

# Submission for DA Proposal at 90 Gindurra Road.

## I AM WHOLEHEARTEDLY **AGAINST** THIS PROPOSAL

I am completely against this proposal for a concrete crushing facility on Gindurra road. It is located within 100 metres of residential properties, who will bear the brunt of the destruction the facility will cause. It is also very close to my property and will have a direct effect on my family and quality of life.

Here are the reasons why I object to the proposal:

### 1. AIR QUALITY

This proposal will have a detrimental effect on the air quality of Somersby and the surrounding suburbs. Somersby houses many residential properties, as well as a school, juvenile detention centre and a Riding for Disabled Australia.

Concrete and other building waste crushing can lead to exposure to dangerous chemicals such as asbestos and silica. The local council have already turned this proposal down because they were concerned about the decrease in air quality to residents. It says a lot that our council turned it down, but the developers went above them and to the state government. This shows that the developers only care about making money and have no regard for any residents and the disaster this concrete crushing facility will cause.

<https://www.cancer.org.au/preventing-cancer/workplace-cancer/silica-dust.html>

^Article from the Cancer Council detailing the effects of silica dust and how it occurs 'What is silica dust ... found in the following products brick, tiles, concretes' These things which will be being crushed within METRES from family homes, including young children. This dust will be blowing over schools, residential properties and other businesses, putting many lives at risk of developing the deadly silicosis.

<https://www.9news.com.au/2019/03/12/12/21/silicosis-news-australia-gold-coast-stonemason-anthony-white-dies?fbclid=IwAR239vnkJ8nt2cG0okKv-nbyRp5Yjl72Bkyi5lnIJxWDkzspcuOH0szoAlc>

Article reporting the death of a man due to silicosis.

#### 6.3.1 Land Use Value

Based on the criteria listed in **Appendix E**, the land use value of the area surrounding the site is concluded to be *high* for health impacts and for dust soiling, based upon the following assumption:

- The receptor locations include residential properties where people may reasonably be expected to be present for eight to 24-hours.

This excerpt taken from the air quality report concludes that the health impacts will be HIGH for residential properties where people may be reasonably expected to be present for eight -24 hours.

If this proposal is approved, it will be disastrous for the air quality in the area.

## 2. EFFECTS ON HEALTH

I have severe, debilitating eczema which is already greatly affecting my life. I am covered in open wounds and sores which will only get worse if there is air pollution. Currently, I live a clean, quiet life in Somersby away from traffic, businesses and other things that can cause a reduced air quality.

According to Vivian Shi, MD, (<https://www.learnskin.com/articles/how-does-air-pollution-affect-eczema>)

‘Air pollutants are chemicals... that may bind and penetrate the skin. From there it can reach the deeper skin and enter the bloodstream to negatively affect our health’.

If this proposal is approved, my health and quality of life will be drastically reduced. As someone who suffers severe mental health issues including depression, anxiety and PTSD, further reduction of my quality of life will have a negative effect on my mental health and could affect my future, as it will become increasingly difficult to work and study.

My mother suffers from asthma. Having extra particles in the air will affect her asthma, and therefore reduce her quality of life. We rely on my mum for income to support us and pay the mortgage. If mum cannot work due to asthma, the whole family would suffer.

## 3. EFFECTS ON COLLECTING RAINWATER

My property has no access to local town water; therefore, we rely on rainwater collected from rooves. To gain access to town water it was estimated to cost more than \$30,000. This is a large amount of money that I do not have.

All the water we need for our two homes and livestock is collected from our rooves. This will have to cease if this proposal is approved, as dust will accumulate on top of our rooves. When the rain comes, and flows off the roof down the pipes, it will collect the dust, silica dust and asbestos dust. This will render our water unusable. Are the developers prepared to pay for us to be hooked up to the town water supply? If not, this proposal should not be approved.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17435954>

^This article shows the effects of silica dust in water.

## 4. EFFECTS ON BORE WATER

As above, silica, asbestos and other concrete related dusts will negatively influence bore water. Bore water is used often around Somersby to give to livestock and some residents drink it. A local resident has had this water tested to prove that it is very safe and drinkable. If this concrete crushing facility is approved, he will no longer be able to drink his only supply of water. The seepage from the site is a very large concern.

## **5. INCREASED TRAFFIC**

This is a large concern. Our roads are unmarked, covered in potholes and narrow. It is dangerous to include an extra 200+ trucks into the daily traffic flow. We also have a big issue of trucks getting stuck around the hairpin corner which can hold up traffic for hours. I do not want to feel unsafe driving in this quiet, rural area

## **6. DANGER OF TRUCKS**

I do not want to generalize, but truck drivers are often dangerous and only care about making deadlines. This leaves them to make rash decisions, leading to accidents and injuries/death. I have personally dealt with trucks pulling out in front of me and tailgating me. I tow a horse float along this road to access the freeway. Truck drivers have shown me little respect and often drive dangerously, tailgating me and honking at me to go faster. I am transporting my two horses, and their lives depend on me and I must drive to the conditions (which include roundabouts and narrow roads).

