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Submitted online at
<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/eagleton-quarry-project>

CC: Developmentand.BuildingAdmin@portstephens.nsw.gov.au

Eagleton Quarry Project - Application No: SSD-7332

Submission Objecting to the Proposal

1. I write on behalf of Save Balickera Inc., an incorporated association that represents residents and other concerned members of the community who wish to protect our local area from inappropriate development, including the further expansion of quarrying.
2. The community consultation in respect to this project has been manifestly inadequate with even some close neighbours unaware of this proposal until now. The Environmental Impact Statement ('EIS') fails to consider the cumulative impacts of the various proposed quarry developments on the environment and community, with no consideration of the impacts on heritage listed Balickera house and farm. This submission adopts the headings used in the SEARS.

Biodiversity

3. The proposed development requires the clearing of almost 30 hectares of native vegetation on a staged basis. The Kleinfelder Biodiversity Assessment Report at Appendix H of the EIS is from December 2016 and is clearly out of date. While not comprehensive, the report does acknowledge that there are many threatened fauna species within the project area, including koalas, and that they are likely to be negatively impacted by the development.
4. Significantly, this report was prepared before koalas were listed as endangered in February 2022. Habitat loss is regarded as one of the main causes of this endangered status. The biodiversity assessment must be updated to take account of this and other new data. It must also be updated to take account of the other developments proposed for the area (including Stone Ridge Quarry and Boral's plans for expansion) and their cumulative impacts.

Save Balickera Inc.



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5. Despite claims to the contrary by the proponent, it is inevitable that this development will negatively impact on critical habitat and threatened species. We expect environmental groups have made more detailed submissions regarding these matters and we support their concerns. There needs to be appropriate investigation and revision of the likely cumulative impacts of continued and expanded quarry activity on the already fragile and long-suffering flora and fauna.



Brush tailed phascogale 25 March 2023 Photo credit: Anthony Crawford



A photo of a Koala taken on Italia Road on 12 September 2023. Photo credit: Til-Lea Valcombe



Black Cockatoo found stunned on the corner of the Pacific Highway and Italia Road on 29 November 2022. It was rescued from the Highway near Italia Road by a resident. Photo credit: Andrew Cusbert



Traffic & transport

6. The local community is showing considerable signs of strain from the thunderous and unsafe truck traffic associated with the existing Boral Seaham quarry. Last year community members established the Italia Road Action Taskforce (IRATE) as an active Facebook group. An additional quarry will result in an increase in unacceptable heavy traffic on Italia Road and for a more prolonged period, rather than the reduction that could be expected should Boral finally wind up its operations on schedule rather than expanding.

7. The original Traffic Report by GHD cannot be given any credibility as it concludes:

Following this analysis it is confirmed that the Eagleton quarry would not have any adverse impact on the road network in terms of intersection or route capacity

Unsurprisingly, NSW Roads & Maritime Services (RMS) reached a different conclusion and determined that the proposal would have an adverse impact on the safety and efficiency of the nearby road network, specifically the intersection of Pacific Highway and Italia Road. In their letter of 28 May 2018, they state:

Roads and Maritime remains of the view that further generation of heavy vehicle movements at the Pacific Highway and Italia Road intersection would create an unacceptable safety risk.

8. GHD's Traffic Impact Assessment of 10 August 2023 was commissioned by Boral, also acting on behalf of the proposed operators of Stone Ridge and Eagleton Quarries. This document records that it has been proposed that Boral should lodge a separate development application to upgrade the existing Italia Road/Pacific Highway intersection to meet the requirements of TfNSW. To our knowledge this development application is yet to be successfully lodged.
9. Any such application will in any case meet opposition from Italia Road residents who are sceptical about the data relied on for the traffic modelling and will resist attempts to transform their country road into a major haulage route. Residents complain that they already meet queues of trucks waiting on Italia Road at the intersection with the Pacific Highway, with wait times of up to 10 minutes and this problem will be vastly compounded if additional quarries are approved for the area.



