



Mrs Margaret O. O'Donnell
137 Townsend St
HOWLONG NSW 2643



Re Application No: SSD-8804

Director- Resource Assessments B
Planning & Assessment
Dept. Planning, Industry & Environment
Locked Bag 5022
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

May 11, 2020

Dear Sir,

Firstly, with regard to this submission, we the undersigned wish to make the following points:

- ❖ Three weeks seems a very short time for a community to digest and respond to the previously unknown intention of a nearby business to expand to the extent proposed, particularly in view of the ramifications of such proposal and the difficulty of meeting to discuss this.
- ❖ The website on which submissions can be made, was deficient, in that before making a submission, one has to create a Login account. This was attempted twice without success, as there was no response with an access code to enable one to proceed.

Howlong is a small rural village only about 3 km from a proposed expansion project by Howlong Sand & Gravel, which may result in an increase in volume of b.double trucks passing through our main street, Hawkins Street, or a parallel residential Victoria street, to up to 80 per day. The Riverina Highway passes through the middle of our shopping centre. We are already impacted by some heavy vehicles but to a much smaller extent which we do not wish to increase.

This increase in traffic would hugely impact the ambience of our town and affect the safety of our **residents, many of whom are elderly**. Several social hubs and service facilities would be impacted by noise and congestion – all the following in Hawkins Street would be impacted in some way:-

- ❖ **Our three outdoor cafes and Bakery** which have in normal times, facilities for eating outside their premises on the main street.
- ❖ **Our two town hotels**, accessed from the main street.
- ❖ **Our entry to the only supermarket in town, in the main street.**
- ❖ Our access to **disabled parking** in the main street outside the Chemist and sole bank.
- ❖ Our **Pre-School and our Primary School** which have entries from the main street.
- ❖ Our **Lowe Square** which provides **sporting facilities**, football, tennis, and equestrian centre, accessed from the main street.
- ❖ The **town library & Resources Centre** which many access from the main street.
- ❖ Real Estate Agencies
- ❖ The **Post Office and Newsagency entered from the main street.**
- ❖ **The only hardware shop in town with entry from main street**
- ❖ **Our very popular Op-Shop which is manned by mostly seniors.**

There are also two service stations and a number of **residences** in the street.

It seems that some b.doubles are already diverting from the main street to parallel Victoria St, a residential street closer to the Murray River in Sturt Street. However, it is **unacceptable** to have residential streets so noise impacted and accessibility restricted by this proposal.

We believe that a **Heavy Vehicle Restriction zone** needs to be created and a diversion road nominated in lieu of a better option, which would be a proper town bypass road for heavy vehicles. The only **readily available** route with the **least impact** to residents would be via Howlong-Walbundrie Road, Drew Lane, and Goorambagana Road. The latter is already used by trucks from the nearby Longford Quarry which services Federation Council's needs at Corowa. Unfortunately the only nearby river crossing is through the west side of town in Sturt Street which is also a residential street. It may be accessed from Goorambagana Rd which runs into Sturt Street in the north west of town.

There is a concern amongst the younger members of our community who depend on local employment opportunities, that the stifling of such a proposal as the Howlong Sand & Gravel development would reduce their opportunities for business or employment. This is not our intention if indeed opportunities will be created.

We simply advocate consideration and action on the prevention of the huge social impact such a development's traffic would have on our town. If up to 10 b.doubles were to drive through Hawkins St per per hour, it is hard to imagine the impact of the constant stopping and starting that would ensue, due to pedestrian traffic and the only entry to the supermarket being only a few metres from the turn to either left to the river crossing, or the right to continue on the Riverina Highway. It would be horrendous.

A considerable proportion of our residents are older people, many of whom retired here some years ago precisely because they wanted to enjoy a more peaceful, rural lifestyle in their declining years. For some, their opportunities for social intercourse are limited. One of their biggest and sometimes only, enjoyments is meeting at our outdoor cafes for coffee and a chat or working as a volunteer in the Op-Shop. One of the café's adjoins a market stall area which is very popular. Three of the above-mentioned are just metres from the turn.

Our younger residents also value that lifestyle which enables a happy home life and an environment not enjoyed by our city counterparts, which gives greater freedom to all our families. It enables children to come home after school without the anxiety and safety issues that such traffic would cause. Additional police presence would be required in town.

A nearby town, Lockhart, does not allow such vehicles to use their long main street, but traffic is diverted to a lesser occupied street.

Please do not proceed with this application until adequate arrangements are made to ensure our town is not adversely impacted by this huge increase in volume of truck traffic. We need to keep trucks of this size out of residential and shopping areas. **We want all heavy vehicle passing traffic rerouted around the town.**

On behalf of a number of residents as indicated below,

Yours sincerely
Margaret O'Donnell

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
ROBERT I. GLADWIN	139 TOWNSEND ST, HOWLONG	M.I.
LINDA J GLADWIN	89 TOWNSEND ST, Howlong	Wanda Gladwin
Ken Coker	5189 RIVERS H/W HENRY	R.C.
KEN BUCKANAN	2/18 PELL ST. HOWLONG.	K.B.
RICHARD SHANNON	54 KEITHLEY ST HOWLONG	R. Shannon
JOHN SHANNON	" " "	J. Shannon
Sheree Shannon	35 Townsend St Howlong	S. Shannon
John SPEEKMAN	68 Pell St, Howlong	J. Speekman
JOHN BOYD	21 EAST ST. HOWLONG	J. Boyd
Phil Slater	3/69 HAWKINS ST. HOWLONG	P. Slater
Jack O'Donnell	12 Head Cl. Albany	J. O'Donnell
Julie O'Donnell	12 Head Close Albany.	J. O'Donnell
Dudley Foley	137 Townsend St.	D. Foley
KEITH DUGGAN	1/107 HAWKINS ST	K. Duggan
Dorothy Duggan	1/107 Hawkin St	D. Duggan
Sarah Potter	Hawkins St, Howlong	S. Potter
Eileen Lavis	3/103 Pearce St Howlong.	E. Lavis
Grace Strachan	3/103 Pearce St Howlong	Grace A. Strachan
Dorothy Schily	13/101 Pearce St. Howlong.	D. J. Schily
MARGARET O'DONNELL	137 Townsend St, Howlong	M. O'Donnell
JOAN REEVES	1/28 HAWKINS ST HOWLONG.	J. Reeves
C. HITCHCOCK	108 Howell St Howlong	C. Hitchcock
L. LEAN	4/103 PEARCE ST How Long.	L. Lean
Arthur Presser	8 Pell St Howlong	A. Presser
Angie Presser	8 Pell St Howlong	A. Presser
Azanne Presser	5 Russell St Howlong	A. Presser