

Dear Mr Stokes,

I am writing to voice my objection to the proposed modification of Gunlakes Development Consent.

I am a local resident who uses the road daily and experiences trucks exiting Gunlake and Holcim quarries rolling onto Brayton road and cutting off other road users, regularly traveling at excess speeds and kicking up stones resulting in cracked and/or chipped windscreens, causing the road to become degraded and therefore dangerous and creating a dust storm in their wake.

To be fair, there are a **minority** of truck drivers who are considerate of other road users and travel at a more moderate speed and obey the road rules.

For me and for my family and other locals our objection is about safety. The speed limit is 100km/h and the road is predominately devoid of centreline marking and very narrow in sections.

I have an eighteen year old daughter who currently has her provisional drivers licence. I am extremely concerned at the prospect of her driving along Brayton road with the minimal experience she has as a provisional licence holder.

We have approached Mulwaree Council previously to discuss lowering the speed limit but to no avail.

I fail to comprehend why the Department cannot see that a rail option makes so much more sense economically and socially and therefore impose this condition upon the proponent. The rail corridor is in such close proximity to Gunlakes operation. But I suppose logic (and therefore safety in this instance) cannot get in the way of potential financial gain.

There are also community concerns regarding the inadequate contributions the quarries pay the Council for the tonnages they haul. This is seen in the poor conditions of Brayton Road and the recently completed Bypass Road already falling apart. While locals travel at varying speeds on the local roads, constant vigilance for wildlife is required. This becomes even more hazardous when sharing the narrow roads with large trucks, which are often hurtling along whether laden or not.

Is it a case that the quarry owners get rich at the expense of the local community? They have only one interest here and that is to make as much profit as possible and leave when the operation is no longer financially viable. If they had to traverse the haul routes daily maybe they would view things differently?

I note you are a father of three young children and ask how you would feel if your children were faced with this situation starting out with their adult lives? Are we going to ignore this situation and only respond with preventative action if an avoidable tragedy were to occur?

Kind regards,  
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