



PCU040919

TO: Mining and Industry
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Angela Hellyer
21 Pacific Hwy
Calga, 2250, NSW.

16th January 2013.

RE: Major Project Application No. 06-0278.
Calga Quarry Extension.

My Position : On behalf of my family, I
oppose the Calga Quarry Extension.

I oppose the granting of Approval for the Calga Quarry extension based on concerns for

- (a) Water usage and aquifer interference.
- (b) Health of my family and neighbours, due to ↑ed exposure to below pm10 chrySTALLine silica, over a sustained period of time.
- (c) Social, community anxiety related to having to drive past this super quarry, several times a day, and live in its shadow, because of its close proximity to most residences in Calga, and the fact that it would be smack bang in the middle of our community.
- (d) The detrimental impacts this project more than likely will have for our two major tourist attractions, which join the proposed extension.

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(e) ↑ed Noise from heavy vehicles, due to the fact that many residences are already suffering with ↑ truck movements over the last 5 years.

(f) Degredation of habitat for threatened fauna.

(g) Currently our community has become a dump zone for RTA's left over road materials etc, and also a quarry truck pull over. On any given day tourists first impression of Calga is an over grown RTA dump area, right outside Australia Walkabout Wildlife Park, an eco-tourism wildlife Sanctuary the community is very praid of. Also upon arrival there is usually several parked up quarry trucks or trailers in this vicinity. The overall impression is that no-body cares, so as a result, we get people dumping their own rubbish. The residents of Calga do care, this is our home, our social network, our enuromen

(h) I hold grave concerns for who and how Roda's activities are going to be monitored, From water usage to noise monitoring, and I don't believe for one

Second that the community of Calga has been adequately considered or consulted, in fact half of the community was initially excluded.

(i) How will Roda be made accountable for their water usage? By calling this NEW QUARRY an EXTENSION, is this going to allow Roda to sweep their over usage under the proverbial carpet? As I stated in my first submission: I smell a rat!! Roda must comply with the water sharing Plan.

As in my last submission, I want to put some detail to the D.O.P. in regards to my increasing concern for the extra noise I and my neighbours will suffer if the project is approved.

My concern is justified by the effects this increasingly heavy vehicle traffic corridor is having on my health.

My home is situated one house back away from the on/off ramps of the F3 at Calga. These exit and entrance ramps exist next to each other, and next to them is what is known as Calga Village.

In my previous submission, I invited the D.O.P to communicate with me, and even offered to physically show how the road network "that Roda's trucks use, contribute significantly to the noise the trucks generate, and INCREASE the DISTURBANCE residents including myself and my family suffer

Despite explaining why my family is one of the greatest affected by quarry trucks movement, NO ONE has bothered to contact me, either D.O.P or Roda. This is just another example of Roda's unwillingness to communicate effectively with the community over genuine concerns.

INSTEAD, Roda constantly refers, in its final response, the "network of roads as being of "high standard".

This description is purely subjective. If Roda bothered to talk with residents, they would know resident's experience of this route to be different, AFTER ALL, we are ~~bothered~~ living beside it, travelling along it, and hearing (not very well in some cases) the noise from it.

We experience the water caught in its heavily rutted surface (from heavy vehicles.) and know where it pools after heavy rain.

3)

WE (residents.) know the dangerous intersections, and how tourists and local traffic behave at them ; BECAUSE WE LIVE BESIDE THEM!!!!

WE SEE the many near misses, and I have seen two quarry trucks on their side, at the point where trucks have exited Peats Ridge Road down a short steep incline to come to a near stop to negotiate a less than 90° change of direction.

Lying in bed late at night, and early in the morning I hear the compression braking down this incline, and subsequent gearing up. I hear the trucks then coming in a linear direction towards my house to the F3 ramp, then the bumping, thumping and vibration as they pass by. This road network by its very nature increases the noise emitted from compression braking, engine noise and wheel noise.

Next to the on ramp are trucks also on their compression brakes, EXITING the F3 southbound. Next to these two ramps is Calga Village.

Standing outside my house and neighbours homes, I have had to pause talking, until the truck has receded.

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This network of roads a "high standard"
NO!

Below is a list of symptoms I suffer regularly as a result of Ted truck traffic in close proximity to my home, on a road that maximises noise.

- sleep disturbance
- Not being able to get back to sleep when startled awake.
- tiredness
- Ted agitation, anxiety and frustration
- anger
- momentary feeling of nausea from vibration of truck on on ramp.
- window shaking/rattling (particularly from trucks on F3.)
- floor vibration/wall vibration.
- depressed mood.

Roca states that due to good signage it is unlikely that Tourists would get lost.

This grand sweeping statement is more evidence that Roca have not spoken with residents about this matter, because nothing could be further from the truth.!!!!

