

Megan Long  
96 Blackrock Rd,  
MARTINS CREEK 2420  
27.07.2021

Director- Resource Assessments  
Planning & Assessments  
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
Parramatta NSW 2124  
Martins Creek Quarry Expansion-Application No SSD-6612

Dear Sir/Madam,

I oppose the Martins Creek Quarry Expansion.

I have lived on Blackrock road since I was 2 years old. Attending Paterson Primary school, I spent much time in the town. Crossing the road from the car to the shops/post office etc, I was always scared of being hit by the big fast trucks that were plummeting through town from the quarry every single day. As a 38 year old woman, I have seen an increase of movement of these trucks over the years and find it even more life threatening than as a child. I have witnessed on many occasions these trucks travelling far too fast through the town, around corners, nearly hitting people waiting to cross the road. I believe it is only a matter of time before someone is injured or killed as a result.

Not only are the trucks dangerous through the town but along Dungog road, Gresford road and in the past, Martins creek road as well. These roads are not wide enough or in a good enough condition to support the constant flow of these trucks. They travel too fast on straights, around corners and veer onto the opposite side of the road to avoid pot holes, probably caused by their traffic in the first case. The council is always bogging up new damage which would be destroyed in a very short time frame by the constant flow of these big vehicles. It is unfair that locals pay rates for roads to be fixed when so much of the damage is caused by these trucks.

As a teenager learning to drive, it was very unnerving sharing the roads with these trucks and caused me much anxiety. I have friends who felt the same.

There is a huge amount of noise pollution (in and surrounding Paterson and Martins creek), resulting from the size, speed and frequency of these trucks. This contradicts the reason that people move away from the city to live in and around a quiet country town. Have you ever sat by the road and heard what it sounds like to have such a high number of trucks passing you every hour. There is nothing pleasant about it.

Residing in such close proximity to the quarry we have lived for many years with the sound/dust pollution of the quarry that starts as early as 6am (not within the allocated working hours). It can run all day into the early evening. This includes noise from blasting, processing, truck load out and from

rail loading. Again, this is not why people decide to live in the serenity of the country. This makes me worried about long term illnesses such as silicosis. I am also extremely worried about the devaluation of our property if this expansion were to go ahead.

If the quarry were to be expanded it would have a devastating effect on the native fauna and flora living in the area (both at the quarry expansion site and surrounding areas) as their habitats are demolished and they absorb more pollution than should ever be acceptable.

Daracon have been operating illegally for the past 15 years, I cannot understand how they could possibly be granted permission to not only continue but to also expand their business at the cost of every local who lives in the area. We live in a peaceful community, we oppose this expansion.

I urge you to take into consideration the devastating effect this operation has on our community, our flora and fauna and the surrounding infrastructure when considering this expansion.

I have not made a reportable political donation.

Thank you for your time.

Kind regards,

Megan Long