Objection to the Bobs Farm Sand Mine Project

As president of Wildlife in Need of Care (WINC), the licensed rescue & rehabilitation group for the area, I cannot think of a worse place for sand mining.

. To add 360 sand truck movements on the already dangerous Nelson Bay Road would be negligent. The road kill is already horrific, & this development will occur where Echidnas & Swamp Wallabies already suffer regularly. And that's to say nothing of the increased risks to people travelling on this busy road.

. It will absolutely destroy preferred Koala trees, & the habitat of threatened species such as the Powerful Owl, Sugar & Squirrel Gliders. In fact, removing 750,000 tonnes of sand per year, to a total of 10 million tonnes, will destroy the entire environment forever.

. Disruption of the filtering sand dunes & acid sulphate soils, by both dry & wet sand dredging extraction, will put the already compromised aquifer system, on which many homes & animals depend, at extreme risk; as will the 24.8 hectares of an artificial "lake" of contaminated water.

Allowing this project, with its noise, air pollution & traffic dangers, within metres of a school would be reprehensible & a severe breach of the duty of care.

. Having seen the "rehabilitation" efforts of miners on several areas, to expect a satisfactory restoration of 12 hectares of forest & 24.8 hectares of contaminated "lake" is farcical. Taxpayers will pay in one way or another, probably both, for this environmentally destructive proposal.

Lorraine Yudaeff

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