

21st November 2016

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Director – Resource Assessments
Planning Services
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Martins Creek Quarry Expansion – Application No SSD-14_6612

Dear Sir/Madam

I oppose the Martins Creek Quarry Expansion.

I understand that it is a different Government Department making the decision on this expansion but I believe this proposal should not be processed until such time as the current legal proceedings between Daracon (Martins Creek Quarry) and Dungog Shire Council are finalised.

Damage to residents' property is already severe and would only increase if expansion was approved. The noise created by the large number of trucks through Paterson on deteriorating roads is already bad. The speed which some trucks travel is unsafe, particularly on our roads that were not intended for large trucks.

There are a number of school bus stops from Martins Creek and along the routes travelled by the large trucks creating a safety issue for children.

There are concerns about air pollution impacts, on the health of residents, particularly children.

The increase in quarry extraction and the number of trucks over recent years has already impacted on the lifestyle and amenity of the Martins Creek/Paterson area and beyond.

While I believe the rail corridor should be used but if train loading is 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, it would create a problem at the level crossing in Paterson affecting traffic flow and it could impact on emergency vehicles, a heavy vehicle bypass around Paterson would have to be put in place.

Having travelled to Dungog for work for over 30 years I have noticed the deterioration in road surface due to ever increasing number of trucks. Have had windscreen damage due to trucks, have had a truck driver heading south force me to back up on Gostwyck Bridge, even though I had started on bridge before he reached the start of the bridge on north side.

Some form of indicator showing level crossing is closed as vehicles approach the intersection of Church St and Dungog Road, to avoid the possibility of a collision between trucks and/or cars if a number of trucks are backed up waiting for the train to pass the crossing.

Daracon's proposal to cut the corner at Post Office and put in an island, will detract from the village amenity, as well as eliminate all parking for patrons of the café, service station, Post Office, Chemist and CBC.

The physical presence of the trucks through the street would make it difficult to access the park and other areas of the village.

The proposed entry onto Dungog Road is a safety issue entering near a crest on a narrow country road in an 80kph zone. This is a reasonably busy road used not only by shire residents in their day to day activities, e.g. travelling to and from work, visiting shopping centres, recreational activities, etc, but also a large number of visitors to the area use this road travelling to places like Dungog and the Barringtons.

I have not made a reportable political donation.