

Mr Colin Phillips
Team Leader – Resource Assessments (Coal & Quarries)
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
4 Parramatta Square
12 Darcy Street
Parramatta NSW 2150

20 March 2020

Dear Mr Phillips,

Re: Sancrox Quarry Expansion Project (SSD-7293) – Request for Additional Information

I refer to your letter dated 22 January 2020, requesting information in reference to the above application for the Sancrox Quarry. Please find below responses to the Department's requests.

1. *The Department requests the last 10 years of annual quarry production data.*

Table 1: Sancrox Quarry Production Data (2010 to 2019)

YEAR	TONNES
2010	356,510
2011	269,342
2012	243,280
2013	194,500
2014	231,284
2015	243,243
2016	244,125
2017	223,215
2018	203,421
2019	122,970

2. *Provision of the last 5 years of blast monitoring data including the range of maximum instantaneous charge (MIC) used for blasts in each year.*

The requested data will be uploaded along with this letter through the Department's Major Projects Portal. Unfortunately the majority of MIC data is part of the handwritten paperwork that is used by the contractors and, as such, electronic versions of the data is not available as it's not required to report this information to EPA.

Orica contracted blasts have been 300 to 350kg detonated within a 8ms window.

3. *Provision of a description of blasting procedures and how these are managed.*

The description of blasting procedures and how they are managed can be found within the Blast Management Plan that will be uploaded along with this letter through the Department's Major Projects Portal.

- a. *who plans and conducts the blasts;*

Orica Quarry and Construction Services Pty Ltd currently conduct blasts at Sancrox Quarry (previously undertaken by Maxam). The planning of blasts is carried out by quarry site management in conjunction with Orica's technical specialists.

- b. *any quality control and safety management practices in place for blasts;*

Please refer to the Blast Management Plan that has been uploaded along with this letter through the Department's Major Projects Portal.

c. the size of blasts;

The size of blasts are generally between 15 kT and 30 kT.

d. the frequency of blasts;

Currently the frequency of blasts is between six and 12 blasts per year.

e. the management of buffer zones, including roads

The Blast Management Plan contains details of exclusion zones and sentry points. "Blasting today" signage is placed at the gate of the quarry and road access into the quarry is blocked using a Front End Loader. Near neighbours are phoned and notified of blasting times (>1 hour before blasting takes place). The site muster point is at the Weighbridge office for the majority of blasts with roll call performed at the muster point.

4. Please advise whether the vegetative buffer of minimum 1 metre has been retained to the Expressway Spares property (Lot 4 DP 1241253).

The vegetative buffer of minimum 1 meter has not been retained to the Expressway Spares property. This is due to the boundary line not being fully understood between the tree buffer and power lines which became evident once Expressway Spares expedited the removal of trees between the quarry and the highway in May 2019.

Since the removal of the trees, Sancrox Quarry management has consulted with Port Macquarie Hastings Council's (PMHC) Environmental Office, Expressway Spares management and property advisors, as well as Essential Energy. These meetings have been conducted with a view to taking the most appropriate actions to establish a buffer between the quarry and the Expressway Spares property. The desired outcome would be for a suitable buffer to be established which meets the requirements of all affected parties.

Options are currently being examined to establish a bund wall along sections of the boundary on the quarry side, as well as the use of suitable native vegetation for screening. A proposal will be submitted to Essential Energy and discussed with Expressway Spares and PMHC.

If you have any questions or require further information please do not hesitate to contact me on 02 9354 2774.

Yours faithfully,

HANSON CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS PTY LTD



BELINDA PIGNONE
Environmental Planning and Compliance Coordinator