

R & D Curvey
35 Narelle Lane,
Towrang, 2580
12 May 2016

NSW Department of
Planning and Environment
23-33 Bridge Street,
Sydney,
NSW, 2000

**Re: Gunlake Quarry Expansion Project
Environmental Impact Statement,
April 2016.**

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to express our total opposition to the proposed expansion at the Gunlake Quarry located on Brayton Road Brayton 2579.

With the local Marulan Area experiencing a rapid growth in Hard Rock Quarrying one must look at what has already been achieved by other operators of Quarries in the area. For instance Holcim has conducted continuous meetings and forums with the local community residents and Community groups, and has taken on board what has been said and adapted the quarry operation to work in with discrepancies raised. Holcim also transport most of the hard rock product from the quarry by rail to the Holcim Sydney facility.

Holcim have set a New Standard in Hard Rock Quarry Operating Procedures through lengthy consultations and extra cost to themselves, but have gained the support of the local communities. This same STANDARD must be taken on board in any future EIS requests by ALL operators, which should decrease the cheaper less environmentally friendly methods employed by operators such as Gunlake

Gunlake's **Environmental Impact Statement (E.I.S.)** is asking to increase the traffic along Brayton Road and the Bypass Road **from 164 trucks per day to 440 trucks per day**. Gunlake also note that on some days they would want to run up to **690 truck movements per day**.

Since this quarry has become operational I for one have restricted my useage of Brayton Road, and have ceased purchasing items in Marulan township due to the density of heavy vehicle traffic using this road. In my opinion Brayton Road and the Bypass Road are not suitable for this level of traffic., as can be seen by the constant deterioration of the road surface due to the weight capacity of the heavy vehicles using it. I think such a proposal is extremely dangerous and irresponsible. I believe it is a recipe for disaster and poses a completely unacceptable level of risk to the local community and all road users.

This new proposal will also increase the level of unnecessary and unacceptable noise in a pristine rural environment. These trucks, approximately one every 2 minutes, 24 hours a day, are required to STOP at the intersection of the Gunlake Quarry entrance and Brayton Road and then start off again, the acceleration of engines and constant gear changing will create a constant and unacceptable level of hazardous Diesel smog and excessive noise levels for residents. It will also pose

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an unacceptable safety risk for other road users, as Brayton Road and the Bypass road/ Red Hills road are local rural roads that were never designed to carry this continuous traffic footprint.

The only sensible solution to moving this amount of hard rock product to Gunlakes Sydney facility is for Gunlake to send it by rail, as Holcim do at their Lynwood Quarry next door. Holcim has advised local community members at meetings that are willing to discuss the use of the Holcim Rail Freight Terminal with Gunlake but have not been approached by Gunlake.

The Gunlake E.I.S. Revision also requests consent to expand rock crushing operations from the existing times of **7am to 6pm Monday to Saturday to 24 hours a day everyday except Sundays**. This would have a huge impact on the normal peace and quiet of this rural community. We can already hear Gunlake crushing on some days, when a light breeze seems to be blowing in our direction. We are approximately 7 kms from the Gunlake Quarry. This noise is accentuated by the fact that the Gunlake Rock Crusher is not in an enclosed sound and dust proof building, as are Holcim's and Boral's units. This is also totally irresponsible on the part of Gunlake Management as large quantities of dust are being released into the surrounding atmosphere. It should also be noted that the Granite hard rock being mined/ crushed has a high SILICA content, which with exposure to workers and the local residents can cause SILICOSIS, which is far more deadly than ASBESTOSIS. Who is going to pick up the cost of this in years to come.? The Gunlake company? Or the taxpayer.

NOTE; See photo a end of document showing dust cloud (containing SILICA) rising from the Gunlake Quarry. Photo taken from Red Hills road Marulan approx 4 KMS away.

If Gunlake gets permission to increase crushing **from 750,000 tonnes per year to 2,000,000 tonnes** and if crushing is allowed to operate **24 hours a day**, the impact on local residents would be intolerable. I know, Ed O'Neil offered, at a public meeting early last year to build a sound proof shed over the crushers, similar to the one Holcim have. Gunlake have taken this offer away and don't seem to be interested in discussing it anymore.

Until Gunlake agree to operate the said quarry to a far better standard and protect the local community, I request that their Quarry Expansion Project currently on the table be rejected in full and that current operations be curtailed pending review by Qualified Persons.

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Yours faithfully,

Roger & Denise Curvey