



PRESS RELEASE

UNION RESPONDS TO REDFERN INQUIRY

THE GMB, A MAJOR TRADE UNION IN THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY, TODAY RESPONDED TO THE OUTCOME OF “THE REDFERN INQUIRY”, WELCOMED BY THE GMB, INTO THE TAKING OF TISSUE SAMPLES FROM DECEASED EMPLOYEES WITHOUT CONSENT.

STEVE GIBBONS, THE GMB OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR GMB MEMBERSHIP AT SELLAFIELD, SAID TODAY:

Quote “GMB WAS AWARE THAT MEMBERS WERE DYING FROM CANCER, IN SOME CASES, PREMATURELY, WITH THE MORTALITY RATE WAY ABOVE NATIONAL AVERAGE. WE SUSPECTED THIS WAS DUE TO EXPOSURE TO RADIATION AND WERE DETERMINED TO ESTABLISH THE LINK.

GMB INSTRUCTED LAWYERS TO PURSUE THIS OBJECTIVE. THIS INVOLVED A COMPLEX CASE WITH THE INVOLVEMENT OF MEDICAL EXPERTS. GMB DEPENDED ON THE LAWYERS TO OBSERVE THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE ETHICAL STANDARDS.

GMB WAS SEEKING JUSTICE AND COMPENSATION FOR WORKERS WHO WERE SUFFERING ILL HEALTH AND DYING FROM THE RESULT OF EXPOSURE TO RADIATION.

THIS CAMPAIGN LED TO AN AGREED COMPENSATION SCHEME, WHICH PROVIDED A LEVEL OF FINANCIAL

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SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES. THE CAMPAIGN ALSO LED TO MUCH IMPROVED SAFETY STANDARDS IN THE INDUSTRY.

GMB UNDERSTANDS THAT THIS HAS BEEN AN EXTREMELY DISTRESSING PERIOD FOR THE FAMILIES INVOLVED IN THIS ORDEAL AND SHARES THEIR CONCERNS.

WE BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE PLAYED OUR PART IN TRYING TO ERADICATE, COMPLETELY, LEVELS OF RADIATION EXPOSURE IN ORDER THAT WORKERS ARE PROTECTED FROM INDUSTRIAL DISEASE.” unquote

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