

23 September 2025

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Submission to the Proposal for Monaro Rock Quarry Project (SSD – 27223807)

Mates Drive Royalla

My family moved here some forty years ago and has lived in Royalla for that period. Our property is on the southern boundary of the proposed quarry development and is known as 8814 Monaro Highway, Royalla.

My choice is live in an area that supports and promotes rural living.

An area zoned for Environmental Conservation is being considered for an industrial re-development to include a quarry, concrete batching plant, asphalt processing plant and recycling facility.

The impacts of a proposed third quarry in our local area with traffic noise, dust, air quality, water quality, ground water quality, loss of bio-diversity all being significant issues.

People are going to be greatly impacted in the local community.

The negative impacts are significant and these risks are unnecessarily imposed for all the local community.

I object to the development application for the Quarry Project and request that it be rejected for reasons outlined below.

1. There are four operating quarries within a 30km capacity to service the region. The current quarries are not operating at capacity and a fifth quarry will only benefit the private investors. The project offers nothing in return to local residents. The long-term costs and increased risks such as noise, traffic, and health wellbeing impacts are borne entirely by the local community and will impact the long-term regional sustainability.
2. The quarry will clear a significant area of box gum woodland and will threaten in excess of 300 species of flora and fauna.
3. With the potential of 500 truck movements per day six days per week between the hours of 5.00am to 6pm this creates a significant impact on our family. Introducing 500 truck movements onto the Monaro Highway is a major safety concern, especially during school holidays and snow traffic in the winter months. There is constant trafficked. There has been several fatalities along the stretch of road proposed by the investors to enter and exit the quarry site. The alternative route that has been documented raises similar concerns.
4. Health Issues associated with silica and air borne dust particulates are an issue. Apart from the potential of longer term respiratory issues air borne dust and other contaminants from the proposed operation is likely to result in drinking water being contaminated. Compounds used in like facilities pose significant short and longer term risks due to the likely exposure.

5. Blasting operations, heavy vehicle movement and the daily operation of such a facility will permanently disrupt the benefits of living in a rural environment. Our current amenity of living in a rural setting will be lost.
6. The heavy reliance of bore water is likely to reduce the availability of bore water to local residents. During the most recent drought the standing water level of our bore was significantly reduced. A quarry that is reliant on bore water will impact bore water availability. The water flows with the local catchment area will be threatened and there will be contamination.
7. The local area is home for approximately 50,000 residents with the likelihood of further expansion over the coming years. The proposed site is not appropriate and should be deemed unsuitable for this type of operation. The proximity to residential areas, schools and the wider community are a significant concern. This proposed industrial scale development presents unacceptable risks to road safety, wildlife, and regional livelihoods. In the last three years, a significant subdivision – Royalla Reserve has been established off Monaro Station road with people investing to live in a rural setting.

I have lived in the area for almost forty years, my choice is to live in an area that supports and promotes rural living. I did not make a choice to live adjacent to a proposed industrial estate. The negative impact of proposing to create an industrial estate in an Environmental Conservation Zone is significant.

The economic justification of the project is minimal and the social cost will be significant. The project offers no return to local residents and will permanently alter the landscape. The longer term significant impacts will impact many. The benefits of living in a rural environment setting will be lost and future rural lifestyle opportunities will be totally compromised.

I do not want to live near a quarry that potentially could affect my future health and well being.

I object to the development application for the Quarry Project

John Colbertaldo