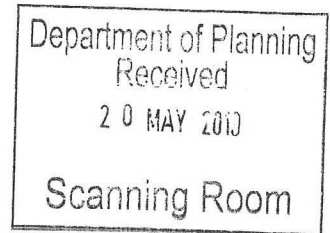


PCU076416

2019

17 May

ATTENTION: THE DIRECTOR
RESOURCES ASSESSMENTS
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO BOX 39
SYDNEY N.S.W. 2001



**SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF
DUNMORE LAKES SAND EXTRACTION PROJECT –
MODIFICATION 2 (DA 195–8-2004 MOD 2)**

Dear Sir,

I saw on 9News Illawarra, people complaining about sand being proposed to be extracted in the Dunmore area by Boral. Coming from a coal engineering background I was interested in the submission being lodged for a sand mine rather than a coal mine and if “the locals and greenies” have any basis for their claims. On the TV report it was stated that glass should be used instead of sand. If the person being interviewed had any knowledge of what this sand was to be used for i.e. cement for roads and buildings, he would know that glass is totally unsuitable i.e. it doesn’t meet the standards required to be made for commercial grade cement for roads, tunnels, etc. Further where would enough quantity of glass come from? Who would pay for the transport to move it to a suitable crusher and then move it to a site to be stored before use? The person didn’t have a clue what he was talking about technically. I might add that sand is completely inert i.e. no greenhouse effects. The carbon foot print if glass was acceptable would be huge. The groups that appose mineral mining of any kind need to complete their research before lodging a protest of any kind

The sand will be extracted by dredge and pumped over to Boral’s present area where it is washed and the water returned to where it was taken from – there is NOTHING coming out of or going into the Minnamurra River and the extraction hole is about 300 metres away at it’s closest to the river. To claim (on the News) that the extraction can interfere with the river is false.

Boral has been in their present extraction area in Tabitta Rd for approximately 15 years and, to my knowledge, have never had any complaints. As I understand it, they have a group of community representatives who meet with Boral twice a year to discuss progress of extraction. Boral also send out community newsletters of what they are doing – from what I can see they appear to be “model corporate citizens”.

The reports attached to the submission show VERY LITTLE environmental impact. These reports are written by experts, not the locals, and they contain recommendations to further reduce any impacts.

Further, this sand is needed for the roads and infrastructure for the whole of NSW. Boral have said they are running out of sand. If this approval is not granted then where do

cement makers get the sand of the necessary quality and quantity needed? Indeed, if Boral run out of sand how many local jobs (and ancillary spending) will be lost because Boral is forced to close down.

The land is presently used for cattle grazing, it's commercial value at present is "marginal" at best. Surely having a "big lake" instead of grasslands is of equal value to the environment and the surrounding area? Compare this to the economic advantage for the roads and infrastructure this sand will help make? The lake would attract wild life into the area which is a huge positive for the area considering @ its present state it is just grass

Finally, I really doubt that there would be many projects anywhere in NSW where the economic benefits for NSW are so great compared to minimal environmental damage. I honestly can't see where the (very few vocal) locals have a leg to stand on?

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Smith', with a stylized, flowing script.

Andrew Smith

18A The Crescent, Helensburgh N.S.W. 2508

P.S. I do not make political donations to any party.