

Objections to Brandy Hill Quarry Extension.

April 2017

I would like to object to the plan in as it is currently being considered on the grounds that

- Truck movements will be allowed 24 hour 7 days a week. If truck movements increase, the cost of the expansion of the mine is borne by the residents of Brandy Hill as houses are devalued.
- The road quality of Brandy Hill Drive is so poor that it could not sustain further traffic
- There is no safe walking foot path or crossing for foot traffic on the side of the road.
- Bus stops for school pickups are often just a road side and in wet weather the bus must stop on the road.
- Garbage trucks pick up the bins at about the same time as the morning school runs, this leads to congestion and quarry trucks overtaking the school bus, the garbage truck or both, even though there are double lines on the road.
- The idea that there will be a net social economic impact is unlikely. There will only be a few extra jobs and most of them won't come from the local area.

The rehabilitation report fails to consider the following points:

- Water quality for the final void is not addressed. There is no information about aquifers that may be intercepted and no expected water quality information.
- The void will have three steep sides limiting safety post mining. The void in its current design will be unsafe for humans and wildlife with deep water being so close to the edge.
- There is no water run off or run in information. There is the possibility that evaporation will result in the water salinizing over the years, affecting ground water and possibly effecting water quality in the Williams River or in the wetlands around the Hunter.
- The storage of topsoil in dumps is known to be detrimental to soil microflora and fauna, and to nutrient levels. Under the current plan, topsoil stored in dumps will be of very poor quality by the time it is used again. This means that rehabilitation objectives will much harder to meet.
- The report states that dead trees will be removed. This is not best practice for rehab. Dead trees are usually incorporated as stag trees or as habitat.
- Eco stability after fire is glossed over.
- Rock benches heights are not given – these could pose a safety risk.
- We are not given the data to suggest that the current rehab is meeting specifications.