Hi Genevieve,

We live 1.5 KM from the quarry gate as the crow flies. We have been here for the last 27 years. The suburb of Brandy Hill was the inception of the original quarry owner to raise funds for the works required to service access to the quarry. I believe this places an obligation on the quarry (regardless of who owns it) to fit into the community it created. These properties were sold as "prestige" properties and certain "promises" were made to the original purchasers with regard to life-style.

Since Hanson lodged their request for this expansion none of the authoritative bodies have been interested in following through complaints (PSC or EPA). This has led to Hanson's operating the quarry outside of the approved times with blatant disregard for the community and surrounds. The approved conditions of operation mean nothing to Hanson who take the attitude that as the authorities do not care they can get away with anything.

With regard to the proposed addition of a concrete crushing plant at the quarry, let me be clear, this is a residential area and the residents are entitled to what they were promised in terms of life-style and amenity. In no way should any leeway be given to an endeavour that would be so disruptive to the area.

A sad tale - a while ago whilst heading to work, as we came to enter Brandy Hill Drive we happened on a red tractor travelling at breakneck speed. This tractor was doing upwards of 70KPH. The reason the tractor was travelling at this speed is because a quarry truck was tailgating him and the poor farmer had no way to get away from the truck. At that speed it would not be safe for him to try and pull off the road. The tractor could not slow down for fear of a rear end collision. Said truck maintained this dangerous speed for some 2 Km until the intersection of Brandy Hill Drive and Seaham Rd. It was only at this point that the truck backed off giving the tractor an opportunity to slow down and move off the road. This occurred at around 8:45 am on a weekday ie peak hour.

I beseech you that if it is within your powers that you can get the authorities to properly monitor the operations at the quarry please do so. If at all possible can the EPA monitor the quarry's operating hours and can the council please carry out inspections of the operation to ensure that it complies.

I would give the strongest possible objection to the approval of this expansion and would go further to request that more stringent guidelines be enforced in line with the original approval. I am aware that there has been some obfuscation with regard to the original approval, however contrary to what has been stated PSC does have the original approval document restricting the operations of the quarry to specific limits. I note that as Hanson has been able to operate without fear of repercussion since the start of this process, they have not been in a hurry to push forward hence why this process has been on the books for so long.

On a previous occasion when submissions from the community were called for by the department we found that Hanson employees responded in vast numbers almost swamping the submissions from the community. We would ask that only submissions from people who live in the vicinity be considered and that submissions from people who live outside the area in areas such as Sydney be excluded.

I thank you for anything you might possibly be able to do to bring some semblance of normality back into our community. I strongly oppose the expansion and in particular object to the concrete crushing plant and 24 hour operation.

Many thanks