

James Hardie Workplace Motion

This meeting of workers condemns the actions of James Hardie in attempting to evade its responsibilities for compensation of asbestos victims and endorses the following statement:

1. We condemn James Hardie for its disgraceful attempt to evade its moral obligations to victims of asbestos.
2. We completely reject the statutory scheme recommended by James Hardie.
3. We believe that James Hardie must be forced to meet its legal and moral obligations by paying full and complete compensation to all its victims.
4. We demand that James Hardie take responsibility for removal and remediation of sites contaminated by its hazardous asbestos products.
5. The full force of the available Federal and State legislation should be used to force James Hardie to face its legal and moral obligations. We note the Bracks Government's commitment to the common law as the best mechanism for compensation. We congratulate them and urge all state governments to resist Hardie's push for a statutory scheme that limits compensation.
6. We call on the Federal and State Governments to change the law to ensure that corporate schemes aimed at avoiding employee and victim entitlements cannot continue. Specifically, we call for retrospective legislation aimed at James Hardie. We also call on the Federal Government to negotiate a treaty with the Netherlands as a matter of urgency for reciprocal enforcement of court judgements.
7. As long as James Hardie continues to avoid its compensation obligations, workers here today will urge management not to buy any products manufactured by James Hardie and its subsidiaries and exercise our right to choose not to use any James Hardie products.
8. We intend to continue and extend a campaign of education, publicity and other lawful direct action about the action of James Hardie amongst the membership and the broader community.

Moved:

Seconded: