

09 November 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

I write this letter of support as the Institute of Quarrying Australia's (IQA) General Manager. Daracon Group is a valued member of the IQA engaging in professional development programs and professional networking opportunities.

The Australian Quarrying Industry has been under increasing pressure to introduce fundamental changes in business practices given the challenges facing the industry. The IQA views Daracon Group as having the foresight and capability to ensure their operations are conducted at the highest levels of professionalism, integrity and corporate social responsibility.

I cite the following positive attributes of the Martins Creek Quarry project:

- The Martins Creek Quarry will support many infrastructure projects (road construction, housing, railway construction etc.) adding lifestyle value to the local communities. If the Hunter Valley is to prosper and grow, Martins Creek Quarry will be required to provide the necessary materials for major infrastructure projects. It is my understanding that the Martins Creek Quarry is one of only three (3) hard rock quarries of this kind in the region to supply the material for these infrastructure projects. Limiting material supply for these infrastructure projects may increase the cost of projects which the taxpayer is funding.
- The project will ensure employment for over 850 employees and over 1000 contractors and their families as well as creating opportunities for people from many different backgrounds;
- The IQA is very aware that Daracon is a well-known supporter of local communities and charities;
- For the region to grow economically and structurally, and at a rate reported in the Hunter Regional Plan 2036, not only will the Martins Creek Quarry project support local jobs but it will also be able to service the demand of a growing population with the necessary construction materials.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information or need to seek clarification.

Yours faithfully



Paul Sutton
IQA General Manager