

Submission for proposed Monaro Rock Quarry

To Whom it may concern

I am writing to express my deep concern and strong objection to the proposed development of the Monaro Rock Quarry. As a resident living less than 1.5 kilometres from the proposed site.

Our home is located on a street that is planned to be used for site access, meaning heavy vehicles and machinery will be passing through what is currently a quiet, safe residential area. This is not just an inconvenience it's a significant threat to the safety and wellbeing of the families who live here, especially our children.

My children catch the school bus from Monaro Station Road every day. The thought of increased heavy vehicle traffic entering and exiting from Mates Place at all hours creates a serious risk for them and other students who use this route. It's terrifying as a parent to imagine how the noise, dust, and dangerous road conditions could affect their safety and peace of mind.

Beyond traffic concerns, I'm also worried about the long-term environmental impact this quarry could have on our region. We moved here because we value the quiet, natural surroundings and the close-knit, peaceful community. The disruption from ongoing blasting, dust pollution, habitat destruction, and water usage threatens not only our quality of life but the ecological balance that makes this area special.

This isn't just about opposing development it's about protecting the place we call home. I urge you to consider the very real and human impact this quarry will have on the families who live here, and the irreversible damage it could do to our local environment and way of life.

Please take our voices into account and prioritise sustainable, community-friendly alternatives to industrial expansion so close to residential homes and schools.

My Environmental Concerns are listed below

1. **Biodiversity Loss:** As someone who cares deeply about the unique natural environment of the Monaro region, I'm genuinely concerned about the impact this proposed quarry could have. The area is home to a rich variety of flora and fauna, including species that are already threatened and endangered. A development of this scale risks disrupting local ecosystems, leading to habitat loss, fragmentation, and serious stress on wildlife that are already struggling to survive."
2. **Water Resources:** I'm deeply concerned about the proposed quarry site and the serious risks it poses to our local water catchment areas, including those that feed into Lake Tuggeranong. Any disturbance to the water table or contamination from quarrying operations could have far-reaching consequences not just for the environment, but for our everyday lives. Like many families in Royalla, we rely heavily on bore water to care for our livestock. If this supply were to be compromised whether through drying up or pollution it wouldn't just be an inconvenience. It would put a real financial and emotional strain on families like mine, who depend on this water source for our livelihoods. This isn't just about business or development it's about protecting the land and resources that support our way of life.
3. **Dust and Air Quality:** As a parent living in Royalla, I am deeply concerned about the dust produced by quarry activities. The dust significantly impacts our air quality and poses serious health risks, especially for my young children who deserve to grow up in a safe and clean environment. Many of us in the community rely on catching fresh water from our roofs, and the dust contamination threatens this vital resource. With the strong north/west winds we experience here, the dust doesn't just stay at the quarry it spreads across our homes and neighbourhood, putting everyone at risk. I urge you to consider the well-being of families like mine who should not have to endure this daily exposure.
4. **Noise Pollution:** As residents of Royalla, one of the main reasons we chose to live here was for the peace, quiet, and natural beauty that country living provides. The thought of a quarry being developed so close to our homes is deeply concerning particularly due to the noise that would come from blasting, heavy machinery, and constant truck movements. This isn't just an inconvenience; it threatens our quality of life. The serenity we came here for would be replaced by industrial noise, which could have serious effects on our mental health, our pets' wellbeing, and even the value of our properties. We didn't move to Royalla to live near an industrial estate we moved here to get away from that kind of disruption. For those of us living nearby, this is not just a

planning issue it's personal. It's about protecting our homes, our lifestyle, and the peaceful environment we cherish.

Community Impact

1. **Health and Well-being:** As someone who lives in this community, I'm deeply concerned about how the operation of this quarry will affect our daily lives. The constant noise, dust, and increased traffic won't just be an inconvenience they'll take a real toll on our physical and mental well-being. For families with young children, for our elderly neighbours, and for anyone already dealing with health issues, this could mean long-term consequences. We're talking about people's health, peace of mind, and quality of life. That needs to be taken seriously.
 2. **Traffic and Road Safety:** I'm genuinely concerned about the increased traffic volumes that would come with having hundreds of trucks transporting materials to and from the site each day. The Monaro Highway and Old Cooma Road are already under significant pressure, especially during the snow season when holiday traffic spikes. We already see far too many accidents on these roads during busy periods adding up to 500 heavy trucks a day could make an already dangerous situation even worse
 3. **Social License to Operate:** Many of us in the community feel that our concerns about the quarry have not been fully acknowledged or addressed. I strongly urge the developers and the relevant authorities to organize more public consultation sessions with the surrounding neighbourhoods. It's essential that everyone's voice is heard, and that any potential issues or grievances are taken seriously and dealt with transparently. Open dialogue is key to building trust and ensuring that decisions reflect the needs and well-being of all affected residents.
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Economic Considerations

1. **Short-Term Benefits vs Long-Term Costs:** I understand that this quarry might create some short-term jobs for about 30 people, but let's be honest the real financial gains are going straight to the company owners, not our community. We need to seriously think about what we're trading for that. The long-term damage to our environment, the potential health risks, and the likely drop in property values aren't worth it. We already have local quarries that aren't even running at full capacity and won't be for years so why rush to open another one? It just feels like this is being driven by profit, not need. And if, someday, a new quarry is

necessary, it should be located somewhere that doesn't put our families, our homes, and our community at risk.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I believe that its environmental, social, and health impacts warrant serious consideration. I genuinely hope the relevant authorities will take the time to truly understand the impacts this may have, not just on the environment, but on the people who call this place home. I believe there's a way forward that includes listening to the community, taking a deeper look at the environmental and social effects, and exploring other options that respect both our need for resources and our shared responsibility to care for each other and the land."

I respectfully request that my concerns be taken into account and that further consultations be held to ensure that the decision-making process is transparent, fair, and responsive to the needs of both the environment and the local community.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely.