Submission Against The Stone Ridge Quarry Project

Application Number: SSD-10432
EPBC ID Number: 2022/09368

To whom it may concern, I object to this proposal.

The proposed quarry would have a large number of negative impacts on the environment, the community, and the economy.

Biodiversity Impacts

The Preliminary Assessment Report (PAR) identifies a number of potential problems with the quarry, including:

- The destruction of native vegetation
- The pollution of groundwater
- The emission of pollutants into the air
- The increase in traffic congestion
- The increase in noise pollution
- The impact on the visual amenity of the area

More specifically,

- Destruction of native vegetation: The quarry would destroy a significant amount of native vegetation, including trees, shrubs, and wetlands. This would have a negative impact on the biodiversity of the area, and it could also lead to the erosion of soil and the contamination of groundwater.
- Pollution of groundwater: The quarry would use groundwater for its operations, and it could also pollute groundwater with sediment, chemicals, and other contaminants. This could contaminate drinking water supplies and damage aquatic ecosystems.
- Emission of pollutants into the air: The quarry would emit pollutants into the air, including dust, noise, and pollutants such as nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxide. These pollutants can contribute to air pollution, which can have a range of health impacts, including respiratory problems, heart disease, and cancer.
- Increase in traffic congestion: The quarry would increase traffic congestion in the area, as trucks would need to transport materials to and from the quarry. This could lead to safety hazards and noise pollution.
- Potential for noise pollution: The quarry would operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and it could generate noise pollution that would disturb residents and visitors.

- Impact on the visual amenity of the area: The quarry would be a significant eyesore, and it could have a negative impact on the visual amenity of the area.

The PAR also discusses the proponent's proposed mitigation measures for these problems. However, it is important to note that these measures may not be fully effective, and there is still a risk that the quarry could have a significant negative impact on the environment and the community.

Air Quality Impacts

There are some potential problems with air quality associated with the proposed quarry. The quarry would generate dust and noise pollution, which would have a negative impact on air quality and the quality of life for nearby residents.

The dust from the quarry could be transported by wind and could settle on nearby properties, potentially causing respiratory problems for residents. The noise from the quarry could also be a nuisance for residents, especially at night.

The quarry would also generate emissions of pollutants such as nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxide. These pollutants can contribute to air pollution, which can have a range of health impacts, including respiratory problems, heart disease, and cancer.

The proponent of the quarry has proposed a number of measures to mitigate the potential impacts on air quality, such as using dust suppressants and noise barriers. However, it is important to note that these measures may not be fully effective, and there is still a risk that the quarry could have a negative impact on air quality.

Noise & Vibration Impact

- Noise from blasting: Blasting is a noisy activity, and it can generate noise levels that exceed the limits set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This noise can be disruptive to residents and businesses in the area.
- Noise from quarrying operations: The quarrying operations themselves can also generate noise, including the noise from trucks, machinery, and other equipment. This noise can also be disruptive to residents and businesses in the area.
- Vibration from blasting: Blasting can also generate vibration, which can be felt by people and property in the area. This vibration can be disruptive and can also cause damage to property.

The proponent of the quarry has proposed a number of mitigation measures to reduce the noise and vibration impacts, but it is important to note that these mitigation measures are generally not effective, and there is still a risk that the quarry could have a significant noise and vibration impact on the area. The noise and vibration impacts from the quarry are a significant concern for many residents and businesses in the area.

Community Impacts

The quarry would increase traffic congestion and noise pollution in the area. It would also pose a safety hazard to residents, as there would be an increased risk of accidents and injuries. The quarry would also have a negative impact on the tourism industry in the area.

Economic Impacts

The quarry would provide some short-term jobs during construction, but it would not create any long-term jobs. The quarry would also generate tax revenue for the government, but this would be offset by the costs of environmental cleanup and the loss of tourism revenue.

Conclusion

The proposed quarry would have a number of negative impacts on the environment, the community, and the economy. These impacts outweigh any potential benefits from the quarry, and therefore the quarry should not go ahead.

In addition to the concerns outlined above, I would also like to raise the following points:

- The quarry would be located in a seismically active area, which increases the risk of landslides and other accidents.
- The quarry would be located near a major aquifer, which could be contaminated by the quarry's operations.
- The quarry would have a negative impact on the cultural heritage of the area, as it would destroy archaeological sites and sacred sites.

I urge you to reject the proposed quarry and protect the environment, the community, and the economy of the area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.