

Ms Felicity Greenway
Team Leader – Industry Major Projects Assessment
Planning and Infrastructure
NSW Government
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Dear Ms Greenway

Subject: Submission on Berrima Cement Works Modification – Proposed Blast Furnace Slag

Processing (DA No. 401-11-2002-iMOD7)

Thank you for your letter (undated) received by me on 7th November 2011 which provides notification of the Proposed Modification and an invitation to make a submission on the proposal.

I wish to make this submission, objecting to this proposal, in the name of:

Mr G. J. Byrne
PO Box 953
Moss Vale, NSW 2577.

I am the owner and occupier of the property:

“Stonington”
Old Hume Highway
Berrima, NSW 2577

Legal Description of the Property: Lots 1-4/7 DP 238719.
Property Number: 1735840



My property shares a boundary with the property of the Berrima Cement Works, New Berrima. The company operates an extensive stockpile region directly adjacent to this common boundary. My mother's property that is adjacent to my property contains 2 dwellings which have direct sight of the stockpile at the Cement Works.

The stockpile operation involves the handling of a range of materials: coal, lime and limestone, recycled plaster board and gypsum, iron ore, bauxite, and waste construction materials from the Works as well as a concrete recovery plant. The operation of the stockpile has expanded significantly during the past 2 years.

The current operation is carried out 24 hours a day, 7 days per week, and it is characterized by:

- the detrimental impact by the stockpile on the attractive rural character of my property;
- intrusive noise from 24 hour operation of heavy equipment (e.g. loaders and b-double tippers, bulldozers and heavy bucket operations) during loading and unloading processes;
- light pollution from operation of heavy vehicles at night;
- dust pollution in adjacent paddocks in windy condition, and.
- polluted surface water caused by run-off from the stockpile during heavy rainfall, on the western side of the stockpile.

The bases of my objection are as follows.

- (a) By locating the stockpile operations adjacent to my property, Berrima Cement Works has not provided a buffer zone to protect my property from the undesirable aspects of their operations. This Proposed Modification represents an expansion of the operations which have become unreasonably intrusive to my occupancy and work of my property.
- (b) The prime agricultural land features of my property are being progressively degraded by the expanding stockpile operations at my boundary. As a consequence, the amenities and the value of my adjoining properties have been reduced.

I was first made aware of DA No. 401-11-2002-iMOD7 by your letter. However, I note from the Department of Planning publication "Guidelines for Major Project Community Consultation", October, 2007, that the proponent is required to carry out "adequate and appropriate" consultation. Berrima Cement Works has not notified me or consulted with me on either of the DA proposals discussed here.

The addition of the stockpile operations for 150,000 tonnes of blast furnace slag will considerably expand the operations in the area and increase the undesirable impacts of the stockpile site on my property and amenities which are dot-listed above.

Although the Proposed Modification DA No. 401-11-2002-iMOD6 is not the subject of this submission it has the potential to increase the intensity of the issues listed above. This Proposed Modification provides for the stockpiling of 125,000 tonnes of coal at the Berrima Cement Works and 5 coal export campaigns per year whereby 25,000 tonnes of coal per campaign will be transported to Port Kembla over a 5 to 7 day period. This implies about two hundred transport movements a day. Also it would also seem feasible that the 150,000 tonnes per year of blast furnace slag could be transported to the Berrima Cement Works as a back load operation from Port Kembla during this coal export campaign, adding a further two hundred transport movements per day to the stockpile area. This adds up to very intensive activity on a site that is not suitable, for the reasons given above, for the expanded role, beyond that of manufacturing cement.

In view of its much increased potential to impact on my property and amenities, I submit that DA No. 401-11-2002-iMOD7 should not be approved.

I have no objection to this submission being made available on the Department's website.

Yours sincerely

G J Byrne



16th November 2011