

# OBJECTION letter to the Proposed Karuah East Hard Rock Quarry

26<sup>th</sup> April 2013

To the Director General  
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure  
Major Development Assessment  
GPO BOX 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

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Dear Sirs/Madams,

## **RE: OBJECTION to Proposed Karuah East Hard Rock Quarry – MP 09\_0175**

As having previously forwarded Submitters Rights.

I Deb Peckham hereby OBJECT to the above gravel mine extension project and request the NSW Planning & Infrastructure Department and Minister Tony Bourke reject the entire proposal.

I object to the Proposed Karuah East Hard Rock Quarry proposal to operate outside their area of operation currently located on Lot 11 off The Branch Lane at Karuah.

- 1) I am concerned Karuah East Quarries will be owned and operated by the same company that currently operates Karuah Quarries. This company has failed to operate in accordance with the NSW Government's Department Of Planning.

The following directive was issued by the NSW Government's Department Of Planning on 21/07/2008 by the Executive Director Chris Wilson.

Ref; Department of planning DA 265-10-2004 operation of stages 1&2 for Hunter Quarries located at The Branch Lane Karuah.

Condition 10 of schedule 4 of the minister's approval requires Hunter Quarries to advise nearby residents on its environmental management plans, monitoring results, audit reports or complaints. Under the approved communications strategy for the quarry, Hunter Quarries would:

- a Provide 6-monthly reports to the residents within 2 klm of the quarry on the environmental management plans, monitoring results, audit reports or complaints.
- b Provide a copy of the annual environmental management report to council for display.
- c Establish a website on which copies of the environmental management plans, monitoring results, audit reports or complaints would be posted.
  - As of the time of this proforma letter dated 26.04.13, **Item a** has not been complied with by Hunter Quarries, as signed statements from at least 3 residents within 2 klm will verify.
  - **Item b** has not been able to be verified by Great Lakes Council at this stage. Cr Len Roberts deputy mayor of Great Lakes Council regarding this matter was contacted by email on 15.04.13. A follow up phone call to Cr Len Roberts on 19.04.13 confirmed that Great Lake Council has still not responded to the affirmative.
  - **Item c** would appear not to be easily accessible by the general public as the information is not part of Hunter Quarries website. However, following an extensive search on Google I did eventually locate two reports dated late 2012. It appears to be that earlier reports are not available or, if so, are extremely difficult to locate. The two reports I did manage to find were not located on a designated website.

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- 2) It is a fact that Hunter Quarries has been fined \$70,000.00 for exceeding their annual quota of material approved for extraction between August 2008 and July 2009 under the DA 265-10-2004. As the number of properties exposed to the noise and dust will increase if Karuah East Quarry is approved it raises considerable doubt as to the reliability of the directors of Hunter Quarries and Karuah East Quarry (who are the same individuals) to follow the directives of the NSW Department Of Planning, which will create a greater, hidden problem for local residences.
- 3) Residences on Tarean Rd are already subject to vibrating and shaking with blasts as well as having dust inside and outside people's homes and in their tank water (source of drinking water). This issue will be increased by the addition of properties on Hunterview Rd. If approval of Karuah East Quarry is granted the potential of two quarries operating simultaneously with a capacity in excess of **2 million tonnes pa** (as compared to 500,000 tonnes pa currently being extracted) by Hunter Quarries will occur.
- 4) I also reject the statement in the environmental impact statement of the minimal effect the Karuah East Quarry would have on land values for the land owners on Hunterview Rd and Halloran Rd. These properties will be from 1 Klm to 3.5 Klm of the new development and would be impacted by additional noise, vibration and visual focus created by this development. These effects will most definitely drive property values down and increase the already existing difficulty of resale in the area.

It is reasonable to say that the majority of land owners would not have purchased land in this area had an approval for the Karuah East Quarry been in existence at the time of purchase. I therefore request the Department strongly reject this proposal.

Yours faithfully

(Signature).....

(Name) Deborah Peckham

Address Lot & Halloran Rd North Arm Cove NSW 2324

Date: 26.04.13