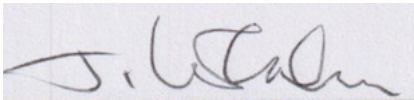


UMLC are also opposed to the project because of the potential impact on the Rail Trail that runs from Queanbeyan through to Cooma and Bombala. UMLC local Landcare groups work in conjunction with Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council to manage sections of the rail trail to assist in the development of the trail for tourism use. The increase in heavy vehicles, noise and dust pollution threaten the quality and safety of this tourism feature and risks the value of the current investment in the Rail Trail Project.

To conserve what is left of the BGW and other vegetation communities, support local threatened species and maintain the safety and wellbeing of the local community, UMLC would encourage the Major Projects Team to decline the proposed the Monaro Rock Quarry Project

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'J. Wharton'.

Jim Wharton  
President UMLC



Upper Murrumbidgee Landcare Committee  
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Major Projects Team

NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure 23/09/2025

**RE: Monaro Rock Quarry Project (SSD-27223807)**

The Upper Murrumbidgee Landcare Committee (UMLC) was formed in 1995 as an umbrella group for the Landcare groups within the Upper Murrumbidgee catchment. The UMLC covers an area of 6,500sq km, from Nimmitabel in south to Royalla & Queanbeyan to the north. The Committee comprises of representatives from Landcare Groups & other regionally affiliated associations and include ecologists, geologists and land managers and owners. Our primary goal is to encourage strategies that improve the land, biodiversity and the overall environment of the Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment.

UMLC strongly oppose the Monaro Rock Quarry Project due to the irreversible impacts of land clearing, air and noise pollution and water consumption. Further opposition is concerned with detrimental impacts on the community via excessive heavy vehicle movement and an overall decline in lifestyle. These concerns are valid not only for the life of the proposed works but also long into the future, where the community is left to manage the legacy of an expansive industrial site.

A significant focus for UMLC is the proposed clearing of the critically endangered Box Gum Grassy Woodland (BGW). Clearing of BGW is not only the loss of the area of vegetation community but also intensifies threatening processes for neighbouring remnants and reduces habitat connectivity for other biodiversity values. A number of threatened species rely on habitat corridors including the Koala, Key's Matchstick Grasshopper and a number of threatened woodland birds. UMLC has delivered significant investment through government funded projects for habitat restoration by supporting landholders in the Royalla region to protect remnant woodlands, restore degraded woodland and establish new vegetated areas. The proposed clearing for this project is counterproductive to these activities and negatively impacts the objectives of the government funded activities.

Threats to biodiversity are also expected with the substantial increase in truck traffic outlined by the proponent. Mortality of local wildlife by vehicle impact is already a major issue across the region. The level of increased traffic is a major concern for roadkill risk for the resident wildlife. Safety concerns also extend to the local community, in particular access to the Monaro Highway. Current access to the highway at a number of the local roads is considered a safety issue, in part due to the existing quarries in the area, and the predicted increase in truck volume will only serve to threaten commuter safety.