risk of pulmonary tuberculosis in the absence of a  
6 silicosis diagnosis, and it continues to elevate the risk after exposure ceases. (Hnizdo, 1998;  
7 Murray, 2011, p. S 67)

8 49. The risks of pulmonary tuberculosis, silicosis, and more recently HIV infection,  
9 combine multiplicatively and have acted to cause the “highest recorded rates of TB” in the  
10 world to exist among South African gold miners. (Murray, 2011, p. S 67)

11 50. South African commissions of inquiry in 1902 showed that the rate of mortality  
12 from lung disease in South African gold miners far exceeded the death rates in England, India,  
13 America and Brazil; and that the average age of death among miners in the Transvaal was 36.3  
14 years old. (Davies, 2006)

15 51. William Crawford Gorgas, the Surgeon General of the U.S., was invited by the  
16 Chamber of Miners to inspect the mines at Witwatersrand in 1914, and found the tuberculosis  
17 rates among miners to be approximately four times larger than in the workforce involved in  
18 building the Panama Canal. (Davies, 2006)

19 52. The Medical Committee on Tuberculosis, formed by the Chamber of Mines in  
20 1925, studied the migrant labor systems and found that 60% of the repatriated miners  
21 (“repatriated boys”) had died within two years of repatriation. (Davies, 2006)

22 53. This pattern of tuberculosis and death among South African miners continued  
23 into the 1960’s. Chamber of Miners records published in 1967 showed rates of tuberculosis  
24 double that of the most severely stricken countries in the world. (Davies, 2006)

25 54. The epidemiological evidence shows that silica exposure in South African gold  
26 miners has caused epidemic levels of pulmonary tuberculosis and silicotuberculosis, leading to  
27 death and disease over a period of time extending back to the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and  
28

1 continuing to present.

2 **C. CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE LUNG DISEASE**

3 55. Chronic obstructive lung disease ("COLD") has been associated with exposure to  
4 silica in South African gold miners. (Hnizdo ,1993 p. 448; Trapido, 1998 p.301; Girdler-  
5 Brown, 2008 p.640, 644, 646; Roberts 2009 p.38).

6 56. COLD is a condition characterized by reduced lung function following chronic  
7 inflammation or damage to lung tissue. It is a latent disease that can be treated to prevent  
8 further loss of lung function. (Hnizdo, 2003).

9  
10 **D. LUNG CANCER**

11 57. The evidence regarding the ability of respirable silica to cause lung cancer is  
12 also voluminous. Lung cancer is a latent disease and can be fatal. Hnizdo and Sluis-Cremer  
13 (Hnizdo, 1991) examined lung cancer risk in 2,209 white South African gold miners who  
14 started work in the period 1936-1943 and were followed until the end of 1986. These authors  
15 were able to adjust for the effects of tobacco smoking and found that those long-term miners in  
16 the highest category of cumulative exposure to silica dust had a three-fold higher risk of death  
17 due to lung cancer than those in the lowest category.

18 58. Lung cancer risk in silica-exposed workers in China was investigated in a nested  
19 case-control study (McLaughlin, et al., 1992). This study examined exposures in 316 male  
20 lung cancer cases and 1,352 controls in various industries in South Central China. The highest  
21 lung cancer risk was in workers in tin mines, which increased in a dose-dependent fashion, and  
22 iron-copper, but no excess risk was found in workers tungsten mines or the pottery industry.  
23 These authors concluded that their findings provide "some evidence for a silica lung cancer  
24 association" but that was hard to disentangle this from the effects of other exposures. DeKlerk  
25 and colleagues published the results of a preliminary study of lung cancer mortality on Western  
26 Australian gold miners (DeKlerk, et al., 1995). Although based on relatively few lung cancer  
27 deaths, the study reported a greater than two-fold increased risk of dying of this cause in those  
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1 who worked more than forty years in underground employment. The authors conclude that  
2 further follow-up will provide more definitive results.

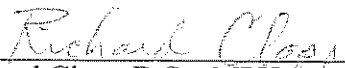
3 59. A subsequent evaluation of the carcinogenicity of crystalline silica was carried  
4 out by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC, 1997). This monograph  
5 evaluated the evidence from animal studies, studies of humans in various industries, and  
6 mechanistic data about the carcinogenic effect. The summary evaluation was that there was  
7 "sufficient evidence in humans for the carcinogenicity of inhaled crystalline silica in the form  
8 of quartz or cristobalite from occupational sources."

9 60. Data on lung cancer in South African, Australian and U.S. gold miners (Hnizdo,  
10 1997; DeKlerk, 1998; Steenland, 1995) and other silica-exposed workers in Finland (Koskela,  
11 et al., 1993), the U.S. and China were combined in a pooled exposure-response analysis by  
12 Steenland and colleagues (Steenland, et al., 2001). The pooled results included over 1,000 lung  
13 cancer deaths and showed a positive exposure-response relationship between silica exposure  
14 and lung cancer risk that added to the weight of evidence previously reviewed by IARC.

15 61. In sum, the epidemiological evidence shows that silica exposure in South  
16 African gold miners has caused lung cancer, leading to death and disease over a period of time  
17 extending back well into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and continuing to present.

### 18 CONCLUSION

19  
20 62. Based on the evidence set forth here, it is clear that there is strong, coherent,  
21 consistent and biologically plausible evidence that occupational exposure to silica in South  
22 African gold mines causes silicosis, silicotuberculosis, chronic obstructive lung disease, and  
23 lung cancer; this exposure also contributes to pulmonary tuberculosis in gold miners. My  
24 opinions are based upon all of the foregoing and my knowledge of all of the relevant scientific  
25 disciplines.  
26

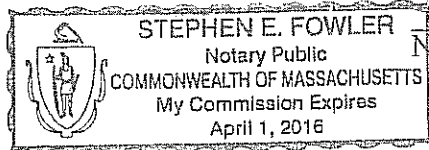
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28 Richard Clapp D.Sc. MPH

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I certify that:

The deponent acknowledged to me that he knows and understands the contents of this Affidavit; he has no objection to taking the prescribed oath; and he considers the prescribed oath to be binding on his conscience. The deponent thereafter uttered the words: "I swear that the contents of this declaration are true, so help me God." The deponent signed this Affidavit in my presence at the address and date set out hereunder.

Signed on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2012 at Boston, Massachusetts:



*[Handwritten signature]*  
Notary Public

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