

43 Maitland Road,  
Paterson. NSW. 2421.  
27<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

Director – Resource Assessments, Planning and Assessment,  
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment,  
Locked Bag 5022  
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124.

Dear Sir/Madam,

**MARTINS CREEK QUARRY PROJECT (SSD -6612) – MY SUBMISSION**

Over the last few years while the Martins Creek Quarry has been in abeyance, Paterson has had a different atmosphere and feel. Without the rumbling of numerous trucks through our village, bike riders, cyclists and many visitors have flocked into town, enjoying our cafes, hotels and park. Residents and visitors alike have been more relaxed, they have been able to converse with fellow residents and friends without the added noise of quarry trucks rumbling over the rail crossing towards them.

Tucker Park, which is on the main road into the village, has been revitalised with a new amenities block and is used extensively for birthday parties on any given day. Sometimes you will see a small bus in town bringing people from aged care facilities into the village, either for a coffee or a stopover in the park. Many residents, including myself, walk through the village, adjoining streets and park by way of exercise. This will no longer be pleasant or safe.

I live on the main road opposite a business specialising in agricultural, irrigation and lawn care needs. Patrons of this business stop outside my house to shop there, so all day there are people crossing this busy road. This also happens in King and Duke Streets as people shop locally at the Friendly Grocer, the Post Office, Butcher, cafes, etc. On top of this, there is an unofficial school bus stop outside my home, with another one across the road. There are several young families living on this section of the main road and when grandparents, or my grandchildren visit, it is a constant worry about traffic, particularly trucks.

For safety reasons, I reverse into my long steep driveway and to be able to do this, I often have to pull in towards the gutter before I attempt to reverse. This is because of the traffic that passes through Paterson now. It will be almost impossible to do this when an extra 280 trucks are chugging through the village. How am I supposed to reverse into my driveway when there will always be the threat of a heavy truck appearing over the rise from Tucker Park towards me? Will they be able to stop in time?

The road through Paterson carries the heaviest volume of traffic in the Dungog Shire and during the aforementioned lull, the Council was able to fix this badly decomposed road with a special government grant. Should this expansion be given 'the green light', this main road will revert back to potholes and ridges once again, creating horrendous noise outside my home from 6am, as the empty trucks rattle through the village on their way to the quarry. Yes, the proposal says the quarry will be operating from 7am until 7pm with movements through Paterson from 6.45 am. However, I believe that movement will start earlier than that, given it is another 15 minutes to the quarry and trucks then have to load up. I have nothing against trucks, having grown up with them, but this huge expansion is going to impact devastatingly on our beautiful village. Everyone loves Paterson!

Paterson is an historic village with a highly active Historical Society which takes great pride in recording and preserving our story. Should this proposal be approved, the many heritage buildings that give the village such a wonderful ambience, will again risk further damage through the vibrations and dust from the 40 trucks per hour. There are other quarries nearby, adjacent to highways, which do not pass through historic villages.

Please consider these lived experiences, and concerns, surrounding the village of Paterson.

Yours sincerely,



Alison Pitkin.