

1st March 2017

Planning Services
Department of Planning and
Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2001

ATTN: Minster for Planning

REF: Opposing the Eagleton Hardrock Quarry Development

Application No: SSD7332

Location: Lot 2 DP1108702, Barleigh Ranch Way, Eagleton

Applicant: Eagleton Rock Syndicate Pty. Ltd

I wish to lodge an objection to the proposed Eagleton Hardrock Quarry. I feel this development is inappropriate for this location, due to its proximity to existing residents and location within the Grahamstown Dam catchment.

My main concerns are:

Noise

- I am very sensitive to noise and this development could impact my quality of life.
- By reducing the skyline (ie eliminating the hill), the new quarry will be removing a buffer that was protecting residents from the existing noise from the motorbike track, MG Car club circuit, Circuit Italia Raceway and Boral Quarry.
- Not only will I suffer the impacts of the new quarry, but this will be compounded by the exposure to the Boral operations, that is currently mostly protected from the hillside that the developer wants to excavate, hence creating new issues for noise.
- Noise modelling has not taken into account the different heights of benches that noise sources would make with different temperature inversions.

Dust

- Reduced tank water quality, as the dust and blast residue will settle on our collection surfaces, affecting my drinking water.
- I use tank water, this proposal will increase the dust entering my tanks and filters and this will mean more cleaning required and more frequent filter changes, at my cost.

Water Management

- The proposed development poses a significant threat to the integrity of the catchment of Grahamstown Dam, which supplies the greater Newcastle region with drinking water.
- Due to location of quarry within water catchment area, there should be a zero discharge limit applied. Any discharge should be required to be treated on site
- Assessment states that water available on site will be greater than demand for Quarry life, hence water management will always be an issue during periods of high rainfall as experienced recently.

Environment Impact

- The removal of 30 hectares of native vegetation can have an adverse impact on local biodiversity. The site supports a range of threatened species and provides habitat for native flora and fauna.
- The noise impacts will also have a damaging effect on wildlife, driving them further into the surrounds, and away from their chosen habitat.
- The increase in the incidence of bushfire should not be disregarded. The bushfire assessment given in the proposal concentrates mainly on the effect of fire at the facility. Fires can spread quickly into adjoining properties, with little or no warning.
- A rehabilitation fund needs to be setup prior to the operation of the quarry, to guarantee availability of money, to ensure the site can be fully restored to a natural habitat.

Life style.

- Like my neighbours I bought my property for the quiet rural lifestyle, after living near a construction zone over a period of time, which lead to health issues. Since living at my current home my health has improved. This proposal could undo the benefits I have received from living a quiet rural life.

I hope that Department of Planning will take all my concerns into account. This proposed development is causing considerable stress on myself and I am looking forward to seeing this issue ended as soon as possible. Please notify me of the Department's decision with regard to this Development Application.