

Planning Services
Department of Planning and Environment
PO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Department of Planning and Environment,

I would like to lodge my support in relation to the Martins Creek Quarry Expansion Project as proposed by Daracon Group (SSD 6612).

I have been employed at Daracon Group in various roles over the last 7 years, I am currently in the role of Business Development Manager for Construction Materials. During this time I have been lucky enough to see the business grow, employing over 800 people many of whom are from the Newcastle and Hunter Valley area. A significant step in the growth of Daracon was the procurement of Martins Creek Quarry, given my role within the organization this proposal is not only significant to my family and I, but also the ongoing growth and development of the industry within the NSW construction market.

Martins Creek Quarry is one of only 3 major hard rock suppliers in the Newcastle area that has the ability and capacity to meet current and future market demand for high strength durable aggregate and roadbase products. If Martins Creek Quarry were unable to continue supplying the industry with the diverse range of products that are currently manufactured, competition would be reduced resulting in increased sell rates from other suppliers ultimately increasing costs for future road, rail and building infrastructure.

It should be noted that Martins Creek Quarry is the only significant hard rock quarry in the Hunter / Upper Hunter area that is not primarily used to feed internal manufacturing businesses. Martins Creek is unique in the fact that supply of products includes other major construction businesses, not just locally but in other areas of New South Wales also.

Personally Martins Creek Quarry provides security for my Wife, 2 children and I to continue living and working in the fantastic local area. Further, Martins Creek provides direct income for 11 other members of my family through contracting (transport) and working for the quarry direct. If Martins Creek proposal was not to be approved all of these people would be severely affected. Furthermore, the flow on affect to other local businesses (and their families) that are used for maintenance, tyres, auto electrical, steel fabrication for the transport company would be affected.

I believe the Quarry is an integral part of not just the Daracon group but also the wider local community. Martins Creek Quarry plays a pivotal role in supply to many projects within the Hunter Valley and other areas of NSW. It is for these reasons that I am fully in support of the proposed expansion.

I have not made any reportable political donations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Long', with a small mark to the right.

Stephen Long

Business Development Manager