

Objection to Modifications of Champions quarry consent conditions – 15 March 2016

Consent Conditions for Champions quarry have developed through a long journey of development applications and refining after each stage of examination by specialists and professionals including Land and Environment Court scrutiny. Department of Planning has issued these consent conditions after close analysis with valid basis. To delete or lessen these conditions will sacrifice protection for the local residents, community and Council.

I object to modification request - Weighbridge Schedule 2 Condition 9

A weighbridge is the accepted and reliable form of recording material extracted from the site for sales and reporting. Reporting to Lismore City Council in particular must be accurate to calculate monies payable for road maintenance.

The proponent states they now don't wish to install a weighbridge as the cost is significant. Plenty of time has been granted for the preparation/budgeting/planning for this vital infrastructure. I understand the original consent delayed the weighbridge installation until production was increased, then a modification was granted to allow another 2 years before installation was required and now they state it's a significant cost. That is not valid reason to deny accurate and reliable reporting of extraction for road maintenance – what goes out the gate onto Wyrallah Road must be recorded for the Council and community who travel that road.

The proponent claims the weighbridge would have to be relocated as the extraction areas change. Relocating a weighbridge would be completely unnecessary as there is only one road leading from the quarry onto Wyrallah Road. That access road is the realistic placement for the weighbridge to record all extracted material leaving the quarry.

I object to modification request to not seal haul road Schedule 2 Condition 12

Dust is currently an issue for the local community. Seal the haul road as consent conditions require. Proponent claims in the modification application that sealing of the road would contaminate the quarry as usage would tear up the bitumen. Surely a sealed road can be designed and built to withstand quarry traffic. I suggest engineers could provide a solution other than smearing bitumen over the sand based existing road. Another cost saving measure for the operators at the expense of the community and their amenity. Not acceptable.

I object to modification request Schedule 3 Condition 26

Weighbridge again. This condition was included in consent for valid and obvious reasons that are widely accepted and used at quarrying operations. In order provide best practice, accurate data for road maintenance contributions a weighbridge is vital. Using expense as an excuse is not acceptable when very generous time has been extended already for the operators to comply.

I object to modification request Schedule 3 Condition 40 – Figure 9 in Appendix 6

Removal of Protected Vegetation has been assessed multiple times during this quarry's multiple applications. All conditions were put in place with good reason. Removing protected vegetation should not be permitted.

I object to modification request to remove CCC Schedule 5 Condition 6

Community Consultative Committee is seen by the community as unapproachable. This is due to the perception of bias and resulting non-action. The proponent states there is little interest and assumes there 'may not be a significant concern to local residents'. I am aware that one community member of the committee sent a letter of resignation from the committee to the Dept of Planning. I am not aware of the content of that letter but that correspondence may shed some light on the committee. Despite the operators wishes, the CCC is a requirement for all mining operations and I object to removal of it.

I require my personal details to be withheld from the proponent, the land owner and from being published.