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MEGA HORSE

Equine Mineral & Trace Element Supplement

ABN: 83 053 832 349

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to object to proposed increased noise levels at the Splendour site situated on Jones Rd.

I run a business breaking in and re training horses as well as running rider training clinics all from my property at Crabbes Creek Rd. My issues with the noise currently coming from the Splendour site for the past years concern me and the valuable animals in my care.

In 2013 I submitted a letter stating (among other concerns) that the noise level coming from the Splendour site to my house, (which is about 10km away as the crow flies) was totally unacceptable as I was unable to get to sleep until well after midnight for 2 out of the 4 nights. For me, my day starts at 5.30am and to try to work a tough physical job on less than 5 hours sleep over a number of nights is unacceptable. For 2 nights it is bad enough, but to increase the noise levels on what I already endure, will take it to the point where I wont be able to get adequate sleep for the duration of the event is just plain not fair. Since I can't catch up on sleep when the event finishes, because I am working 12 hours a day, then the impact of the increased noise and loss of sleep will have an ongoing effect for up to 2 weeks. Where shall I send the bill for loss of income??

In 2014 I again wrote another letter voicing my concerns over the noise levels coming from the Splendour site, this time just on the last night. However the noise levels were so extreme that day and had gone on for long enough to upset all the horses n my care. My horses are not soft sensitive little critters, they are exposed to motorbikes, trucks, tractors, quad bikes, excavators and general car traffic as well as loud music from my neighbours very regularly, so they are well trained and used to invasive noise. However, by the final day of Splendour last year, every horse on my property was agitated and out of sorts by the constant barrage of noise they were being subjected to. I had to lock all the horses in their stables 2 hours earlier than usual because they were running around like maniacs

and they just wouldn't settle. One of the horses, a young thoroughbred filly in race preparation was so out of sorts, she actually tried to get out of her stable (somewhere she had been for the past 5 months with no incident) and injured herself to the point where she was unable to be worked for the following 2 weeks. Again, where do I send the bill for downtime on training and vet fees?? This filly was supposed to be presented for an exhibition gallop the week following Splendour, for potential purchasers, which of course didn't happen and as she was 2 weeks out of work, it took another 4 weeks to bring her back up to the same level. Again her owner would like to know where to send the bill for extra training and vet fees??

The other thing I noticed last year on the first and second night of Splendour last year was the number of birds and bats that were active and quite vocal around dusk from the intrusion of the lights and noise at the Splendour site. As I am working outside until after dark every night, the increased numbers of bats flying over my property was quite concerning. Generally on dusk I get about 6 – 10 bats flying over my property from west to east. However on the first and second night of Splendour that number increased to at least 30 (before I stopped counting and went back to finishing my work) flying in the opposite direction (away from the Splendour site). Tracking bat activity over my property is something I do to monitor the risk to my horses and horses in my care for Hendra virus. Generally this risk is very low, but with the increase in bat activity(at least 300%) over my property at Splendour time at the start of Hendra peak season is very concerning to me, my health, the health of my family and the health and well being of my horses and those in my care. Again where is the acceptance for responsibility for this action??

If I did something that affected the normal behaviour of bird life and especially bats on my property, I would be heavily reprimanded and most probably fined for this action, why is this not the case for the organisers of Splendour??

In closing I would like to strongly reiterate my point on NOT increasing the noise levels at the Splendour site, since the current noise levels have already had a negative effect on my business and my income and animal in my care, not to mention the effect it has had on the native wild life. Plus the potential for more injuries to my animals and possible death from the increase in bat activity over my property during this time is a risk I don't think I should be forced to take.

Yours sincerely
Adrienne Bowden