

Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney
NSW 2001

481 Martins Creek Road
Paterson
NSW 2421

Attn: Mr Howard Reed

Manager Mining Projects

26th August 2014

Dear Mr Reed

RE: Martins Creek Quarry - Current Operations & Proposed Expansion

As a resident of the Paterson/Martins Creek community for 37 years I am very disturbed with recent activities from the Martins Creek Quarry and the impacts of this activity on the Hunter community.

The recent increase in extraction and movement of materials within the quarry and ultimately through communities of Martins Creek, Paterson, Brandy Hill, Bolwarra, Lorn, Maitland, Vacy and Gresford, has ignited, and rightly so, a level of anxiety and anti-mining sentiment I have not witnessed before in these localities.

Past operations have impacted its neighbours with elevated dust, noise level, blasting and off site vehicular movements.

The Quarry has been in operating for many years and undoubtedly the new operators during their diligence studies prior to tendering and taking over the quarry would have been informed sufficiently to realise the restrictions on current and future operations.

The recent intensive campaign to deliver product for a "once off contract" significantly increased dust and noise from the quarrying operation. The associated road haulage of products through the local communities raised many safety and environmental issues.

Following the recent community meeting where the current operators of the quarry informed the community they would be seeking approval to:-

- increase the hours of activity at the quarry for operation, maintenance and haulage
- increase the extraction limit of the quarry and identify alternate transport routes for road haulage within the community

I request the following to be considered.

- Operation and haulage hours remain 7am till 4pm Monday to Friday
- Extraction limits are not increased above 500,000 tonnes of product
- As per current approval 70% of the product to be transported by rail to a suitably approved transfer facility to eliminate the impacts of intermittent campaign road haulage through communities
- Road haulage (empty and laden vehicles) to only be permitted along currently approved routes and
- Any consideration for amendments to the existing operation include a comprehensive impact assessment developed in **consultation with the community** to address social and environmental considerations to the host communities as listed previously.

Thankyou for your assistance with the above requested points for consideration.

Stephen and Michelle Sneddon.
(Concerned residents)