

Department of Planning and Environment
Att: Genevieve Seed

Dear Genevieve

Hanson's consultation process is inadequate. They have failed the Government and failed the community. By their own words, "...this project has failed to meet the expectations of DPE and Local Community." page 4, point 12

Paragraph 4 page 1 - of the Executive Summary prepared by R.W. Corkery & Co PTY. Limited states that "Hanson acknowledges that some of the information contained in the EIS could have been presented in more detail." The Work Health and Safety Act 2011, No.10 Clause 28, part B ...An act or omissions adversely impact the health and safety of other persons. The EIS and the response report is misleading and misrepresenting the truth and as a resident I am being lied to by omission.

In reference to the Executive Summary paragraph 4, 5, 6 sweeping statements have been made by Hanson which are injurious to the reputation of residents of Ports Stephens LGA and Brandy Hill by liable or slander. These are statements such as "several aspects" were "misunderstood by readers," "misinterpreted", "assumed to mean", and "perceived cumulative impacts".

What is the actual number of truck movements for both the proposed Extractive operation and please also include the total limits for truck movements for the Concrete & bitumen operation Hanson plans to involve itself in, from stage 1, when calculating the figure?

Will Hanson warrant that the maximum levels of transportation will never be exceeded?

In reference to 24 hour operations, page 1 paragraph 5 dot point 3 ... "Assumed by Who"? This is temporal nonsense.

In reference to Hanson's statement on Page 1 paragraph 7, "... perceived cumulative impacts" in relation to Martins Creek Extension Project, when and where exactly was "... the proposal for the Martins Creek Extension Project presented to this community"?

Please provide details of when the Martins Creek project was presented to the Brandy Hill and Port Stephens LGA residents? The cumulative impact of the 'Airshed' is important to be considered. This must be taken into account as there will be layering of pollution upon pollution, and noise upon noise to this poor community.

Paragraph 7 - is an admission by Hanson that they are seeking tolerable levels ...”by reducing some aspects of the project.” To reduce some operations from 24/7, however on the other hand to maintain the concrete and bitumen import and operational activities as 24/7 is still unreasonable.

Paragraph 8 - Hanson admits there are cumulative impacts with the Martins Creek Quarry. However, which “relevant guidelines” is this referring to? You cannot assume cumulant. Cumulative impact is assumed, therefore the cumulative impact could be assumed excessive, because there are no facts presented.

Paragraph 9 - All that has been focussed on is road safety, transport management, refinement of operating hours.

The review according to the executive summary has not focused on Dust, and the related health implications from associated Noise caused by Industrial operation on the BHQ quarry site. The quarry has not taken into consideration the noise impacts from Quarry crusher and related activities for those residing on Giles road, and the properties on Clarence Town Road, close to the Butterwick Rd intersection and Green Wattle Creek Rd residents. Hanson is only focussing on the Brandy Hill residents.

Hanson has not reduced anything it has proposed. As far as traffic movements the document excludes all traffic movements related to concrete operations and has not considered all vehicles in and out of the BHQ facility such as the staff; administrative, engineers, mechanics, quarry machinery operators, sales staff, owner operators, contractors for materials on and off the site such as cleaners, security, fitters, plumbers, septic, rubbish etc.

Paragraph 9 – How many reports have the amended results been carried out as a table top review or an actual full analysis of recent data within past 12 to 24months?

Page 2 paragraph 9 - The intersection assessment has no mention of vehicles turning right and the associated intersections impacted (Croft Rd, High St, Butterwick Rd, Patterson Rd) let alone the residents who will be impacted as far as Bolwarra Heights and Largs.

Paragraph 11, 12 – What is the additional mitigation?

Paragraph 13 - The Predictive modelling of dust dispersion. Please demonstrate the levels.

Paragraph 14 – In relation to Blasts - What residences? How were they chosen? Where has the livestock information come from to take into consideration potential blast impacts. Is this based on geology or just who is closest to the BHQ gates?

Page 3 - Please define what construction and that all operations occur during the day time.

Noise generating and Dust – The public choose for the operation of primary, tertiary and despatch to be in line with all operation activities and not 24 hours.

Paragraph 18 - 1 truck movement in every 10 min is in direct conflict with the previous paragraph. Daytime classified by the department of planning is not 7am to 10 pm, this is too much to impose on our local resident's.

Is it an acceptable level? 20 loads an hour which is 1 every 3 min. 301 load carrying movements going out and 301 going in. Plus 58 laden loads. 58 incoming Laden Loads in and 58 loads out. Movements include services to the site and contractors, Engineers, Enviro services, Admin staff, Security, etc.