A recent photo taken by a frustrated resident queuing at the intersection of Italia Road and the Pacific Highway.

10. The EIS refers to the absence of pedestrian footpaths and cycling routes and rather than any suggestion that the proponent will address this shortcoming, it is regarded as an indication that there is no demand for these facilities. This is an unreasonable assumption for a residential country road with many families and basic consultation with the community would have revealed that residents are deeply concerned about the hazard posed by the truck traffic for themselves and their children. As a child, I road my bicycle on Italia Road in the 1970s. However, riding a bicycle along Italia Road is no longer feasible because of the thunderous truck traffic associated with the quarries. Nor have the tracks and fire trails within the forestry been maintained to facilitate cycling or horse riding in that area. People move to the country to escape the noise and traffic of urban areas and to allow their children the greater freedom to safely access the leisure activities that should come with country living. It seems the proponent is oblivious to this fact.

Noise, blasting & vibration

11. There appears to have been a complete failure to consider the impact of noise, blasting or vibration on Balickera House, despite its relative proximity to the proposed Eagleton Quarry development. Indeed, this heritage listed property, which is closer than many other properties with monitoring, does not appear to be included in the Surrounding Properties Maps at Appendix C.

12. The Noise Report states:

It is strongly recommended that dilapidation surveys be conducted at any potentially affected receivers prior to any blasting.

However, convict built Balickera House is not identified as a property address to be considered, although it is about 2 km away and only separated from Eagleton Quarry by Boral's Seaham Quarry. This approach is rationalised with the following statement at 7.9.2 of the main EIS Report, at page 107:



Importantly, the existing Boral Seaham Quarry is located immediately adjacent to the heritage item and in-between the heritage item and the Eagleton Quarry site. Given the existing quarry land use in the locality, a new quarry at Eagleton, further away from the heritage item than the existing Boral Seaham Quarry, is not considered to impact on any aspect of the item in any way.

So not only is there a complete failure to consider cumulative impacts, the presence of an existing quarry is relied upon to justify conducting no examination of the impacts of noise, blasting and vibration on a heritage listed property.

13. Boral's current development consent in relation to the existing Seaham Quarry does not contain appropriate air quality or noise limits and there has been a failure generally to monitor and report the adverse impacts from the quarry to date. Boral has failed to address the adverse impacts of their blasting and dust levels on the tank water, housing and quality of life of even their most proximate neighbours.
14. Neighbours report having to resort to using bottled water for many years because the level of sediment in their tank water has rendered it unsuitable for drinking. Dust levels have also resulted in the need for additional cleaning of roofs, gutters, windows and residences generally. Significant cracks have developed in people's homes and structures, including one water tank that is no longer able to hold water as a result of structural damage.



15. Residents describe extremely loud noise and shaking of their homes and structures, resulting in cracks, and one account of a burst water tank because of blasting by the existing Boral Seaham Quarry. Freda Lees has lived on Italia Road, Balickera her entire life and is now 92 years of age. She used to ride her horse to school in Eagleton. Five generations of her family have lived in this location, with her children (including a night shift worker), grandchildren and great grandchild living next door. Freda describes the impact as follows –

Well, when they start crushing you would think the crusher was here. It's that loud. And when Basil tries to sleep up there it wakes him up because he thinks it's outside the window.¹

¹ Recorded interview with Freida Lees 7 July 2023.



