

## **LITTLE GIRL STORY & INSULATION CHOICES IN HOUSES**

*A simple analogy.*

If you lived in Rockhampton QLD, **OR** hot Mildura VIC.

Would you send your little 11 year old daughter down the street to buy the bread and milk dressed in a thick woolen overcoat? Of course not!

### **Why?**

- Because solar radiation from the sun heating her would be unbearable as the high temperature radiant heat was absorbed into the dense material.
- A sheet of aluminium cooking foil or a foil space blanket would work much better, AND, most people know this to be true.

### **Then**

- Why do we put “overcoats of insulation” in houses, such as thicker and thicker fibre batts into ceilings and walls, thinking that they will work efficiently in both cold and hot climates?
- Because vested commercial interests control the relevant Insulation Standards which have NO “controlled real time hot climate testing” in these Standards, which are then called up into the Building Code of Australia (BCA) energy efficiency regulations, presented as “House Energy Ratings”.

The public and national interest is totally ignored.

- Fibre insulations in ceilings are appropriate for keeping winter heat in,
- But, not for keeping houses cooler in summer, because the “summer R-value” is not proven, and not based on realistic high roof space temperatures.

Refer historic testing of aluminium foil roof sarking – 1968 Sydney.

<http://www.concertinafoilbatts.com/stregis.pdf>

(NB: no equivalent summer testing has been performed in Australia for bulk insulations)

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Attention: Mr. Tim Renouf  
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26 March 2010

Dear Tim

I am making this enquiry in regard to the effects of glass fibre and fibre glass insulation batts and their inappropriate use for residences especially in communities on the eastern seaboard of Australia.



My name is John Jenkins and I am a Manager in the Finance Industry, with no connection to insulation at all. Last year during the Government's free insulation program, the Complex where I live which is gated and comprises about 200 units, the Body Corporate took the step of having the buildings which are brick anyway insulated. I did my own checks with the installers and they were using yellow glass fibre batts made of course from product imported from China. One of the workers laughed and stated it was the cheapest shit on the market.

Since that installation both myself and residents (and other friends have also reported this to me as well), have felt a quite dramatic effect, not a reduction in heat but at least a 20% increase in heat which is especially felt at night when outside ambient temperatures begin to drop after 6pm. 20% may not seem like much, but when you have to live with it all the time you either in my case the heat effects place a drain on your health, loss of energy etc, or you put fans on continuously to counter the heat. However generally my health has suffered during the last 6 months.

We do not have air conditioning, only fans which now being covered by this matting (batts) runs very hot and burns your finger if you reach up and touch them when they are running over an hour. Of course that has been the experience during the summer months and I won't be hanging around for next summer as I could not stand it again.

Even if air conditioning was installed here, this doesn't solve the problem of the purpose of insulation, as I would be burning electricity with the air conditioning on for several hours to reduce the temperature to keep the place cool.

Even I can see that glass-fibre matting does not meet even the definition of insulation really, from my experience, this product only absorbs radiant heat and then transmits it when the ambient temperature begins to drop in the afternoon.

Insulation means some kind of highly reflective material that creates a barrier between the actual roof from environmental radiation. Anything else is not permanent or productive, does not add to the nation's productivity and is a waste of either taxpayers money or a householders savings.

My address is Unit 50 / 111 Markeri St, Mermaid Waters Qld 4218. The job in question was a large one and I believe the contract was awarded for a kick back to the body corporate managers. They weren't interested in a solution only what they could get out of it and the installers just put the cheapest garbage in they could. Because the units only have ceiling fans I would suspect there could be a fire caused from heat at some point in the future as this cheap material degrades.

Kind Regards

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