

Rozelle Interchange & Western Harbour Tunnel Enabling works

Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS) in our workplace



Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS)

- Silica dust is created in our workplace from the crushing/excavation of sandstone
- Silica dust is incredibly small, and easily inhaled if not wearing respiratory protection



Silica – Health Impacts

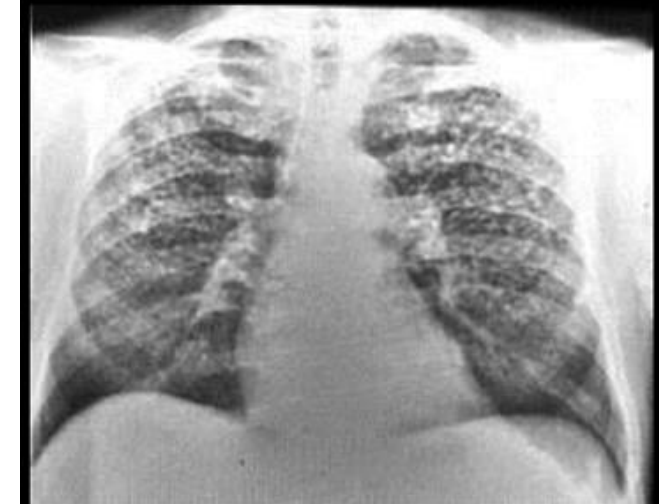
Silica dust is more than 15 times smaller than a piece of human hair and is small enough to reach the alveolar regions of the lung.

Health effects from exposure to RCS can include:

- Silicosis
- Lung cancer
- Renal disease
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Emphysema/asthma/breathing difficulties
- Dermatitis
- Bronchitis
- Eczema



Normal x-ray



X-ray showing silicosis

Silica – Controls

We can control exposure to RCS in a number of ways with the priority being to capture dust at the sources using scrubbers



Silica – Controls

- Spray and mist attachments can be fitted to different tools and pieces of plant
- Dusty areas can be wet down
- Dusty areas can be isolated with brattice



Silica – Controls

PPE is our last line of defence against inhalation of RCS and DPM. We need to ensure we:

- Wear the correct PPE properly
- Keep it clean and change when needed
- Come to work clean shaven



Crib Facilities

- Crib rooms and toilets facilities are located in designated areas in the tunnel
- Crib rooms and toilets are cleaned daily
- Workers must ensure they play their part by cleaning as you go
- Use the boot wash provided to keep dust and dirt out of the crib rooms
- Always keep the doors closed
- Report any issues to your supervisor



Innovation

Rozelle Interchange
WestConnex

JOHN
HOLLAND

CPB
CONTRACTORS

The Rozelle Interchange project promotes and rewards innovation – we need your ideas on how to improve our system and make the workplace safer and healthier.



Silica – Controls

Your health is most important – never start a task if dust is not controlled and always stop if excessive dust is being generated

