

Submission Document

Attention: Director - Coal and Quarry Assessments
Planning and Assessment
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001

Re: Public Submission for SSD – 7293, Sancrox Quarry Expansion Project.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to submit my objection to the above development application.

My Name: ROBYN RICHARDSON

My Address: 33 THE BULKHEAD, PORT MACQUARIE NSW

My objection to the proposal is on the grounds listed in ticked boxes below: 24/7

- ☐ The Port Macquarie region is expanding rapidly. This development is in the Sancrox area, approximately 6km west of Port Macquarie, which is undergoing significant residential development that will be directly affected by the increased environmental impact of this quarry expansion.
- ☐ The Sancrox area has already had a substantial increase in noise (24/7), due to the upgrading of the highway to a motorway. You only have to ask anyone living in the area that, despite noise mitigation measures, the rural ambience is already reduced and any extra noise generation, especially at night, will only make it worse.
- ☐ The proposed 'quarry expansion' is more than that! It also includes two new additional operations, concrete batching and asphalt production. There are already other concrete and asphalt plants in the region that have the capacity to service the demand.
- ☐ The noise impact of a 24 hour, 7 days a week operation is particularly concerning. There will be no respite from constant noisy plant and equipment. Daytime operation excluding Sundays is the maximum that should be allowed in a community precinct. The processes carried out do not have to run at night and can be easily shutdown/restarted.
- ☐ The project includes "clearing 43.1 hectares of native forest vegetation, 0.55 ha of which is identified as the threatened ecological community Subtropical coastal floodplain forest (NR117)" with serious and irreversible environmental impact. (Ref: DA, Annex C)
- ☐ The Greater Sancrox Area Structure Plan (Port Macquarie Hastings Shire Council, 2014), identifies the land to be cleared as medium to high activity koala habitat. The clearing also destroys an identified "critical link and vegetation connectivity in the immediate, and the Greater Sancrox Structure Plan, eliminating traverses by animals south-north through the centre of the Development Site". (Ref: DA, Annex C)
- ☐ The Biodiversity Assessment Report (DA, Annex C) was based on insufficient field work conducted in 2015, four years ago. Current, independent and comprehensive field surveys are required to validate the report.
- ☐ The State of Emergency declared in NSW due to the catastrophic bushfires in November 2019 killed an estimated 350 koalas. Injured and now homeless koalas may have moved onto the proposed development site.

