

Brandy Hill  
NSW 2324

I oppose the Martins Creek Quarry expansion.

Summary of objections:-

1. Their vehicles are a danger to other road users
2. Their vehicles already disturb the amenity of the area running throughout the night
3. This company is inconsiderate and operates outside its guidelines
4. The expansion affects more than just the quarry premises

Details of objections

1. Their vehicles are a danger to other road users. Just last week I witnessed a truck and trailer tailgating a tractor at high speed along Brandy Hill Drive. The truck and trailer were marked with Daracon on the side and the mud flaps. Clearly the truck had pressured the tractor to an unsafe speed by crowding the tractor from the rear. Having been pushed to this speed (around 80 to 90 KPH) the tractor could not slow down for fear of a rear end collision with the truck and could not pull off the road safely due to road conditions. It was obvious that the truck driver was making a point regarding being stuck behind a slow moving vehicle.
2. Their vehicles already disturb the amenity of the area running throughout the night. It is quite common to be woken by truck engine noise or air brakes at any time during the night. We have even experienced this at 3:45 am on a Sunday morning. Quite commonly these trucks are on the road between 10:00pm and 6:00am.
3. This company is inconsiderate and operates outside its guidelines. Given the points above clearly this company is already operating as if it has 24 hour approval. In my opinion this company should be restricted to operation between 7:00 am and 6:00pm Monday to Friday and monitored to ensure they adhere to these hours.
4. The expansion affects more than just the quarry premises. I am of this view as this company and its employees show little regard for the areas through which they travel (day or night) and this is an impact that extends to the limits of where they deliver their product. Furthermore it is the entitlement of all residents of the suburbs through which these vehicles travel to have a chance of a good night's sleep. Additionally the road infrastructure is inadequate to safely carry this traffic (as demonstrated by the driver in point 1). Most of the roads surrounding this quarry are simple country roads with only one lane in each direction and very few overtaking lanes. This creates dangerous situations where drivers become impatient and do stupid things. In addition to this some of the road conditions are inadequate to deal with vehicles so long and large as to obscure oncoming traffic, in particular the intersection of Brandy Hill drive and Seaham road where traffic behind a truck and trailer turning from Seaham road into Brandy Hill drive is obscured by the truck turning until the truck fully enters the turning lane. Commonly this results in the traffic behind the truck accelerating down Seaham road and catching traffic attempting to enter Seaham road (and head toward Raymond Terrace) in the intersection.

In summary

It is my opinion that this quarry operating at the extended hours requested will increase the disturbance of its neighbours and the residents of the areas through which its vehicles travel. This expansion will also further expose all road users to the abuse of the truck

drivers working for this company. No doubt the people immediately surrounding the quarry will speak up on this point. However the further impacts of this operation must be considered. Given this company's current behaviour, this expansion should not be permitted and immediate measures should be put in place to monitor this company and ensure it operates safely, reasonably and within guidelines.