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7th July 2023

NSW Department of Planning and Environment

Attention: James McDonough

GPO Box 39,

Sydney NSW 2001

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Stone Ridge Quarry Project

As the Director – Business Development for the Daracon Group I am writing to lodge our support for the Stone Ridge Quarry Project.

On review of the project Daracon support the sensible and valuable proposal of the quarry. We note the Project is seeking to access a high quality, hard rock resource suitable for producing a wide range of quarry products for the Lower Hunter, Central Coast and northern Sydney construction materials markets. The Project would produce up to 1.5 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of saleable quarry product with approval sought for an initial 30-year quarrying period.

As a local contractor in the construction industry we are experiencing first hand the ongoing issues of a complete lack of construction materials available to build our current and future jobs.

DPE and the IPC have acknowledged previously that there is strong regional demand for these materials. With the expected increase demands as the large Hunter infrastructure projects of the Inner City Bypass, Hexham Straights and the M1 south and north commence, there is a genuine need for the increase long term availability of these construction materials.

A lack of available materials has seen the dramatic increase in cost of materials (some well over 50% increase). With the ever increasing need for available and affordable housing, it is evident that more sources of construction materials are required to ensure that the supply and demand equation allows for sensible future pricing.

This ongoing benefit to the greater community should be realised by approving the Stone Ridge Quarry Project

I am available to discuss the current shortages in detail if required

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AK' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Adam Kelly
Director – Business Development
Daracon Group