

01/09/2025.

To whom it may concern.

I write this letter in response to the Barina Quarry expansion Development Application.

I have reviewed the Appendix/s provided by IRWIN associates and strongly believe both professionally and personally that the company and its associates have again as per all previous consultation played down all aspects of the hazards that my family will be exposed to if operations were to recommence.

Some hazards would be immediate such as blasting noise/ dust, general road dust, road degradation, heavy vehicle traffic etc. While the unknown health effects of dust inhalation would manifest over a longer period.

Following rainfall locals and other road users would be exposed to SILICA dust as the mud deposited on the roadway from the quarry's heavy vehicles. Once dried dust would be inhaled by people using the roadway daily. Inhalation of air borne blast dust and associate particulates: SILICA dust, blasting particulates.

As a result, long term exposure for healthy residents where symptoms show after a longer period of time following prolonged exposure would be certain. Short-term consequences for people suffering from respiratory conditions from the same dust would be more immediate.

These same air borne hazardous particulates would have a detrimental impact on local tank, bore water used by some of the residents (air borne particulates settle on surrounding roofs then into the tanks, water troughs, ponds, dams etc..) being ingested daily.

The contaminated water/ dust is then used and or ingested by not only people but animals alike. It will settle on the vegetation that wildlife and farm animals ingest daily. The impacts of which are unknown as livestock produced for human consumption could possibly be contaminated because of ingestion over time. So, eating and drinking dust.

Traffic:

The quarry is located 1.4kms from the entrance onto/out of Collector Rd from the Federal Highway. It is the main entry/ exit point for all residents onto the roadway daily.

The number of heavy vehicles leaving the quarry via Collector Road stated by Alex Irwin are actually doubled hourly as they have to ENTER the site also?

Based on Community info sheet stating "trucks FROM the quarry" being 20 an hour, this would be more like 40 or more an hour or 240 a day instead of 134 as stated. As trucks that go in must come out.

The same number of heavy vehicles must navigate across a turn lane (into Collector Rd), two freeway lanes (toward Canberra) then a merge lane onto the opposite freeway lanes heading toward Goulburn.

The risk of an incident occurring involving other road users (residents included) is extremely high as these trucks being B-Doubles are longer than average 40ft Trailers and are slower to accelerate than other heavy vehicles due to their size and weight.

The very frequency of trucks navigating the freeway daily increases the risk of an incident occurring where a road user must take evasive action (rapid deceleration/ hard braking) when faced with one or multiple trucks entering or crossing the freeway.

Again, from Canberra towards Goulburn other road users are coming out of a slight left hand bend in the road prior to the trucks crossing onto the freeway. B-double trucks having to cross from the merge lane over into the far-left lane at a slow rate of speed while other road users are travelling at the post limit of 110kph towards them.

The risk of a heavy vehicle incident occurring at the Collector Road entrance (turn lane) onto Collector Road with a truck is increased substantially during inclement weather conditions, such as heavy fog/ rain, early morning and late afternoon sun glare.

It would only take a couple of contributing factors such as staged trucks waiting in the turn lane to enter Collector Road. This would create a blind spot for those road users attempting to leave Collector Road and access the freeway. At the same time this would create a high-risk situation resulting in a local resident or a member of the public being involved in a heavy vehicle incident.

Given the size/weight and frequency of truck movements daily I fear it would only be a matter of time before someone is injured or worst-case scenario a fatality or multiple fatalities are incurred as a result of heavy B-double heavy vehicle activity coming from then returning to the Federal Highway.

Noise and vibration:

The perceived background noise is estimated between 28db/ 38db then state it will be 5db below the required minimum???

- How do they conclude that their heavy equipment is making less noise than your average vacuum cleaner??
- The company is attempting to convince the community that the noise levels would be around the same or less than common household items such as a lawn mower, vacuum cleaner and the like at a rate of between 28db(A) and 38db(A).
- It is obvious that the amount of machinery being used will generate much more than the minimal estimated decibel rating as stated above. A standard vacuum emits a decibel rating between 61db(A) and 70db(A) in no way conceivable could all the equipment being used in the pits/ on-site equate to less than the companies predicted noise levels, the notion simply defies common logic.

- These operations are to take place during the nighttime hours of operation as well and during the weekends.
- EPA report (1999) states that there is a need to modify equipment to reduce high noise levels during crushing/ extraction of materials. This wasn't done and a fine was imposed by EPA consequently.
- Part of the company's previous license revocation was a finding that the company couldn't afford to modify equipment as required, finally establishing a formal finding of the company being unfit and proper people to conduct a business and or undertaking as per the act.
- There are three operating scenarios being considered, so that would be 3x whatever the estimated total amount of noise is being created daily.
- No Noise management plan supplied regarding mitigation of noise created (as required previously by the EPA report.
- No Environmental Impact Statement has been provided.
- As per EPA requirements (Governed by the Act.), compliance criteria must be met (internal audits, committee meeting minutes through to implementation/ monitoring etc) not predicted as per company culture.
- Implementation of safe work practices must be met and constantly reviewed for compliance via wastewater registers, air monitoring, dust suppression registers and so on.
- The companies previous record of fines incurred for non-compliance does not instil any confidence in me *for compliance to the Act and regulations when it comes to community exposure to hazardous, contaminated air/ water.*

Air quality and emissions:

None of the dust mitigation/ suppression methods were met during previous site inspection/s by the EPA during operations, the company was fined because of its non-compliance to the act regarding dust suppression.

This dust includes but is not limited to the following:

- Airbourne particulate matter/ suspended particulates?
- Deposited dust on site.
- Oxides of nitrogen (including blast fumes).
- Respirable (breathable) crystalline **silica dust** (carcinogenic when airborne/ inhaled).
PPE for workers, community will be notified only.

Deposited dust monitoring gauges will only monitor what the community and the surrounding environment will be exposed to.

- Notification of blasts to nearby receivers? Of predicted noise, vibration, airborne particulate matter, dust? All hazards.

- Ground vibration and air overpressure will occur during the blasting process, the impact cannot be underestimated (must be appropriately risk assessed), the detrimental impacts/ consequences of the blasting to the land/ environment cannot be underestimated over time. *What are the effects to the native wildlife in the area more specifically eagles, kookaburra's, parrots, finches and other winged species.*
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The hazardous nature of heavy industry is well known and not conducive to this productive agricultural area.

The ambiguous nature of the information provided by the company, a blatant culture for not adhering to the act and regulations, incurring multiple fines for previous breaches by the EPA.

The company's history and record of notices, fines and licence revocation for non-compliance does not instil any confidence in me regarding any future compliance to Acts and Regulations.

I question whether the new company director also qualifies as a "fit and proper person" as required to operate such an enterprise.

My family and I have zero tolerance for the proponents' latest attempt to reopen and expand.

The companies track record speaks for itself, in no way shape or form can I remotely condone the re-opening of the Barina Quarry.

Thankyou.