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28 February 2013

Department of Planning & Infrastructure, Information Centre
Att: Elle Donnelley
via email at elle.donnelley@planning.nsw.gov.au.

**Shellharbour City Council submission on Development Application 470-11-2003
Modification 6 - Dunmore Hard Rock Quarry**

Dear Ms. Donnelley,

I refer to the exhibited Part 3A modification to development application reference no. DA 470-11-2003 Mod 6. Council has reviewed the Environmental Assessment prepared by Rachael Russell of EMM and we offer the following comments for your information.

Traffic comment

Extract from report: *Existing daily traffic volumes on Princes Highway between 2000 and 2006 are shown in Table 2.1. To the north of Dunmore Quarry, traffic growth on the Princes Highway has been generally steady, attributed to population growth in the Kiama and Shellharbour areas.*

Comment: The traffic data does not represent the true volume given the age of the information. Since 2006, Shellharbour has seen a population growth of approximately 5% along with major commercial/retail developments constructed and in operation since 2006 (i.e. Stocklands Shellharbour). Traffic volumes along Princes Highway have increased since 2006 and therefore community health concerns in terms of increased noise and air pollution as a result of larger traffic flow and vehicle movement needs further investigation.

Extract from report: *It is proposed that the transport of an additional 0.5 Mtpa of product will generate 55 truck loads daily, which equates to an additional 10 vehicle movements per hour (6 north and 4 south) on both inbound and outbound routes during peak traffic periods.*

Comment: All south bound trucks will need to first head north and utilise the overpass at Shellharbour Road and re-join the southbound highway traffic. Given the extra traffic movement entering and exiting the overpass we request further investigation in the utilisation of signage for general traffic to notify drivers of the frequent turning of trucks within the overpass.

Noise comment

We acknowledge the capabilities of the road infrastructure of Princes Highway however concern is raised about the lack of information on how and where the noise assessments were undertaken to determine the additional noise impacts.

In any instance, it is requested that true traffic volume data be established to ensure that the amenity of the residents adjoining Princes Highway are not further impacted on as a result of the additional noise.

Air Quality comment

Extract from report: *Provided the management measures described above are implemented, it is considered that exceedance of the air quality goals would not result from the proposed modification. Therefore, the proposed modification would not have a significant impact on air quality.*

Comment: It is requested that the air quality management measures continue to be implemented. Furthermore, it is requested that the location of the gauges are located within the range of the new area proposed for extraction.

Ecology comment

The proposal is accompanied by a suitable environmental assessments made under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 and the Threatened Species Conservation Act, 1995. The assessments conclude that whilst it is proposed to remove vegetation from the development site, there is unlikely to be a significant impact on the adjacent *Melaleuca armillaris* Tall Shrubland endangered ecological community or its habitats or the *Illawarra zieria* as a result of the proposed southern access proposal.

It is requested that the mitigation measures outlined in 4.4.4 of the assessment continue to apply for the expanded quarry area.

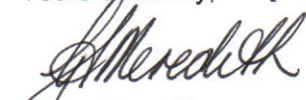
General comment

The NSW Department of Planning (Southern Region), the then NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change, and Shellharbour and Kiama Councils participated in a steering committee that undertook a review of Hard Rock Resources in the Shellharbour and Kiama LGAs. Reports on visual assessment (as well as flora and fauna and groundwater) were completed in 2006/7. The findings of these reports do not appear to have been included in the Environmental Assessment of this proposal. It is requested that the NSW Department of Planning confirm that the findings of the Hard Rock Resource review have been taken into account in this Environmental Assessment

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed modification.

If you would like more information please contact me on 4221 6137.

Yours sincerely,



Grant Meredith
Group Manager - City Development