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26 Giles Road  
Seaham NSW 2324

8<sup>th</sup> April 2017

The Director,  
Resource Assessments,  
Department of Planning and Environment,  
PO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001

**RE: Brandy Hill Quarry Expansion Project - Objection**

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am a landowner / resident directly adjacent to the boundary of the existing quarry buffer zone and it is my understanding of the information provided in the EIS, that should the Brandy Hill Quarry Expansion proposal be approved in its current form, there will be significant impacts to the local community.

In general I am in support of the ongoing operation of the quarry; however, I cannot support the nature and scale of the proposed operation of Brandy Hill Quarry.

As such, I formally object to the Brandy Hill Quarry Expansion on the grounds as follows:

1. Increased operational footprint:

The inclusion, positioning and subsequent environmental impacts associated with a concrete batching plant, concrete waste processing plant and the relocation closer to my residence will exponentially increase the effects currently experienced.

2. Noise:

Currently I experience the noticeable effects of noise, dust, vibration, blasting and operational lighting from the day to day operation of the Brandy Hill Quarry. The sounds emanating from the crushing operations can be clearly witnessed both before and after sunset, a period which the quarry operators currently claim not to be operating.

3. Dust:

Dust plumes can be clearly seen from Clarencetown Road directly after blasting and on windy days.

4. Blasting and Vibration

We regularly experience the effects of blasting in the form of noise, and vibrations. There has been an increase in the awareness of these occurrences as evidenced by the vibrations of windows directly following blasting activities.

5. Lighting

The radiant operational lighting is clearly visible from my residence during non daylight hours.

6. Traffic Safety

The sheer volume of heavy transport movements during the proposed 24 hour operations and the associated increase in traffic, noise, dust and diesel emissions will adversely impact the local traffic environment.

The roads themselves are not in good surface condition and typically have minimal shoulder width when compared to arterial roads that generally support this level of heavy vehicle movements.

There is also the question of infrastructure maintenance as two of the four arterial routes away from the quarry include two single lane timber bridges. The noise impacts across these bridges would be significant.

I would also like to draw your attention to 3 vehicle accidents during March 2017 that I am personally aware of:

- a. 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – at the corner of Seaham Road & Raymond Terrace Road a two vehicle collision.
- b. 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – Clarencetown Road less than 1km from the entrance to the quarry, a two vehicle collision
- c. 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 - Clarencetown Road less than 3km from the entrance of the quarry, a two vehicle collision, resulting in a fatality.

The potential for there to be an increase in the frequency and severity of these types of incidents or for them to escalate to multiple fatalities is a very real possibility.

7. Inadequate buffer zone

The inclusion and positioning of a concrete batching plant, concrete waste processing plant and the expansion of the extraction footprint, and the relocation of the operational facilities closer to my place of residence will exponentially increase the effects of the quarry operations that are currently experienced.

In the EIS there is no provision or visible plans to expand or maintain the current buffer zone distances from existing properties. The proposed relocation of the quarry's operations closer to my, and other properties in Giles Road will increase exposure to the operational byproducts such as blasting noise and overpressure, blasting vibrations, consistent crushing, batching and truck loading & movement noise, the dust generated, as well as visual impacts from increased lighting during non-daylight hours.

#### 8. Biodiversity

The area immediately surrounding the quarry is home to a number of wildlife species which include Eastern Grey kangaroos, Black Faced Wallabies, koalas, echidnas and reptiles such as goannas and bearded dragons all of which could potentially be displaced.

#### 9. Rehabilitation and closure

The information contained in Appendix 18 regarding rehabilitation and closure is a key concern. The void would be 78 metres below sea level and would be filled with water following the completion of mining. There is no discussion as to how long it would take for the void to be filled, the level to which it would be filled, the composition or cleanliness of the water, nor the after use of the void.

In summary, I fail to see how the expanded extraction footprint, the inclusion of a concrete batching plant and a concrete waste processing plant with the relocation of the quarry's operational facilities to be positioned significantly closer to existing residential dwellings, who does not consider at a minimum, maintaining the existing operational buffer footprint distances to the surrounding residential dwellings can be considered as having minimal impact to the existing landowners.

I reiterate that I cannot support the nature and scale of the proposed operation of Brandy Hill Quarry.

I am of the firm opinion that operating hours should be limited to between 6am to 6pm Monday to Friday and be not extended into the evening and weekends as proposed.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this objection and I respectfully request that this submission receive favourable consideration by the consent authority.

Carl Mackaway.