

I wish to inform you of my absolute concern for my **health, quiet enjoyment, structural damage** to my family home, damage to my **family business** and significant **devaluing** of land values as a result of the proposed Brandy Hill Quarry Extension (SSD 5899).

It is known around the world that the impacts from quarrying and also the processing of Concrete and Cement production, and recycling operations can have **significant impact on human health**:-

- the development of a child's brain,
- risk respiratory and cardiovascular disease,
- high blood pressure,
- Water Pollution,
- Non Hodgkinsons lymphoma,
- pancreatic problems,
- rashes, light headedness, gastric problems etc.

It has been reported that in areas close to cement plants there is an increase in heart disease, and infertility and **people are warned about the need to educate themselves about the hazards of living near cement plants.**

It is advised that people should live no closer than 8km's opposite to the way of the prevailing winds. **Giles Rd residents live within 1,170 metres** of BHQ, significantly closer than the 8km's recommended.

Our health and wellbeing is in the hands of the Government Departments and our politicians, and I trust that all operations related to cement and concrete at BHQ be prevented based on the health risks known throughout the world. This is a new operation that will be introduced to our community after we had all moved here.

I am concerned we will only be aware of the **Highly Dangerous Air Pollutants** emitted into the air **after the fact.**

BHQ has **significant limitations with the monitoring** of the actual particles within the air as the closest air quality measuring station is located as far as Beresfield.

A number of properties have been listed as 'sensitive receivers'. Given that all residents of Giles Road, some area's of Butterwick, some area's of Seaham, and indeed some residents on Clarence Town Road are all within the 81m radius, surely we all would be considered as 'Sensitive receivers'.

Two of the properties noted are at 13 and 13B Giles Road. Both of these properties are at the lowest point in the road, where there is quite a dip away from the the equivalent elevation of the quarry. There are many properties that are at the same elevation as the quarry. The sound will, and does, travel at about the same elevation, and so these properties will definitely receive less noise than those at the same elevation.

Our property at No.1 Giles Road is at approximately the same elevation as the quarry, and continually hear the crushing, feel the blasting and have challenged Quarry management in the past when we felt such occasions were out of order.

I am concerned about:-

Mercury, PM10, PM 2.5, and Respirable Crystalline Silica, to name a few, let alone emissions from blasting.

I want to know what the approved methods for modelling and assessment of air pollutants are in NSW and around the globe.

I am a resident and Primary Producer living in Giles Rd, Seaham. Our house is located 2.28 km from the Brandy Hill Quarry. We decided to live in this area because it is environmentally beautiful, has significant flora, fauna species and cultural heritage, and is positioned ideally in a central location to the Hunter Valley Tourist locations. We moved here to be away from industry and pollution, and as far as possible without impacting on employment prospects yet far enough away from suburbia.

We, like many other residents living all the way out here, value our environment and passionately want to protect it.

My understanding was that Brandy Hill Quarry had a 30 year operating license and this was reaching its final stages of it's project and the resources would soon run out.

I also wish to advise you that the residents of Giles road had not been consulted or included in any community engagement activities with BHQ in the past 2 1/2 years, and in fact are one of BHQ's closest neighbours.

I had no idea that my future will be 30 years of feeling the shock from blasts as the earth shakes, windows rattle and it sounds like someone is opening the large glass sliding door. My visitors get such a shock and are concerned when we have a blast because it feels so close. Cracks have appeared to my house. What I mean by that is since we have lived in this area, we have noticed cracks appearing in our brickwork, and in our cement verandah, in line with hearing significant blasting from the quarry. I can feel the crusher vibrate through my heart, unnervingly making me feel unwell and stressed, let alone hearing that sound "CHONK CHONK CHONK" continue over and over.

Residents have reported to me that they have tolerated the blasting vibrations and the crusher from BHQ and don't tend to report incidences because the current operation would be finishing soon.

Residents are not aware of the dangers to their health by the current quarry operations and nor were they aware that the monitoring of air quality is significantly limited. Residents have kept quiet and trusted our Government agencies to look after us.

Generally, the Giles Rd residents are a really lovely rural community of quiet, polite people who don't like to complain or create trouble.

Please protect our families by preventing:-

- 144 hours of the crusher operating and feeling unwell as a result,
- the rattling blasts damaging our houses,
- the dangerous air particles that will damage our health by extending the Quarry operations for the next 30 yrs, and by introducing cement and concrete operations,
- the decline in value of our properties,
- the loss of tourist appeal,
- the damage to primary producers business,
- and the increased levels of road noise, and jeopardising the safety of our roads by the increase of truck movements.