It has also come to resident's attention that local truck drivers have been tearing down the 'Save Somersby' signs. This proves that the truck drivers only care about themselves and making money, meaning that they will disregard the residents and only act in their best interests.

## **7. SAFETY FOR PEDESTRIANS**

My brother walks home from that bus stop. There is no current path way for him to walk on. We try to pick him up from the bus stop because of this but often we are at work. It would be incredibly dangerous for him to walk home, when there are large, often irresponsible trucks going past.

## **8. NOISE**

The amount of noise coming from the concrete crushing facility will be disruptive and unfair to local families wanting a peaceful lifestyle. I study online, and my ability to study and concentrate will be affected if there is constant noise coming from the facility. Everyone in this area has moved here for a relaxed, peaceful lifestyle. Many of my neighbours are retirees. It would be extremely unfair to disrupt our lifestyles and force us to listen to a horrible, loud noise every day.

## **9. SMELL**

An offensive smell will be cast over the area. As the above point states, we are all living here for a peaceful, relaxed lifestyle. It would be unfair for all the residents to have to smell the odour that will be produced when tonnes of concrete and other building waste are crushed.

## **10. PROPERTY DEVALUATION**

**THIS IS A MAJOR CONCERN.**

My mum's inheritance and retirement revolves around this property. This property is her superannuation. How will this affect her life when she is unable to sell her property? Why should she have to spend the rest of her life with a large mortgage,

but no way to sell her house? There is already hard proof that this concrete crushing facility will cause properties to be majorly devalued. My uncle lives on a property that borders the fence line of the proposed site. His land has been up for sale for a few months. Firstly, his neighbour wanted to buy the land so he could combine the properties. He had committed to the sale, but then he found out about the proposal and backed out. The facility hadn't even been built, yet it was effecting the ability to sell property. Another potential buyer also stated that the proposal was the reason he was no longer interested. These are real life examples of how this proposal is effecting property values BEFORE ITS EVEN BEEN BUILT!

**Will the developers look after us financially? Or we be left high and dry with no way to sell our property, and nowhere else to go? Who will take care of us then? This is one of our greatest concerns. We have been through enough.**

## **11. EFFECTS ON ANIMALS AND LIVESTOCK**

I own performances horses, dogs and poultry. All my animals will also be affected by the silica dust and other dust particles in the air. They live outside, and they do not have the luxury from staying inside to prevent inhalation. The silica dust will sit on the grass my horses eat, causing them respiratory issues. Are the developers going to pay for my vet bills when my animals fall sick due to this dust? How is it fair to subject our animals to this? I compete with my horses and any respiratory issues will affect their performance and ability to be ridden. I do not want to end up with two horses that cannot live a comfortable life due to lung damage, windpipe damage and damage to internal organs due to eating the silica particles off the grass. It would be impossible to protect them from that.

## **12. ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS**

This proposal brings a hoard of environmental concerns. If this proposal goes ahead, they will be destroying 15 hectares of ENDANGERED pygmy possum habitats! This will only lead to the possums becoming more endangered, as they are forced out of their homes. It is crucial that we protect the native animals that are around us, especially ones which have already faced the brunt of urbanization and have had their status changed to endangered. We should be taking every care possible to ensure these possums' numbers grow enough to be taken off the endangered list. This concrete crushing facility will contribute to the decline in native pygmy possums.

## **13. TOURISM**

Somersby is a growing tourism destination. Our biggest drawcard is the nationally treasured Reptile Park. This park draws hundreds of thousands of tourists every year to the Central Coast. The air quality, noise, traffic and health risks are going to drive people away from visiting Somersby. Why would people knowingly visit an area they know contains the deadly silica dust? This will affect the reptile park business and the health of their animals. Somersby is also home to the beautiful and popular Somersby falls and Girrakool. These two places have an abundance of water falls, wildlife and flora. These two places have become very popular tourist attractions. People will begin to avoid these areas once they know that there is silica dust in the

air and in the water. People won't want to swim or play in the water. It will also affect the native wildlife there, as they will drink water which is infected with silica dust and other unnatural particles.

If this proposal goes ahead, it will negatively affect EVERY aspect of our lives and it will reduce our quality of life to the point it will not be worth living. We won't be able to escape, as no one will buy our homes. We will suffer from health issues, including eczema, asthma and silicosis. Animals and animal habitats will suffer. The risk of traffic and pedestrian accidents occurring will increase tenfold.

**The above reasons are all substantial, valid reasons as to why is object to this proposal. Central Coast Council has already said no. It is now time for you to say no to this proposal too.**

Regards,  
Jasmine Inara  
5 Kowara Rd Somersby