



Hon Anthony Roberts
NSW Minister for Planning
NSW Government
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Simon Robinson
Conservation Officer
Birdlife Southern Highlands
2 Kingsbury Circuit
Bowral NSW 2576

21 June 2018

Dear Minister

Proposed Sutton Forest Sand Quarry

I am writing to you in my capacity as Conservation Officer for BirdLife Southern Highlands. Our association, a branch of BirdLife Australia, has over 100 members, all of whom reside in the Southern Highlands area and are directly affected by this proposal - which we strongly oppose.

The environmental assessment provided by the sponsoring company highlights several adverse findings. Of interest to our association is the likely detrimental effect on the Great Western Wildlife Corridor and several threatened species that depend on this corridor. We want to high-light the position of the threatened Glossy Black-cockatoo and draw your attention to the "Glossies in the Mist" initiative sponsored by your government through the NSW Government Office of Environment and Heritage, specifically to enhance the corridor. An important part of this bird's environment in the Great Western Wildlife Corridor is threatened by this project as detailed in the environmental assessment. Nor is the threat adequately mitigated by the proposed Biodiversity Offset – much of which is in the margin of the quarry – hardly an environment conducive to the comfort of, or utilisation by, a threatened species.

There are many other reasons to object to this proposal including water-table interference and dust generation, but we believe that the untoward effect on threatened flora and fauna and the conflict of this proposal with the Glossies in the Mist project alone justify its rejection.

We urge you to fully consider the environmental impact of this proposal and to reject in on this basis.

Yours sincerely

Simon Robinson
BSc, BVetMed, Grad Cert Ornith, MBA, MRCVS
Conservation Officer, BirdLife Southern Highlands

Copy: NSW Minister for the Environment