Freda Lees talking about the devastating impact of the quarries on her home. Photo credit: Otto Khoo

16. Five generations of my family have also lived at Balickera House. We have also experienced our house shaking during blasting at the existing quarry. We are very concerned about the cumulative long-term impact of the blasting on our convict-built house, which is of significant heritage value (see more on this below). Vibration is one of the main factors causing fatigue in heritage structures and prolonged exposure can result in cracks that may ultimately lead to collapse.²

Air quality

17. There has been a failure to conduct adequate investigations with no receptors at Balickera House. The Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Assessment by Pacific Environment Limited states at the outset that it *‘does not attempt to verify the accuracy, validity or comprehensiveness of any information supplied to Pacific Environment for its report’*. This is apparent since the report claims to assess cumulative impacts, despite there being no data available from the existing Seaham Quarry. The report states:

The Boral quarry located on Italia Road, Balickera received their Environmental Protection Licence (EPL 3956) on 1 July 2007. They are licenced to process 500,000 - 2,000,000 tonnes of material per annum (tpa). A review of their EPL indicates that they do not have any conditions requiring them to monitor dust. An extensive search of the internet, including the Boral company website, DP&E website, and Port Stephens Council website, has been unsuccessful in locating any information on the operations at the site, or any monitoring data collected in the vicinity of the operations.

² http://www.ijates.com/images/short_pdf/1425546317_P6-15.pdf



Dust in gutters of a nearby Italia Road residence

18. The report concedes that the modelling that has been conducted is limited in scope:

A largely qualitative approach has also been used here, and the impacts of construction have not been specifically modelled.

According to the EIS:

The modelling indicates that there will be no significant impact on local air quality as a result of the proposed Eagleton quarry, and that emissions from the quarry will not cause any additional exceedances of the EPA's air quality criteria.

This seems to acknowledge that the EPA's air quality criteria are already being exceeded by the operations of the existing quarry.

19. Further quarry developments should not be approved while there has been no adequate investigation into the existing impacts on air quality and the health of residents, let alone a reliable assessment of the cumulative and future impacts to be expected should the multiple quarry developments in the area all be given approval and proceed. We have received anecdotal accounts of bleeding noses and respiratory disorders, including diagnoses of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), from those in the locality, which would seem to merit serious study by health authorities into the impact of the existing quarry on health before any further quarrying activity is approved.
20. Australia is currently experiencing an epidemic of silicosis claims – it is referred to as the 'asbestosis of the 2020s'.³ There is growing awareness that silicosis does not only affect tradesman working in related industries. Recent media reports have highlighted how those living and working in proximity to quarries may also be affected.⁴

³ <https://www1.racgp.org.au/newsgp/clinical/asbestos-of-the-2020s-calls-to-fast-track-silica-b;https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-02-21/silicosis-death-dust-audit-reveals-major-epidemic-worse-asbestos/10830452>

⁴ <https://www.9news.com.au/national/silica-office-admin-worker-joanna-mcneill-contracts-silicosis/d64f8661-8bca-4b6f-b950-a1d64e13e421>



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21. Health professionals in the Hunter Region have begun blowing the whistle and all levels of government now have a duty of care to fully investigate the potential health risks before approving further quarry developments proximate to residential areas.⁵ One recent headline read –

The Hunter Valley is breathing in ‘extreme’ levels of air pollution which consistently breach international health standards and are driving the nation towards a climate change ‘health emergency’, scientists and medicos say.

Quarries must be kept a safe distance from residential areas lest we create more Wittenooms.⁶

Land resources

22. Clause 12 of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007* requires the consent authority to consider existing land uses in the vicinity and consider whether the proposed development is likely to have a significant impact and whether it may be incompatible with these uses.
23. My brother, Jim Kerr, is a veterinarian and currently operates the family farm at Balickera, which is one of the oldest farms in the region. He is concerned about the impact of local quarries on our cattle. I am aware of other neighbours with livestock (there is an Angus stud, goat farm and various horse stables in the area) who share these concerns. These concerns do not appear to have been considered in the EIS for the Eagleton Quarry. The quarry should not be approved without proper consideration of the impact on existing land uses.



Cattle at Balickera Farm

⁵ https://12ft.io/proxy?q=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.newcastleherald.com.au%2Fstory%2F6767874%2Five-got-a-family-here-doctor-continues-his-clean-air-campaigning%2Fhttps://www.lockthegate.org.au/doctors_concern_coal_mine_air_pollutionhttps://www.singletonargus.com.au/story/7772189/the-hunter-valley-is-breathing-extreme-levels-of-air-pollution-as-fear-rises-for-climate-health-emergency/

⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wittenoom,_Western_Australia



Water

24. The water assessment completed by Umwelt is, on its own account, based on inadequate data and a limited understanding of the local geology. The following limitations, among others, are noted at 3.9 of Appendix 1a of Umwelt's assessment.