The proposal for trucks to be traveling at 60km in an 80km zone, may be in complete conflict with NSW Road Rules. 'Obstruction to Traffic' NSW Road Rules 2014. According to NSW road rules a vehicle traveling 20km per hour less in an 80km area could be causing an obstruction to other drivers.

All Sound, Dust, and Light, must be suppressed in enclosures and installed from stage 1.

Hanson must offer, as per Government standards to all residents no less than 8km radius, who are on Tank water only ...roof surface testing for contaminants from an independent occupational hygienist and provide to all residents a First Flush System on our tanks.

Hanson has omitted to provide information to residents about current operations and roof and tank water health practices. Hanson are to prove we will not be, and have not been, drinking contaminated water from Dust. It is also questionable that Hanson BHQ has not known its closest residents are on Tank water. Who is responsible for this? We feel that our health and wellbeing our basic human right has been neglected somehow.

The Earthen Barrier should be covered in Native vegetation and maintained and strategically located between sound generating resources and all receivers – NB paragraph 20 page 3.

Paragraph 21 – Concrete Recycling activities, where are they going to be located? All crushing and recycling activities should be enclosed and surrounded by earthen barriers themselves.

Page 5 – Hanson is already admitting as mentioned in point 5 that the ...”existing noise levels already with its current operation exceeds the criteria. Are they going to warrant non-negotiable noise level standard’s? All noise must be considered beyond the Quarrying activities. Vehicle monitoring is to occur on any movement along our roads. Hanson should ensure live monitoring will occur on all routes. This procedure occurs in Wollongong.

Page 5 – The survey for the Rusty Greenwood Orchid is correct as nothing grows in a Quarry, so yes this statement is true. We, the local residents, are best to inform the Government and Council on the Flora and Fauna of our area, which we observe every day. We live in this area rich with species and are proud to be identified as ‘a significant area with extensive varieties and numbers of bird life’. This area is visited by tourists and birdwatchers from all over. Please also keep in mind the Crown Land in Green Wattle Creek Rd is particularly close to the quarry. A more comprehensive study of the environmental impact with seasonal changes must be performed. Residents in this area prides themselves with celebrating the environmental beauty and significance.

Page 5 – Prove that there was a comprehensive consultation with residents within no less than an 8km radius. Prove that the sample was large enough broad enough and minutes in particular from the Giles Rd meeting are available is a true representation of the community. Prove that the Quarry is not opposed by the residents. Prove that the broader residents are not fearful of repercussions of speaking up eg. Not wanting to be seen to go against Council that traditional supports the quarry and other concrete and cement industries locally, being shut out, being bullied and defamed by the small number of industry workers.

Page 5 – Koalas – Hanson admits that it’s operations will have an impact on Koalas as it states they “... will be managed in accordance with the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016.”

Is Hanson prepared to warrant and ensure impacts to property value do not eventuate?

Once concrete and bitumen processing commences, potential buyers may have very relevant concerns, and may refuse to buy in this area due to the risks related to ultra-fine particulate and damage to the environment through seepage and mercury from recycling product. In Hanson’s own words at April’s CCC meeting they could not promise in 10 years that product being recycled is from demolition or imported from

other businesses not just their own build sites. This is of really high concern to the environmental health and wellbeing. Who would pay good money, or have loans approved, to move into a toxic area?

Hanson's management of risk to residents historically and currently has not been adequate. It has been negligent in informing and connecting with the community in the past. This document reflects a continuation of a company culture of omittance for advantage.

Residents have moved to this area and are happy to sacrifice suburban and city conveniences for the benefit of living in an area that is recognised as one of the last remaining Hunter/Greater Newcastle areas with attractive scenery with Native Bush, Ruralness and Rivers.

In the 8km Radius of BHQ the environment is surrounded by rolling green hills, native forests, and primary producers. The community value food security by growing their own produce, committing to the extra work involved in running "Farmlets" with cows, sheep, goats, pigs, chooks, bee's, horses and Alpacas and AgriTourism and recreation activities. Many people make money or are involved in community bartering from produce from their small farms.

The environment will be impacted with an increase of operation for extractive industry, and also concrete and bitumen recycling and cement Industries. It is not a "perception" that activities will increase and not a "perception that our houses, homes, and health will be impacted.

BHQ could be already currently complying, but that is not to say we have not been impacted and in future will not continue to be impacted.