2)

Residents in the past (not too distant) have made complaints to the then RTA regarding inadequate signage, and have actively participated in trying to solve the following problems.

- (A) Quarry trucks taking a wrong turn into Village from F3 or mistaking Village area as entry to F3, resulting in trucks and associated noise outside our homes.
- (B) Tourists and people unfamiliar to area coming off F3 and not being able to
 - (i) find how to get back on F3
 - (ii) find our tourist attractions
 - (iii) find their way to other side of F3.

The above has resulted in, and continues to result in frequent knocks on my door, and other residences that are close to the road.

It is not unusual to have someone approach door with a map or A.P.S, and still not know where they are, or where to go!! , and this despite a large number of signs.

Yes! we DO have quarry trucks entering our community, realising their mistake when the road narrows, and turning around, despite Roda's denials

of the same.

Because of the many intersections, loops and convoluted manner of this so called "high standard" road, people can be found regularly pulled over everywhere and anywhere, along the route that Roda's Trucks travel. I often see or hear vehicles backing down on ramp, as they've taken the wrong turn, and as I pointed out in my last submission, an increase of trucks using this route can only increase the near misses already occurring, and increase the chance of more accidents involving heavy vehicles. Use of truck horns already occurs regularly at intersections.

We are still experiencing RTA leaving their equipment and heavy machines in our residential area, though the RTA is actively trying to solve this problem.

As I write this final copy, roadworks on the F3 commences tonight. I have already spoken with the daytime contact with regards to why equipment was left in residential area a few days ago, and again tonight.

It was explained to me that the sub-contractors were the one's to blame,

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this verifying that RTA has limited control of its subcontractors despite repeated instructions to them.

In the same way, Roda claims that they can enforce their driver's code of conduct, BUT THEIR DRIVERS ARE ALSO SUBCONTRACTED, (as is RTA's).

At the initial meeting with Roda representatives, and Corkory (which residents initiated, because we were excluded from the original E.A.), Roda stated they would also contact other quarry operators and encourage them to enforce their code of conduct with their drivers. Well we are still waiting, there has been no improvement in compression braking or truck associated noise. Why?? Because the nature of the road makes it hard to comply!

Roda don't believe that their ↑ number of trucks will significantly make any difference to noise levels. From my point of view, and others living along the so called "high standard" of road, EVERY SINGLE TRUCK IMPACTS ON US

If Roda is allowed to put an extra truck on the road every 8 minutes (on average) Residents will hear EVERY TRUCK.

(10)

EVERY TRUCK CAN BE HEARD CLEARLY!

Any increase in heavy vehicles past my house, or following this route to F3 adds to the intensity of the symptoms already listed.

WE HAVE NO NATURAL OR MAN-MADE ACOUSTIC BARRIERS!!

MANY OF THE HOMES HERE WERE BUILT PRIOR TO F3, AND DON'T HAVE MODERN SOUND REDUCING DESIGN!

ROCLA WILL BE INCREASING THE FREQUENCY OF THE NOISE FROM TRUCKS!

Last submission I mentioned the noise source in relation to the receiver of the noise. Roda chose to rant about formula's in response. I merely was pointing out that the source of the noise (being the quarry truck) was immediately next to the receiver of the noise (being, the resident's house next to the on ramp.)

Roda cannot successfully argue that their trucks won't significantly impact village residents. They already are.

(11)

How would Roda mitigate the disturbance they cause their neighbours?

Would Roda continue to be a bad neighbour and deny their responsibility.

Roda's trucks need to be labelled with their emblem, so they are accountable to residents. How can we identify them, when they use subcontracted trucks and drivers?

Do I have to come out of my house, onto the road to identify a Roda or any other company truck?

How will Roda enforce it's drivers code of conduct? ~~NO~~ THEY CAN'T.

How then can Roda minimise noise to residents? THEY CAN'T.

Who? and How? will someone ensure Roda complies with noise level restraints?

~~A~~ I find the current way of determining the effects of noise on people totally flawed. Sudden, loud, startling noise can have, or does have in my case a more severe effect than a less audible more continuous noise.

I would support a noise camera being installed, so that those responsible for driving without due consideration to residents, may be reprimanded.

Roda admits there is an ↑ in truck noise between 2am and 3am. I experience this as true, as I am frequently woken around this time by truck compression brakes, from Hansons, who run a night shift.

Roda must never be able to run a night shift.

Having said this, Roda's proposed SAM start is too early.

The trucks must first get to the site, as well as the other staff, so the impact on the community is actually earlier than 5am, and I choose not to be woken unnaturally at this time.

Roda state that because it is only 1.9km from the quarry to the F3, that there will be no conflict, i.e. the traditional cycle races and training days held on the edge of Peats Ridge Road and along it, and they also deny any problems due to the heavy fog which settles on this section of road.

