

28th March 2017



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Howard Reed - Resource Assessments

Planning Services

Department of Planning & Environment

GPO Box 39, SYDNEY NSW 2001



Hanson's Brandy Hill Quarry Expansion – Application No SSD-5899

Dear Sir / Madam,

I OPPOSE THE HANSON'S BRANDY HILL QUARRY EXPANSION .

The proposal to operate the quarry 24/7 at 1.5 million tonnes production with, in excess of 100 truck movements per hour, is totally unacceptable to the community in which it operates for the following reasons:-

A significant increase in **truck movements** will have the following detrimental effects:-

- An increase in wear & tear on road surfaces not built to sustain such heavy constant traffic. Potholes are common place now & would only increase, compromising driver safety.
- An increased potential risk of accidents for local drivers navigating around and in between trucks which are often speeding.
- An increase danger / risk with drop off / pickup of school children at inadequate bus stops. Are you waiting for a tragic accident before acting?
- Increased noise pollution to residents along roadways and Raymond Terrace higher density residential areas.
- Increased exposure to diesel fumes with the scientifically proven health risks of lung and bladder cancer. (World Health Organisation 2012)

A Canadian study by Weichenthal, S. et al. 2014 states that **truck ratio** is one of the strongest **predictors** of mean near-road **ultrafine particle & black carbon concentrations**. This has a significant impact on cardiovascular morbidity / mortality.

- Potential sleep deprivation for residents along roadways with 24/7 truck movements. Perception of noise is higher at night.
- Tourism and its economic benefits will also be affected as roads dominated by B double trucks do not lend themselves to scenic driving.

Characterizing the impact of traffic & the built environment on near-road UFP & BC concentrations.
Weichenthal, S. et al. 2014. Environmental Research. Vol 132: 305-310

Expansion of the quarry **size & operation** will have the following detrimental effects:-

- Increased dust pollution to those living around the perimeter of the quarry.
- Increased noise pollution due to 24 hour operation which would compromise sleep.
- Increased ground vibration from blasting... what would be the longterm effect on house structures?
- The residual 78 metre deep pit with the potential of becoming either an official or unofficial rubbish tip.

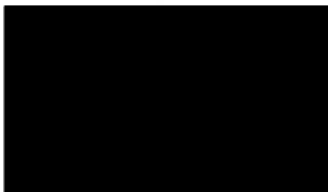
The overall impact will be both reduced quality of life and reduced property values in the vicinity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The current hours of operation (12 hrs / day, 6 days /wk) are an adequate operational time frame.
Has Hansons looked at **strategies to improve efficiency** within this time frame and hence **improve productivity**?
- **The impact of Hansons truck movement MUST be considered in conjunction with the Martins Creek Expansion proposal.**
- To demonstrate community responsibility, Hansons should provide new infrastructure to mitigate safety concerns and to ensure an ongoing harmonious partnership within the community.
- **I challenge both the Hanson administration & the DPE to come and experience firsthand the impact of living and driving within the quarry environment !!!**
- Any decisions made by the DPE should be clearly supported & documented by **independent evidence-based environmental impact research!!**

I trust that these comments and recommendations will be considered seriously and addressed thoroughly.

Yours sincerely



I have not made a reportable political donation