

4 December 2023

To whom it may concern

Sutton Forest Sand Mine - Objection

I write on behalf of the community to object to the proposed sand mine in Sutton Forest in the Southern Highlands of NSW. The proposal has significant risks to local ecosystems and Sydney's water catchment.

The proposed mine is situated within a critical area of the Great Western Corridor, representing the only native habitat from the Blue Mountains to Morton National Park. The corridor is a sanctuary for both native plant species and diverse animal populations as well as a number of threatened species.

Some of the issues raised by the community about the proposed sand mine are:

- Environmental destruction caused by water runoff and contamination;
- Damage to the Great Western Corridor and Long Swamp ecosystem, areas which are a critical part of the ecosystem;
- Potential harm to endangered flora and fauna;
- Contamination of the headwaters that feed the Sydney water catchment;
- Long-term health risks to residents in neighbouring areas from dust, processing silica and transport;
- Disturbing on-site indigenous heritage rock-cave art;
- Lowering the water table;
- Noise, vibration and light pollution causing disruption and disturbance to locals and wildlife;
- Traffic safety concerns from a large increase in daily truck traffic; and
- The necessity of the mine, as nearby Green Valley sand mine only extracts token amounts, to maintain its active licence.

I share community concern that the environment, residents and Sydney's water catchment be protected from the damaging effects of the proposed sand mine.

Could you please consider the community's objections and concerns regarding the proposed sand mine?

Yours sincerely



Alex Greenwich
Member for Sydney