Based on the health concerns, I no longer want the Brandy Hill Quarry in its current extractive operation to continue at all. A license to extend or expand is completely inappropriate based on its current inability to be trusted and respected, noting it has not displayed any concern or demonstrated behaviours through their current practice, to ensure us that they have made every effort to genuinely protect the wellbeing of its resident's in the 8km radius of the site.

Summary

Hanson needs to fix up their current operations, so as to meet best and current 2018 health and environmental standards at Brandy Hill Quarry now. Operating at 1983 standards is very dated and disrespectful to the local community and possibly negligent to residents and their own staff. All practices on the BHQ site must be rectified now, before any proposal to further extend is considered by Dept of Planning, Council, EPA, NSW Government or any other legislative or Government Departments and officials inclusive of Australian Law policies and guidelines.

As a resident, I expect this business to have in place in their current operations:

- Enclosures for all crushers and all other activities
- Best practise to current 2018 standards dust suppression
- All measures taken to remove Industrial Noise (road, truck, from the sites various activities)
- Fix Noise from vehicles on site (Trucks can be heard moving around on the site very clearly from in Giles road)
- To implement **Live monitoring 24/7** on site now and on all truck routes within an 8km radius of BHQ.
- No more truck movements over and above 2017/18 levels as we have already excessive noise and dangerous driving on our narrow country roads
- To provide information and financial compensation for damaged houses or services to assist residents, helping them live safely and healthily with peace of mind. (one example is the Tank Water issue)
- We'd like an occupational hygienist to monitor our tank water and particulates on our roofs. To provide first flush and any other measures to keep our drinking water safe.
- Local air quality monitoring for PM10 and PM2.5 within 8km radius put in place to look after the residents, not just in place so as the quarry can justify going about their business.
- To increase communication with residents above and beyond meeting with the small group of people on the CCC who are bound to confidentiality clauses.
- Regular reports available on BHQ Hanson website
- Blast notifications to residents

- No increase in activities, nothing above and beyond the current activities in 2017/18 activities.
- No importing or stockpiling of bitumen and concrete/cement
- No concrete/bitumen recycling activities at all – do this at a rubbish tip please
- No batching or cement production
- Not to import cement recycling/concrete and bitumen or any related production. These activities will increase truck movements to an unbearable amount and spray PM10 along our roads and properties with diesel particulates, not to mention the road noise which will transform our area unfairly from rural to industrial. It will be a very disruptive and expensive exercise resurfacing roads for less noise.
- Hanson suggests the quarry will support employment and economic stability of Brandy Hill inclusive of the LGA. The report does not suggest how I will personally benefit from the quarry or my neighbouring primary producers and hobby farms, the Shepherds Ground Market Garden, or those running air B&B's for instance will benefit. Supporting a local cricket team or netball does not help me. How will Hanson support us?
- The quarry to respect the tourism and beauty and the extensive flora and fauna we have just within a km from their "big hole in the ground". There are significant stands of Lower Hunter Valley Dry Sclerophyll remnant forest extremely close, and surrounding the quarry, which supports an abundance of flora and fauna.
- The hill closest to Brandy Hill contains healthy populations of native animal species such as Koala, Kangaroo, Wallaby, Echidna, Dingo, Goanna, Possum, Bandicoot, Red-Belly Black Snake, Brown Snake, Bandy-Bandy Hoop Snake, Diamond and Carpet Pythons, Flying Foxes, and an abundance of over 70 observed species of native birds.
- All of these species rely on wildlife corridors to maintain healthy populations. Indeed, much of Port Stephens Council Planning documents refer specifically to the maintenance of these corridors as a Necessary Condition to maintaining the biodiversity of the unique Port Stephens Region.

Hanson's consultation process is inadequate. They have failed the Government and failed the community. By their own words, "...this project has failed to meet the DPE and Local Community. This is an admission it doesn't address all the issues raised. page 4

To meet the recommendations, we look forward to the implementation of further engagement with **all** community stakeholders/the residents in no less than an 8km radius of BHQ.

I have moved here to drink tank water H2O fresh from the sky, to have dirt roads, to live with my windows open and feel the breeze. Double Glazing windows is a ridiculous suggestion and completely not thought out, as it will be financially discriminative and a disadvantage to those without air-conditioners, or people who cannot afford increase in electricity bills. This is also not why people live here: to have their windows and doors shut and live in a box. This is also very unhealthy.

Yours Sincerely,

Concerned Resident - SEAHAM, 2324