

Jarrold Blane
Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure
Parramatta, NSW

C/o Major Projects Portal

Hillview Hard Rock Quarry - EIS

Dear Mr Blane

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice on the EIS for the proposed Hillview Hard Rock Quarry - SSD-70557215.

NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (the Department) collaborates with our stakeholders to protect and enhance the productive and sustainable use and resilience of agricultural resources and the environment.

The Department has reviewed the Hillview Hard Rock Quarry EIS and associated documents. It is noted that a LUCRA has been prepared and some key potential impacts of the construction and operation of the project on rural zoned land and agricultural production have been considered.

However, the Department notes that no information has been provided on how the rest of the property not part of the quarry footprint will be used. Even if the site is not considered “highly productive agricultural land” it is suitable for “grazing and improved pastures” and so potentially grazing could still be conducted on the remaining property. Hence, as requested through the Department’s response to the SEARs, agricultural biosecurity risks and their proposed mitigation, management and remedial measures have not been addressed. There should be a commitment to detail relevant biosecurity actions in any construction, operational and rehabilitation management plans. There is a General Biosecurity Duty which is a shared responsibility, captured in legislation, and a general obligation to take action to prevent the introduction and spread of pests, diseases, weeds and contaminants, especially through vehicle and people movements through the landscape.

Similarly the LUCRA and cumulative impacts assessment have not addressed intensive animal industries in the vicinity of the project site. In particular, there is evidence of poultry sheds along The Bucketts Way, and, as the poultry industry is increasing within the area due to its location with respect to the Baiada plant in Beresfield, implications of dust, noise, blasting and traffic in relation to these enterprises requires assessment.

Should you require clarification on any of the information contained in this response, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at landuse.ag@dpird.nsw.gov.au

Sincerely

LParker

Lilian Parker
Agricultural Land Use Planning
Esigned 13-6-2025