

31st January 2019

Proposed Sand Mine at Bobs Farm, Application Number SSd-6395

I have been procrastinating for some time in regards to completing this submission, as it is **touching some pretty sensitive nerves for me at present having lost my Dad in the past 9 months to lung disease which he had been fighting hard against for many years due to his past exposure to asbestos, 60 odd years ago before we all became more aware and intelligent to its ramifications.**

These days we are lucky to be more educated about how certain products can harm our bodies, but we need to be smart and use this knowledge to protect ourselves and more importantly our children.

We have an opportunity to do this! **You have the opportunity to do this** BY STOPPING THIS SANDMINE PROPOSAL which will expose our children to a similar product called SILICA which causes the terminal disease SILICOSIS. I DO NOT WANT TO SEE MY SON/DAUGHTER, OR THEIR FRIENDS OR ANY MEMBER OF THE BOBS FARM COMMUNITY AND SURROUNDS, SUFFER FROM THE SAME TYPE OF SYMPTOMS AND SIDE-EFFECTS THAT MY FATHER DID....

IT WAS HORRENDOUS AND HEARTBREAKING TO WATCH MY FATHER DISINTEGRATE FROM SUCH A HARDWORKING, ACTIVE, HEALTHY, FIT, AND GIVING MAN TO ONE WHO STRUGGLED TO BREATHE FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS OF HIS LIFE WITH THE LATTER 12MONTHS NEEDING OXYGEN 24/7 TO GET THROUGH THE DAY. This meant he was unable to play with his grandchildren, go for walks with his wife of 50 years, and also had to give up his volunteer work for the St Vincent de Paul society, where he provided advice and guidance to those in need, as he was unable to climb the stairs in the buildings where those in need were residing.

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS LITTLE FACE OF THE FUTURE, our son [REDACTED], TO BECOME LIKE HIS POP!!!



I CAN ASSURE YOU THE SMALL SMILE ON MY FATHER'S BRAVE FACE IN THIS PHOTO WAS ONLY THAT OF APPRECIATION.... That he got to meet his 8 grandchildren, but unfortunately he couldn't share any physical activities with them DUE TO THE DETRIMENTAL IMPACT ON HIS BODY AND BREATHING THAT THIS DISEASE SO ANGRILY CAUSED.

AGAIN, PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS MINE TO PROCEED as it could mean that my son, his sister and their friends could be put in the same position many years down the track.

It is UNJUST THAT SO MANY FAMILIES AND LOCAL BUSINESSES WILL BE GREATLY IMPACTED BOTH IMMEDIATELY BUT ALSO IN THE FUTURE, WITH THE DELAYED IMPACT THAT THIS CARCINOGEN will raise when they least expect it – WHEN IT IS TOO LATE TO EFFECT ANY CHANGE, WHEN THE HARM HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE. Not to mention the delayed health costs to the State when it's hospital beds are filled unnecessarily with sufferers when it could simply have been PREVENTED/STOPPED!

This is my main reason for requesting that you DO NOT ALLOW THIS SAND MINE to proceed.

Subsequent concerns are as follows:

- The **increased truck activity directly outside the school** will not only disrupt the excellent education offered at such a special little school with the **escalation of noise** from the said 180 trucks EACH DAY passing its schoolyard, but also put its all attendees at **risk of pedestrian accidents and/or vehicle accidents due to the inadequate infrastructure available at the Nelson Bay Road/Marsh Road intersection**. The probability of further accidents on the 80km speed limited Nelson Bay Road **will also increase from its already high accident toll**.
- **School closure** due to a number of parents needing to remove their children from the school if this mine moves forward, for fear that the **carcinogenic airborne pollution from silica dust** will be a serious risk to their children's health.
- **Local business forced closures** and destroyed livelihoods due to negative environmental impact with destruction of sand dunes and inappropriate use of underground water aquifer.
- **LOSS OF JOBS – it is hard to get good teachers as it is!** This will take away some great teachers, and support staff, from a wonderful educational facility who have just celebrated their Centenary. It has produced many successful alumni throughout its 100 year history – please afford it the chance to keep doing this for our community and our future.

Thank you for your time.

With sincere request that you do your utmost to stop this mine from proceeding PLEASE!????!!!!

Kindest regards on behalf of my family,

[REDACTED]

– Mother of Bob's Farm Public School student [REDACTED] YR1 –