The faults and other geology structures were not included in the groundwater model, as their exact location and the impact they have on the groundwater system is not well understood;

Numerical model predictions results in this study are given as best estimate. A range of uncertainty exists in the model prediction and this uncertainty has not been assessed;

Cumulative impact from the Boral quarry located 600 m to the north of the Proposal has not been assessed as there was no data in the public domain to include in the model.

25. The conclusion reached by the Hydrogeological Report at Appendix L is that:

The Groundwater Flow Model predicts that quarry dewatering under steady-state conditions would reduce baseflow to the surrounding creeks to between 12% and 68%. The model is limited by the lack of available stream flow data. (p23)

26. While ultimately claiming that the assessment is fit for purpose, the peer review of the Groundwater Assessment at Appendix N also documents significant inconsistencies within the report:

with each section it stated that modelling predicts zero drawdown outside of the Site boundary. This is not consistent with the modelling results presented in Appendix 1a, which specifically states there is drawdown outside the Project area. (p3)

27. While there has not been an opportunity to obtain an expert opinion on this report, it is clearly limited in nature and based on unreliable modelling rather than hard data from the existing quarry operations. It does not take account of existing and proposed developments in the vicinity, such as Boral's plans to deepen and expand Seaham Quarry, and the cumulative impact of multiple projects that compromise the integrity of the aquifer.

28. The EIS records that proposed quarry site is split north-south by Seven Mile Creek, which also has a tributary running east-west through the site. Indeed, the Eagleton area is located between the Williams River and the Grahamstown Dam. This is an area rich with waterways and wetlands including Mosman Swamp, which during wet times extends from Balickera Farm all the way to Eagleton as shown in the photo below from Google maps. However, Mosman Swamp does not receive any consideration in the EIS.



Image from Google Maps showing extent of Mosman Swamp

29. The peer review at Appendix N states:

The report makes a brief mention of a swamp in the vicinity of the project but no assessment as to the potential for impact. The impact assessment does not make specific reference to risk of impacts to GDEs. (p2)

In view of this it is baffling that this peer review could claim the groundwater assessment to be fit for the purpose when it contains no consideration of the impact on nearby wetlands or groundwater dependent ecosystems and does not propose that there should be any groundwater monitoring or methodologies adopted.

30. The proposed quarry site is within the drinking water catchment, being proximate to the Hunter Water's Balickera canal which feeds into the Grahamstown Dam. The establishment of this quarry therefore poses not only an ongoing hazard to the tank water of residents in its immediate vicinity but also to the drinking water catchment for the entire Hunter Region. It is likely to reduce the drinking water catchment in dry times and pollute the catchment with sediments during wet times. The blast vibration impacts also pose a risk to the ageing Balickera tunnel infrastructure that runs underground near the project site.⁷

31. The risk of contamination of Grahamstown Dam with toxic quarry run off would be especially high during super storm events, such as those experienced in 2015 and 2016. The increased frequency of these events does not appear to have been adequately considered in the assessments conducted. In view of these risks, sections 7.8 and 7.10 of the *Port Stephens Local Environmental Plan 2013* mandate that development consent must not be granted.⁸ State Government should not override such crucial considerations.

