

1575775, 1577361, 1577282: LGS
Economic Development & Environment



5 April 2018

Jack Murphy
Jack.Murphy@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Jack,

Austen Quarry Extension Project - Modification 1 (SSD 6084 MOD 1)

I refer to your email received 7 March 2018 in regard to a modification to the State Significant Development Approval SSD6084 for the Hy-Tec/Austen Quarry and the request for Council comment on the application.

Council makes the following comment in relation to the proposed modification:

1. Increase to Annual Production and Increase operating hours for loading, unloading of trucks and vehicle movements

Council has no concerns with the potential increase to the annual production rate, however does have concern with noise and traffic impacts to the surrounding vicinity.

In 2011, Council approved a modification to the original quarry approval 103/94DA to allow truck and transport movements, loading and unloading, to occur between the hours of 5.00am to 10.00pm Monday to Friday and 5.00am to 3.00pm on Saturdays. This was subsequently carried through to the SSD6084 approval. These hours were approved due to early morning noise issues to the most affected neighbouring property and to the surrounding property owners.

Council previously commissioned advice from an acoustic consultant in regard to the extension of transport hours with a resolution that there is no guarantee that the previous road works undertaken will achieve an acceptable acoustic outcome in the future. Council has concerns that the works on Jenolan Caves Road and Glenroy Bridge will have long term structural effects and will require ongoing maintenance or upkeep to continue to reduce potential noise impacts to the area.

An objector to the previous modification had complaints that vehicles were arriving at the site an hour before opening and queuing at the quarry entrance. This has impacts on the surrounding rural/tourism land uses.

Noise would be required to be managed by all drivers and the quarry operators. There is no certainty of noise avoidance or implications for any breaches of any traffic management plans.

Due to the above concerns, Council is unable to support the extension of operating hours for the loading, unloading of trucks and vehicle movements.

2. Biodiversity Offsetting Obligations

Council is satisfied that Condition 25 of Schedule 3 be amended to reflect the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and the Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2017. Any biodiversity offsetting obligations require the approval from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

3. Overburden Emplacement Boundary

Council is satisfied that the overburden emplacement boundary be modified as it involves a reduction in the offset area previously predicted in the SSD6084 consent.

The Statement of Environmental Effects states proposed mitigation measures in relation to noise and traffic on the Glenroy Bridge. Prior to Council being able to provide comment to the application, it is recommended that the following further information is submitted:

Applicant: *Planting of trees to screen the view of Jenolan Caves Road from the property and to act as a noise barrier. The timing and suitable species for use in this process would be agreed with the landowners.*

Council Comment: A landscaping plan is to be submitted showing the type and location of the vegetation proposed to be planted.

Applicant: *Hy- Tec has agreed to contact RMS to formally request RMS consider reducing the speed limit on the bridge and the approaches to the Glenroy Bridge to 40km/hr. If this is not possible, it would be recommended that advisory speed signs be modified to reflect 40km/hr in this location.*

Council Comment: Council would like to be notified of the RMS response to the above.

Applicant: *Regardless of the result of consultation with the RMS, Hy- Tec will advise all transport contractors that they are to limit their speed on this section of Jenolan Caves Road to 40km/hr, where it remains safe to do so.*

Applicant: *Hy- Tec has agreed to contact the operators of the Oberon Quarry and other known sources of heavy vehicles on Jenolan Caves Road to request that these operations instruct vehicle drivers to show consideration for residents at the property and, if feasible, reduce heavy vehicles speeds to 40km/hr at this location.*

Council Comment: As Council previously stated, there is no certainty of noise avoidance or implications for any breaches of any traffic management plans.

Applicant: *Hy- Tec would also investigate noise mitigation at the Glenroy property, such as doubleglazing or shuttering of windows.*

Council Comment: Council would like to be notified of the results for the above.

It is recommended that regular noise monitoring is recommended to be undertaken at the Glenroy Bridge and reported in Hy-Tecs Annual Review.

During the exhibition of the proposed application, one submission was received by the adjoining owners located at the Glenroy Bridge. This submission is attached for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact Miss Lauren Stevens who is available between 8:15am and 10:30am Monday to Friday on (02) 63549999, in Council's Environment & Development Department should you have any queries in relation to this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Muir', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Muir

DIRECTOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT