

Martins Creek Railway Ballast Quarry SSD6612 (Amended DA Application)

I object to the proposed expansion at Martins Creek Quarry.

We moved into our home in Wakaya Close Paterson Valley Estate Vacy 25 years ago when the quarry was being run by the railway.

We didn't even know that the quarry was there until a neighbour took us there to see it. Back then it was a small hole in the ground closer to Martins Creek, Station Street, Martins Creek. We went for a walk along Paper Road which is now fenced off and quarried through.

Since Daracon took Martins Creek Quarry over it has just got out of hand.

When the quarry is working we can't open our doors and windows due to dust in the air.

When they blast our whole house shakes. The blast monitor is put in wrong place in our estate.

The nearest dust monitor at the gully house (has been in the past full of leaves so one wonders how often they were checked) I note that they have now put the monitors on a higher post?

Over the last few years we have had koalas in our property and neighbour's properties.

The exit road that Daracon is planning across the railway line onto Dungog Road comes out at a very dangerous spot just over the hill from a 100 kilometres speed limit with limited visibility.

Daracon's proposed changes to Roads in Paterson are ridiculous and put the local community at risk, disadvantage local businesses and only benefit Daracon.

it is well known that we will have depreciation on property values impacted by pit operations and mining haul roads.

Huge numbers of trucks and changes to local roads will cause a down turn in local businesses trading in goods & services, hospitality, tourism and wedding functions.

I will be faced with diminished living standard with loss of amenity for myself, family and surrounding residents directly impacted by vibration, lighting, noise and dust. Our rural peaceful Identify is being taken from us.

Quarry trucks equal coal trucks and our roads are not suitable for up to 40 trucks an hour. They are a risk to pedestrians, children, to other road users including themselves. Paterson and surrounding area roads are already congested. Damage to roads, bridges, convoys of trucks, potholes and dangerous intersections add to the potential of accident.

Operating hours 24 hours a day is unreasonable to residents living within a 2 kilometre radius with no buffer zone. We live in a residential area. Martins Creek Quarry expanded unlawfully towards us. We should not be disadvantaged.

Rock quarries are located all around the Hunter Valley and beyond so I see no need for the expansion of Martins Creek Quarry. It has no buffer zone (to add protection) like eg Brandy Hill.

Daracon can not guarantee our safety and I believe that Everyone deserves to be protected and live in a safe environment.

In conclusion I oppose the Martins Creek Quarry expansion due to the above.