⁷ It also worth noting that even Balickera Pumping Station is listed on the section 170 heritage register but not mentioned in the Report on Historical Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Values -

<https://www.hunterwater.com.au/documents/assets/src/uploads/documents/Heritage-Assets/water/Balickera-1-Pump-Station-s170-Form-2023-Final.pdf>

⁸ <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/epi-2013-0755#sec.7.8>

<https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/epi-2013-0755#sec.7.10>



Heritage

32. The Indigenous Archaeological Assessment by McCardle Cultural Heritage Pty Ltd from 2012 is missing the crucial Annexure B, which should contain the results of the database search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). The database apparently shows that seven (7) known Aboriginal sites are recorded within five kilometres of the project site. Unfortunately, there are no site card details included in the reports. Without disclosure of details of the sites in question and their significance, no approval should be given for this project to proceed.
33. The McCardle report does record that there is a high potential for isolated finds and/or artefact scatters of aboriginal significance near Seven Mile Creek and its tributaries. Indeed, during the survey of the site an isolated find was made of a mudstone flake and two areas were identified as Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) sites. The report also notes that previous Aboriginal archaeological studies have identified that Aboriginal items may be present at the site, and that the caves at nearby Kings Hill are also significant. However, there is apparently no statutory obligation for the proponent to obtain an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit and this report is perfunctory at best with scant detail.
34. As acknowledged in the report, not all indigenous places are listed in databases, and the Heritage Commission is consulting with Traditional Owners to gradually include indigenous information. Apparently, there are currently no indigenous heritage items listed on the Port Stephens Local Environment Plan, which is hardly surprising if those commissioning these surveys and reports are motivated to minimise any findings and their significance. Further consultation with members of the Karuah and Worrimi Land Councils and academics engaged in mapping colonial massacre sites should be undertaken before granting any further approvals.⁹
35. In its correspondence of 8 March 2017 to the Department of Planning and Environment the Heritage Council of NSW correctly identifies that:
- The EIS documents provided do not include a thorough assessment of potential impacts to historic heritage beyond a register search for built heritage and omits a consideration of historical archaeology altogether.*
- It is not only indigenous heritage that is in this way placed at risk of destruction. Non-indigenous heritage items, such as Balickera House, are also ignored.
36. A further report at Appendix J of the EIS was prepared in June 2017. However, this report still fails to give due weight to the importance of Balickera House, which is according to the EIS located just over two (2) km from the Eagleton Quarry site. Instead only this acknowledgment follows its entry relating to Balickera:

⁹ <https://c21ch.newcastle.edu.au/colonialmassacres/map.php>



Note: There are incomplete details for a number of items listed in NSW. The Heritage Division intends to develop or upgrade statements of significance and other information for these items as resources become available.

37. Balickera House is described in the Port Stephens Council's website page, *History of our Area*¹⁰. With the help of convict labour¹¹, Lieutenant William Caswell (later Commander Caswell) built the farmhouse at Balickera in circa 1830 and a grander home at Tanilba in 1831, which has a state heritage listing. Caswell's daughter married Andrew Lang of Dunmore, who was the brother of John Dunmore Lang, Australia's first Presbyterian minister. Other well-known colonial figures to visit Balickera House include Mosman and Leichhardt.¹² Balickera House has a local heritage listing but should also have a state heritage listing to match that of Tanilba House, with which it shares its history.



Heritage listed Balickera House

38. Caswell died on a sea voyage to visit his homeland in 1859 and Balickera was subsequently purchased from his estate by my great grandfather Frederick William Reid. The property has remained in our family since that time and as direct descendants of Fred Reid we are profoundly attached to the house and farm where we grew up, as are other members of the Australian community who also have connections to colonial figures who lived or worked historically at Balickera.¹³ Extensive detail of this history is included in the recent book *History & Heritage of Tanilba House* published by Denise Gaudion and the Port Stephens Family History Society Inc. in 2019.
39. The proponent seems to think that the greater proximity of Boral's existing Seaham Quarry to Balickera House exempts them from carrying out any proper assessment of heritage concerns. However, the additional blasting associated with yet another quarry is likely to have cumulative impacts on the Balickera House structure. The original farmhouse at Balickera is already in a fragile state with significant cracks and

¹⁰ <https://www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au/community/our-profile/history-of-our-area>

