

The NSW planning minister

Dear sir

I would like to bring to your attention my deep concerns regarding the expansion of the Brandy Hill quarry.

1. My biggest fear is the amount of extra trucks that will be traversing Brandy Hill Drive & other roads in affected areas. At present the roads are grossly inadequate & in a lot of places in desperate need of repair from the damage the trucks have already caused by travelling on them at present levels. Adding a further 500 plus trucks per day on roads that cannot cope with present levels does not make any sense. There are also no shoulders in many places along Brandy Hill Dr to allow a car driver to move as far left as possible when passing these trucks. I am sure a lot of these trucks exceed the roads speed limit of 80km. Some trucks sit right up behind cars & should the car need to break suddenly it doesn't give the truck much opportunity to stop in time.
2. My next major concern is for the safety of children getting on & off buses. Some buses stop to embark and disembark children at non designated stops because at present the bus stops are too few, they are inadequate with very little room for a bus to pull over & with trucks closely following the buses its an accident waiting to happen. Often buses stop at the end of adjoining roads or at times stopping with the bus partially on the road way. I also fear a child being hit while crossing the road with the extra

trucks that have been planned for this expansion. There is currently no walking path or cycle way along Brandy Hill drive or other roads that will have trucks traveling on them. While walking children to the bus stops it is extremely dangerous with these trucks traveling past. I shudder to think of the worst that could happen.

3. Noise will also be of a huge concern to many residents that are living closer to the quarry with the operation of the quarry on a 24/7 basis. Almost all trucks ignore the signs asking them not to use their exhaust brakes in built up areas. This will affect all residents that live along the corridors that the trucks will be traveling. How would you like this right on your doorstep 24/7. Trying to get a solid 8-hours sleep to face your working day that may involve high risk work & safety is a must. With lack of sleep night after night will be putting them at risk while trying to do their job & them driving to & from their employment.
4. The impact on the environment will be devastating to say the least. Extra noise, extra carbon emissions, road deterioration, the much larger & deeper mine cut that I believe will be 78 metres below sea level which will eventually fill with toxic chemicals leaking into water that will collect in the hole. Bird life & other animals will also be greatly affected. I also believe that when the mine eventually closes this pit could become a dumping site.
5. I also have questions for Hansens.

Are Hansens, should the expansion go ahead, improve the road ways & be maintain at a high level, put in walking paths & cycle ways for safety, install many more bus stops again for safety, lower & implement speed limits for trucks?

I would also like to know are Hansens prepared to pay residents in & along the affected areas compensation for when selling their properties? Are Hansen going to pay the difference between what they are currently worth to what we will get for them should this expansion goes ahead? No one in their right mind would buy in this area knowing that the mine works 24/7 & there is up to 900 trucks including 78 plus trucks passing through from the Martins Creek quarry 24/7.

Also are Hansens willing to constantly pay for damages the trucks do to our windcreens? We have 4 cars at our residence & 3 have chipped windcreens each one from stones the trucks have flicked up when passing us. Often we have several chips in the windcreens which need replacing before registration. I believe some of the stones are flicked when the trucks are so close to the edge of the roadway. Again comes back to the inadequatesey of the road conditions.

I truly hope that you please consider the health & safety of the residents of Brandy Hill & all the affected communities along the path that these trucks travel & the 24/7 operations in the quarry. This expansion will have a detrimental effect on all our lives. We bought out here in Brandy Hill 25 years ago to have peace & quiet, a bush land setting, a stress free lifestyle & room to move at a slower more relaxed pace. The mine expansion will only compromise this. I do know that since when we first moved here the number of trucks have increased dramatically & I definitely do not want to see any more added to that

number as we already can't accommodate them now. Please leave our beautiful Brandy Hill alone. Hansens only have their own greed at stake!

I wish to thank you for taking the time to read this petition & we all look forward to a favourable outcome for the residences in Brandy Hill & surrounding areas that will be detrimentally affected should this expansion go ahead.

Yours sincerely

Carmen Trudgett