

The Secretary
NSW Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2000

1 November 2016

Attention: The Secretary

Dear The Secretary

RE: Martins Creek Quarry Project SSD 14_6612 - Letter of Support

This letter is to confirm that Coffey Testing Pty Ltd supports the Martins Creek Quarry Project.

Our business Coffey Testing Pty Ltd is involved in the construction materials industry. Our Newcastle business provides conformance and quality testing for the products produced by the Martins Creek Quarry. Our laboratory in Newcastle employs over 40 staff and this quarry directly supports the employment of these people through the business they provide to Coffey Testing. The success of the Martins Creek Quarry Project has a direct link and impact on the employment of staff within our business.

Martins Creek Quarry has been providing quarry product for railway construction, maintenance and repair, infrastructure and road construction in the Hunter Region for approximately 100 years. This has provided employment for hundreds of people and contributed to the region and state's economic growth.

Coffey has been conducting business with Daracon for over 20 years across various construction platforms. Daracon Quarries and specifically the work provided by Martins Creek Quarry helped support Coffey Testing during the difficult down-turn period that was experienced in the Hunter Valley during 2013- 2014. Our business is reliant on quarries such as Martins Creek Quarry to maintain itself as a viable entity.

We understand the Environmental Impact Statement has addressed issues raised by various government agencies and community.

Daracon operates one of three hard rock quarries within the Hunter Region. Without Martins Creek Quarry operational, this reduces the supply and their market availability of quality hard rock material, with the potential to increase the cost of material, therefore increase the cost of construction. This will have cost implications for road building authorities such as RMS and local councils.

We also note that the recently released Hunter Regional Plan 2036 clearly outlines a growing Hunter population requiring approximately 70,000 additional houses to house the population by 2036. With this will come the need for construction materials that Martins Creek Quarry produces.

Our business supports the proposal by Daracon, and believe it will have a significant and direct impact on our business and that of the industry if it were not to be successful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Watson' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Warren Watson
Operations Manager Testing – NSW/ACT