

Tassin (Catherine Jean) Barnard

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1st March 2012

Mr Howard Reed

Reference number: DA 94-402004 Mod 1 – OBJECTION

Although I do not object, in principle, to Rocla's need to move their Administration Centre, I do object to their being allowed to do so on the basis of what they have presented in their EA which is grossly inadequate. I believe considerable more work should be done before it is understood what impacts this might have on neighbouring properties. The information presented in the EA is insufficient to do this.

Please note that I own the land on which Australia Walkabout Wildlife Park operates, so I share all of the concerns expressed by Walkabout Park in their objection lodged with you. Please refer to the Walkabout Park objection.

Specifically, if Walkabout Park is impacted, the value of my land is impacted as it only retains its value as a tourist attraction. Also, my lessee cannot continue to pay rent to me if Walkabout Park suffers financially, either because of lost revenue or because of additional costs incurred in countering the effects of Rocla.

It is important to note that the EA suggests that Walkabout Park is situated only south of Darkinjung Road, whereas Walkabout Park extends all the way along Peats Ridge Road (I lease ALL of my property 'S' in Figure 3.1 to Walkabout Park).

From a personal point of view, my family lives on the premises of Walkabout Park. Already we are disturbed by noise from Rocla. Although noise levels have improved since Rocla upgraded their wash plant with rubber sound mufflers, the noise is still intrusive and, at times depending on what materials they are processing, is barely bearable.

Any increase in noise is, therefore, of serious concern to me. In addition, Rocla's operating hours include Monday through Saturday which means, because of noise disturbance, we never get a chance to 'sleep in'. Rocla should not be allowed to make this worse.

For this reason, I agree the wash plant should be relocated as it is currently extremely noisy at times, but the EA does not discuss the pros and cons of various new location options.

I am concerned that the situation of the wash plant with the administration centre in a deep hole (we think this is what they are proposing but they haven't actually shown where it will be positioned) will result in extremely noisy truck traffic as they travel up and down the steep slope.

The EA does not cover the potential effects of resiting the wash plant.

The EA does not cover the potential effects of truck and internal haulage vehicle traffic to and from the wash plant.

The EA does not cover the potential effects of the new roads that will carry trucks and internal haulage vehicles. Although there are a lot of 'words' in the section on roads, they do not cover the things that really matter. I am particularly concerned about the noise and the visual impacts.

I am worried that the new sewage disposal will contaminate the local water supply. I am especially concerned because the sewage will be dealt with in the bottom of an old quarry crater where flood waters can collect and cause the system to overflow, and even under normal conditions, sewage might contaminate the ground water, the creeks and, most devastating of all because it will impact everyone not just those of us downstream from the quarry, is the risk of the already damaged aquifer being contaminated.

I would like to see Council approval for an adequate sewage disposal system *before* this application to move the Administration Centre is allowed to go ahead. This is especially important as Rocla has a track record of not complying with conditions of consent that require certain actions after consent but before they commence operations (refer to the issue currently under investigation with NOW re their operating without sufficient water licenses). In addition, once Council approval is obtained, if permission for Rocla to proceed is given, this should include a requirement that, if water supply to surrounding properties is affected, compensation will be made to residents and businesses.

I have commenced a regular program for testing water quality as well as water supply.

I am concerned re the impact of demolition and construction noise.

I am concerned about the impact of all traffic noise on the new road system.

I am concerned about the impact of the noise of trucks struggling up the steep incline in low gear.

I am concerned about the visual impact of the new road system and request that this be properly assessed as the topography of the land is such that even the existing wash plant at a 2km distance is visible from my residence.

If the road system as proposed will be visible from my residence, Rocla should be required to redesign it so that it isn't.

Rocla should be required to agree to compensate me if noise affects our quality of living.

Rocla should be required to agree to compensate me if the quality of my water deteriorates.

Yours sincerely,

Tassin (Catherine Jean) Barnard