¹¹ : https://members.pcug.org.au/~pdownes/sharp/caswell_convicts.htm

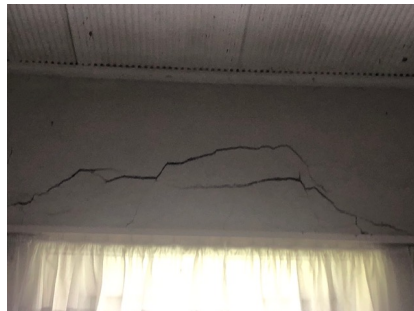
¹² <https://www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au/community/our-profile/history-of-our-area>

¹³ For example, <https://members.pcug.org.au/~pdownes/sharp/index.htm>



structural damage after withstanding many years of vibration from Boral's operations. There has been a failure by Boral to monitor dust, noise or vibration at Balickera House, despite its proximity to their Seaham Quarry and the property's heritage significance. It seems the current proponent plans to adopt the same cavalier approach despite the likelihood that the existing damage will be compounded by any additional quarry activity.

40. Below are photos of the extensive structural damage already caused to historic Balickera House by blasting by the existing Boral Seaham Quarry.



Visual

41. There is no indication that the Visual Impact Assessment which forms Appendix P1-4 to the EIS has taken account of Boral's plans to expand and remove the ridge line that previously sheltered neighbouring properties and how this may also affect the outlook for these residents. We note that modelling seems to have been conducted from Killaloe Lane, while bypassing any potential impacts on Balickera House and farm. The assumption seems to be that because Boral's Seaham Quarry has already degraded the landscape from that direction, any further damage is inconsequential. There is no consideration of the cumulative impact of three massive quarries set to transform the Balickera area into a vast moonscape.



Hazards

42. In the absence of close monitoring by an independent regulatory body, a development such as this poses a multitude of hazards for the environment and local community. This is evidenced by the impacts of the existing Boral Seaham Quarry, which has been operating for years without proper assessment of the deleterious effects it is having on flora and fauna and neighbouring residents, whether as a result of destruction of habitat, reduced air and water quality, unsafe traffic conditions, and loss of natural and cultural heritage.

Social & economic

43. There has been extremely scant consultation with the community, which has primarily focused on local business owners, several whom have an interest in the development. Nevertheless, the Consultation Report at Appendix R records that when asked, 80 per cent of those interviewed identified issues with the proposed Project, namely noise, dust, blasting damage, traffic, damage to fauna habitat, et cetera. The land use, environmental and heritage concerns of neighbouring property owners at Balickera have been ignored, apparently on the basis that Boral's Seaham Quarry is closer than the proposed new development. There has been a failure to adequately assess the cumulative impacts of unbridled quarry expansion on the Balickera area.
44. We submit that the potentially negative impacts of this development are likely to far outweigh the relatively modest economic benefits to the community. We note the Resource Assessment by Qualtech (Appendix F) raises significant questions about the suitability of the rock for many purposes. It states that the rock proposed to be quarried:

carries an estimated 21-22% of finely micro-crystalline quartz (as a devitrification product) and is predicted to have substantial potential for deleterious alkali-silica reactivity in concrete (i.e. concrete cancer).

There are also reservations about its suitability as a road base component as:

the durability of the aggregate was lower than the required limits possibly due to weathering in the upper rock body and weathered veins incorporated in the sample.

The economic arguments in favour of the quarry seem hardly compelling.

Rehabilitation

45. Any rehabilitation of the land will be severely hampered by the sheer scale of the damage if three massive quarries are approved in the one area. The map below shows the location of the three quarry projects with numbers 1 & 2 being the site of the existing Boral Seaham Quarry which is set to expand, rather than wind up and rehabilitate the land as previously undertaken. This failure to honour historical



undertakings leaves residents cynical about such promises. Titles 3,4,5 & 6 are the site of the proposed Stone Ridge Quarry in Wallaroo State Forest and 7 is the proposed greenfield site of the Eagleton Quarry which is the subject of this submission. Heritage listed Balickera Farmhouse, which has been basically ignored in this EIS, is marked number 8.



