

Submission: Objection to Monaro Rock Quarry Project

I strongly oppose the proposed Monaro Rock Quarry due to its unacceptable ecological, cultural, health, and community impacts.

Biodiversity & Environment

77.83 ha of native vegetation would be cleared, including 22.44 ha of critically endangered Box-Gum Grassy Woodland—one of the last in the Royalla landscape.

The site supports 300+ species, including the Pink-tailed Legless Lizard, Key Matchstick Grasshopper, Small Purple-pea, and the threatened Gang-Gang Cockatoo.

Clearing will destroy habitat, fragment corridors, and damage the Jerrabomberra headwaters, degrading water quality downstream.

Cultural Heritage

The land contains ring trees, scar trees, artefacts, and archaeological deposits.

Quarrying would permanently erase Indigenous heritage and connection to Country.

Community Impacts

49,000 residents live within 10 km (projected 69,000 in 10 years).

Up to 500 truck movements/day will increase noise, danger, and road damage.

Dust (including respirable silica) will contaminate homes, gardens, tanks, and harm health.

Asphalt fumes, blasting, and vibrations will reduce liveability for nearby communities.

The quarry would extract 42.4 million litres of groundwater annually, worsening local water stress.

Risks of soil and water pollution near sensitive waterways are unacceptable.

Economic & Planning

No need: four nearby quarries already provide 100+ years of supply.

The proposal duplicates supply while imposing huge environmental and social costs.

It is incompatible with the landscape character and community vision for Royalla.

Conclusion

The Monaro Rock Quarry would cause irreversible ecological, cultural, and social damage for no genuine benefit.

I urge decision-makers to reject this project in full.

Regards,
Garth Wimbush