

19 February 2026

Branxton NSW 2335

Project Application Number: SSD76210271
Bluestone Hard Rock Quarry

To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing to formally object to the proposed Bluestone Hard Rock Quarry to be located at Lot 5 Springvale Road, Elderslie NSW 2335.

After reviewing the proposal, we believe this quarry is inappropriate for the area and poses unacceptable risks to public safety, heritage integrity, environmental sustainability, and residential amenity. Any perceived positive impacts of this project are far outweighed by the significant and lasting negative consequences for our community.

Our concerns are outlined below:

1. Heritage Bridge and Traffic Safety

The proposed haul route relies on a single-lane, heritage-listed bridge. This bridge was not designed to accommodate 220+ heavy vehicle movements per day. In addition, this road serves as a detour when incidents occur on the New England Highway or Hunter Expressway between Singleton and Branxton. The additional quarry traffic would create severe congestion and significantly increase the risk of collisions. Furthermore, the structural and heritage integrity of the bridge may be compromised by ongoing vibration and heavy load stress.

2. Community Safety Along the Haul Route

The proposed haul route along Elderslie Road through Branxton to the Hunter Expressway presents serious safety risks. School children and elderly residents use bus stops along Elderslie Road and within Branxton on this route. Introducing constant heavy vehicle traffic during peak commute times presents unacceptable dangers. Additionally, pedestrians walking or riding into town must currently use the roadside, as Elderslie Road does not have continuous footpaths connecting to Maitland Street. Increased truck movements will only heighten these risks. The intersection exiting Branxton onto the New England Highway is already known locally as a traffic black spot due to frequent accidents. Regular haul truck movements navigating this intersection will further elevate the likelihood of serious collisions.

3. Noise, Vibration and Residential Amenity

Introducing sustained heavy vehicle traffic into a residential area will result in excessive noise, particularly during early morning operations. Additional impacts include structural vibration to nearby homes, dust generation, reduced air quality, declining property values, and a significant loss of residential amenity.

4. Unsuitable Road Infrastructure

Local roads and intersections were not designed to accommodate the level of heavy vehicle traffic associated with quarry operations. The existing road network is unsuitable without substantial upgrades — if such upgrades are even feasible. Ongoing maintenance requirements and associated costs would be considerable and likely unsustainable.

5. **Blasting, Dust and Health Impacts**

Proposed blasting operations and associated dust emissions present serious concerns. These activities are likely to generate excessive noise, air pollution, structural vibrations, and long-term health risks, including respiratory illnesses caused by dust and potential toxic fumes.

6. **Impact on Local Agriculture**

The impact on surrounding farms in the Elderslie area would be substantial and distressing, affecting productivity, livestock welfare, and long-term viability.

7. **Environmental and Community Character**

The project threatens local wildlife, water quality, and the overall rural character and lifestyle of our community.

For the reasons outlined above — and many others shared by residents — we respectfully request that this application be refused.