

19th May, 2016

Department of Planning,

Attention Margaret Kirton.

Major Community Concerns.

Gunlake Quarry has an application into the Dept of Planning & Environment to increase Gunlake's production from 750,000 tonnes of hard rock per year to 2 million tonnes per year.

We are told that this will result in an increase from 164 trucks per day to an average of 440 trucks per day, sometimes 690 trucks per day. These trucks will be travelling along Brayton Road and the ByPass Road 24 hours a day.

Marulan has suffered major changes in the past with re-routing of roads and trucking movements all connected with the mining activity in the area. The town is now growing at a steady rate and the current trucking movements have already had a disastrous effect on the sale of properties along the trucking route of Brayton Road. We are looking at a recipe of disasters with this expansion.

One unsavoury ingredient of this recipe is the catastrophic effect that these increased truck movements will have on the wildlife. In turn, this results in danger to local motorists and the school bus in avoiding this heartbreaking road-kill, which in itself attracts scavenging birds and animals who in turn become road-kill. A horrid series of events. How to obliterate the wildlife in this beautiful region.

Add another ingredient to the recipe: the danger in avoiding the trucks which will dominate the road and at a frequency never imaginable in our small country town. Speed will be a major component, regardless of the speed signs.

Having spent the last 12 years cleaning up my own road, which became a minor trucking route, the ingredient of rubbish added to this recipe will be profound. What is it about trucks and rubbish tossed out the window? Another blot on the landscape and in turn, inquisitive birds and animals who are added to the road-kill.

Last ingredient is the rapid deterioration of the road surface, which in turn creates a major safety issue to all who use Brayton Road. Who will pay for the weekly upkeep of this road? Anyone who thinks that it won't deteriorate in a week is naive.

Why can't we set a movement standard in our region? The best recipe for expansion of Gunlake's operations is to move by rail not road. Marulan will continue to grow and be an attractive place to live, our wildlife and our loved ones will be protected and the community and the mining operations of the region can live in harmony.

Catherine Fletcher

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