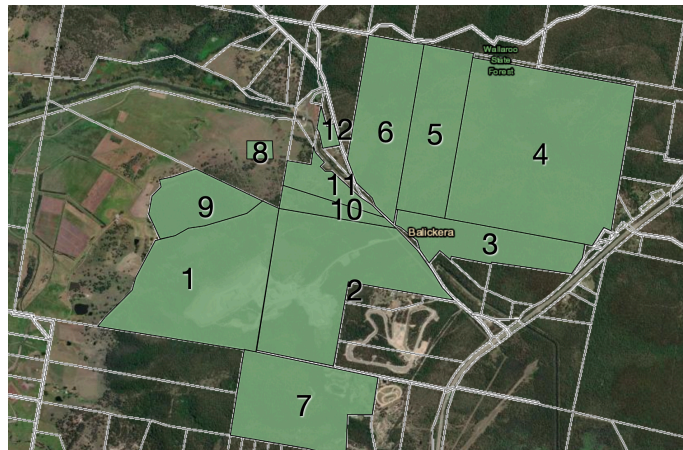
1&2 - Boral's Seaham Quarry
3,4,5,6 – Proposed site for Stone Ridge Quarry
7 – Proposed site for Eagleton Quarry
8 – Balickera House

46. It noteworthy that the maps provided in the EIS, including the Surrounding Properties Maps at Appendix C, have been selected to exclude the heritage listed Balickera farm and the significant infrastructure at Hunter Water Pumping Station and Balickera Canal.¹⁴
47. The extensive motorway/racetracks adjoining the quarries visible to the east also visibly contribute to the degradation of the environment and have been developed without adequate notice and community consultation. The EIS reveals that the owners have entered into a commercial agreement with the quarry operators granting a right of way over their land providing access to Italia Road.
48. We have been recently advised by Boral staff that Boral owns several other titles adjoining the quarry sites and bordering Balickera Farm, although they have not yet identified this land as part of their current development plans. These titles are identified by numbers 9,10, 11 and 12 in the map below which demonstrates the encircling of the Balickera Farm by quarry operators on one side and Hunter Water and Balickera Canal on the other. We are very concerned to recently discover that the environmentally and culturally significant Bullock Hill at number 9 (1//DP210591)

¹⁴ <https://www.hunterwater.com.au/documents/assets/src/uploads/documents/Heritage-Assets/water/Balickera-1-Pump-Station-s170-Form-2023-Final.pdf>



appears to be already the subject of an Environment Protection License authorising extractive activities.¹⁵



1&2 - Boral's Seaham Quarry
3,4,5,6 – Proposed site for Stone Ridge Quarry
7 – Proposed site for Eagleton Quarry
8 – Balickera House
9,10,11,12 – Land also owned by Boral (including Bullock Hill at 9).

Conclusion

49. The cumulative impact of any further quarrying in the Balickera area, including this proposed Eagleton Quarry, is set to devastate the environment and community. Boral's current Seaham Quarry has been a long term source of extensive pollution of the land, air and water and has left a hideous scar on the landscape. Any extension of quarrying in the area will inevitably degrade both the natural environment and cultural heritage to a point where it is unrecoverable. This project if approved will have cumulative negative impacts on the land, water and air quality, extending and expanding the devastation of flora and fauna, increasing the unacceptable and unsafe traffic conditions, and irrevocably destroying indigenous and colonial heritage, including Balickera house and surrounding farmland. The EIS is perfunctory and deficient in all areas and the project should not be approved.
50. We claim objector's status and reserve the right to provide further relevant material as it becomes available to us. We confirm that we have not made any reportable political donations and accept the Department's Disclaimer and Declaration.

Anna Kerr
President, Save Balickera Inc

¹⁵ <https://apps.epa.nsw.gov.au/prpoeoapp/ViewPOEOLicence.aspx?DOCID=31590&SYSUID=1&LICID=3956>