

Position: I object to the Monaro Rock Quarry proposal.

Reason: The EIS leaves critical issues unresolved, shifting costs and risks onto government and residents. This project does not demonstrate clear public benefit and should be refused.

Key Concerns

- **Road safety & cost shifting:**
Up to 200 truck movements per day proposed at a high-risk Monaro Highway merge. Funding for upgrades is unclear, with risk that residents pay through rates.
→ **Request:** Government fund independent safety review, guarantee state budget covers upgrades, pause approval until liability allocation is clear.
- **Air quality & health:**
PM2.5 exceedance admitted; human health risks uncertain.
→ **Request:** EPA baseline studies, NSW Health cumulative impact inquiry, independent real-time monitoring with shutdown triggers.
- **Noise & blasting:**
Studies are “preliminary” and rely on compensation after harm, breaching the precautionary principle.
→ **Request:** Peer review of models, government-appointed ombudsman, cumulative regional impact study.
- **Water security:**
Deep excavation and new bore threaten groundwater and ecosystems; surface water modelling ignores flood variability.
→ **Request:** Government-led baseline studies, enforceable thresholds with automatic suspension, regional water security plan.
- **Biodiversity & federal triggers:**
Loss of Box-Gum Woodland and Pale Pomaderris; offset credits speculative. EPBC referral unresolved.
→ **Request:** Secure local offsets up-front, biodiversity audit, pause until federal outcomes finalised.
- **Economic need:**
Two existing quarries already meet demand. Duplication unjustified.
→ **Request:** Treasury market need review, Infrastructure NSW demand confirmation, reject if duplication confirmed.

Conclusion

This proposal exposes the community to safety risks, health impacts, biodiversity loss, and unfair financial burdens. The EIS is incomplete and inconsistent with NSW planning law, the precautionary principle, and climate obligations.

I respectfully request the Department refuse the Monaro Rock Quarry proposal.

A full detailed submission with references follows.

Kind regards,

Hayley Bennett

[REDACTED], Royalla NSW 2620

M: [REDACTED]