What they are not saying is that the

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fog which can settle for half a day on this particular section of Peats Ridge Road, is notoriously thick, reducing visibility to 1 metre in front of the bonnet

Local traffic, including our school bus, lost tourists, pushbike riders and increasingly motor bike riders and convoys of heavy vehicles all travel this section of road. Now add a dangerous merge, where truck convoys exit F3 ~~to~~ Northbound, and traffic having to merge into these exceeded heavy vehicles over a very short section of road at the point where vehicles are exiting Australia's Walkabout Park and also ~~joining~~ joining the road section. (Peats Ridge Road), and traffic is also at this point slowing to do a U turn here. Now Rexla want to add into the mix, another entry/exit point for their heavy vehicles!

WAY TOO BUSY! particularly in FOG!!

As well as Calga Village area, there are other residences situated along the truck route that will be affected. These trucks travel at high speed, and there are many hidden driveways.

Because Calga is a rural town, we do not have the same background noises

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generated by larger towns, and because we are elevated on a ridgeline, truck noise is significantly noticed/experienced by us.

The Bernard residence is situated too close to the quarry site, no amount of bunding could totally protect them from the engine noise, beep beeping of reversing vehicles etc. though the bunding may ↓ the impact.

Bunding however will not, as with ^{all} other residents of Calga, protect them from the dust generated by this vast exposed land.

Calga is more than a collection of farms and houses, and eco tourism businesses. We are a community linked by schools, family, friends and social groups. To nearby maintain communities, we do not want to be defined by a sand quarry.

Our health is not indispensable! It is not and should not be o.k. to allow the people in this community to be bulldozed, for the economic gain of a few.

Who will ensure Roda complies with water usage, noise, environmental issues, dust emissions etc.??? It is not acceptable to this community that Roda self regulates.

It is also unacceptable that Roda reports are available on a yearly basis!

This town has already been split geographically by the F3 construction,

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and on/off ramps placed ridiculously close to pre-existing homes, with no thought to acoustic barriers. This implies that these on/off ramps were never created to carry the volume of heavy traffic they will, if Roda's proposal is approved.

There is no mention of mitigation of this noise in the "Final Response" from Roda. In fact Roda belittles the impact on residents!

I ask the DOP to consider residents' concerns seriously, as well as other interested groups with ties to this area, including our indigenous people.

The Womens site is a remarkable Aboriginal heritage item alone, but with all the other discovered, and undiscovered engravings etc, this area would be better put to use as an Aboriginal education centre, which is much more in keeping with our eco-tourism attractions. Having visited this site as a non-Indigenous woman, with Indigenous women, I felt honored, and came away more informed.

This land should never have been sold to Roda for quarrying purposes, and should be re-zoned immediately.

(16)

This extension/new quarry will affect residents, and the wider community in so many ways.

The prospect of our community being dominated by this Environmental hazard, has already left the community's self esteem reduced, particularly when so many have moved here years ago, for an alternative lifestyle, or to escape conditions which exacerbate their asthma.

There are also families that have been here for generations, and have first hand knowledge of the area's significant Aboriginal and European history.

I am disappointed that this project will be assessed under Part 3A, and as many such as myself believe this significantly disadvantages our community.

I would also like to have had more time to review and respond to "Roda's Final response."

30 years is a long time to commit this community to the impacts of particularly dust, traffic noise, and water depletion. The impacts will be PERMANENT, and damage to people, the environment, our water supply, UN-REVERSABLE!!!

(17) Roda is already uncompliant with the water sharing plan, and I find in their "Final Response" a lot of ill informed statement made on their behalf, as well as assumptions.

This extension/new quarry is simply not appropriate in it's location, and not worth the negative impacts it would create for the people who live in, Calga, and surrounding affected communities.

Roda will need to be made accountable for the impacts it forces onto this community and it's people, including future medical bills. But really, who has the right to impact on people's health so significantly??

So far Roda has shirked it's responsibility regarding water, If Roda is allowed to continue to self regulate, with no-one scrutinizing their actions, then this community has real concerns.

This proposed quarry is too close to our homes!

The noise generated from this extension/new quarry is will impact on our health.

I don't want to constantly worry about the effects my small children will suffer as a result of a lifetime of breathing in the dangerous dust generated.

(18) I believe Rocka needs to account for its water take, and be hit with the full force of the law.

Local farmers as well as house holders rely on water from the aquifer, and Rocka is a bad neighbour for wanting to deplete their access, for their own greed.

I ask the D.O.P. to refuse Rocka's application, and I ask that the D.O.P be transparent in their deliberations. I look forward to a positive result for the community.

Yours Sincerely

A. Hellyer

ANGELA HELLYER.

P.S I would appreciate confirmation of your receiving this document via e-mail.

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Thankyou.