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**Attention: Director - Resource Assessments**

**This is a submission on the Sutton Forest Quarry Project: EIS SSD 6334**

I strongly object to this destructive mining project. I have many concerns.

**It will ruin the peace and serenity of our place of worship.**

The Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy "Penrose Park" has been a place of worship since 1984. So much effort by thousands of devoted people over the years has gone into this beautiful place. Not only is it a place of spirituality and devotion but also a place of international significance that brings, pilgrims, families and communities together to celebrate and share our faith. This place of peace and quiet will be completely destroyed by the constant background noise, vibration and pollution by this enormous mine working 24 hours a day. How can we possibly have religious ceremonies, retreats, family picnics and other functions with this industrial noise and destruction only 120 metres from our grotto? There will be blasting and dust pollution that will affect every person who comes here to worship at or visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy. We have many beautiful multicultural shrines built by Australian communities of diverse backgrounds. We fear for our existence here.

**Environment**

The unique beauty of the Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy comes from its surrounding bush and wildlife. Everyone loves the interaction with the kangaroos, wallabies, koalas, echidnas and the many bird species that share this space. This mine will deforest 63 hectares of native vegetation that is crucial to the wilderness corridor.

**Water**

Adjacent to Penrose Park, this mine will dig down 39 metres below the water table creating a pit over 47 hectares. A huge volume of water will be removed from the aquifer and lower the table that we rely on. Runoff and leaching from backfill will pollute the adjacent Long Swamp, permanently damaging the Nepean/Sydney water catchment.

**This proposal will destroy what we all love so much here at Penrose Park, I urge the Department and NSW Government reject it immediately and never allow a project of this nature to be considered again.**

Signed R. Sharp

I wish to maintain privacy in this submission from the Department's website. ☐

I have not made a reportable political donation. ☐