

Subject: Hanson Quarry Submission from the Central Coast Plateau Chamber of Commerce

Submission via the Planning Department website
http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=5143

Submission by email to Gen Deed
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The Central Coast Plateau Chamber of Commerce has concerns re Development Application DA 94-4-2004 MOD 3, Calga Quarry.

The Central Coast Plateau Chamber of Commerce is in the process of launching the Central Coast Plateau Harvest Trail before the end of 2016. The Harvest Trail includes farmers and tourism operators across the Central Coast Plateau including Tourist Route 33.

This development is hugely significant both for farming productivity and tourism in the region. We all know that an estimated 50% more food will be required by 2050. Harvest Trails in other regions have demonstrated value for both consumers and farmers. Mining is a relatively short term use of land which has not provided, evidentially, a high level of rejuvenation to sustainable agricultural productivity.

The Central Coast Plateau Chamber of Commerce is extremely concerned to hear that Hanson has applied to almost double their production of sand products and to process hard sandstone as the implications of this are far reaching.

We understand that Hanson has submitted a very brief Environmental Impact Statement, so the details of what they plan to do are unknown or are not on public display. Based on the limited information available, our main areas of concern are the increased numbers of heavy trucks and how they will affect the enjoyment of driving along the Harvest Trail and Tourist Route 33.

It is well accepted that every aquifer performs differently and all sectors of the Central Coast community will, potentially, be affected by hasty decisions made in favour of mining.

We trust that our concerns are taken as constructive comment in an effort to ensure that a balanced decision, one that considers agricultural productivity and a valuable resource space for an increasingly apartmentalised community to experience, is made.

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