

Monaro Rock Quarry Project SSD 27223807 – objection

I object to the establishment of the proposed Monaro Rock Quarry in Royalla NSW.

I have lived in Royalla for over ten years. I moved with my family to this semi-rural residential area for the lifestyle (natural environment and peaceful surrounds). The site for the proposed new industrial operations of the Monaro Rock Quarry is within 4km of where I live and right next to other Royalla residents. This is unacceptable.

I am worried about the adverse impacts on my health and quality of life should the quarry be approved. My objections to the proposed new quarry include:

Health risks – associated with silica dust and other particle matter blowing from the quarry into my home and property. The health risks from respirable silica dust are unacceptable and should not be imposed on Royalla residents. I am also concerned about the odour from the production of asphalt onsite at the proposed quarry.

Traffic and road safety – it is expected there will be up to 500 heavy vehicle movements each day. The proposed access road would bring these trucks into and out of the Monaro Highway which is a busy and dangerous road. The road is already full of potholes, and this will get worse with the number and type of vehicles associated with the quarry. There have been many serious (including fatal) accidents on this stretch of road. The highway has a 100km speed limit and is single lane from the point where the access road is planned. Trucks entering and exiting at this point will create a significant risk to road safety. The project cannot rely on truck driver's code of conduct, lane widening and other proposed mitigation. This is a tragedy waiting to happen.

During construction of the proposed new quarry, these trucks will need to use local Royalla streets to access the site (Old Cooma Road, Mates Drive etc.) which is where residents live.

Noise and vibrations – the peaceful lifestyle we enjoy in Royalla will be negatively impacted because of the blasting and concrete and asphalt production onsite at the proposed new quarry. Noise travels easily in the Royalla area. The sound of livestock or local children playing on their properties is normal given that's why most of us moved to Royalla. The impact from noise and vibrations on residents and livestock coming from quarry operations and the 500 trucks on local roads is not normal nor acceptable.

Water – the new quarry will impact Royalla residents' access to groundwater which is vital for maintaining my property, watering animals and bushfire mitigation. I understand the quarry plans to draw up to 42.4 million litres of groundwater per year for dust suppression and concrete and asphalt production.

There is also the risk of contamination from the quarry's use of water as it runs off into water courses which flow through Royalla and to Tuggeranong.

Economics – there is capacity within the existing quarries in the Canberra/Monaro surrounding areas. Royalla is not and should not be an industrial area.

I am concerned about the future economic impact on the value of my home. I am also concerned about the costs associated with having to manage dust and hazardous material coming into my drinking water supply.