

Melissa Hoban
95 Woodglen close Paterson

Director – Resource Assessment
Planning Department
29.07.21

RE: Martins Creek Quarry Expansion Application SSD6612.

I object to the extension of martins creek quarry for the below reasons
Reasons for objection.

1. Concerns with the way the 2021 SIA was handled by Umwelt /Daracon

- Communication , wasn't widely advertised through the effected community, many people had no idea it was on, community was kept in the dark.
- The small numbers of the community that attended was not a reflection of the communities lack of care or interest, more a fact they weren't aware – I told a number of residents who ended up attending, spoke to concerned residents on the phone out side of meeting, they had no idea it was on.
- Meeting was rushed, we were assured that there would be time at the end to address concerns, time wasn't provided to air concerns.
- A number of people complained that it was very hard to hear the meeting, and that a microphone would be helpful, Umwelt and Daracon agreed, and would supply one for the next meeting held the next day, Umwelt and Daracon never supplied a microphone for the second meeting either.
- The writing relating to the meeting was on a screen, writing was small and difficult to read.
- Any points taken down on white board once again were written in red white board marker, once again hard to read.
- Requested a copy of notes made in the meeting, this was denied, notes from the meeting were made available as part of the ADA and I feel these notes didn't reflect the issues or concerns raised by the community in the SIA meeting.
- Concerns were expressed about the mitigation of risk and associated classification, and did not reflect the opinions and concerns of attending residents.
- I do not believe the SIA convened and collated by umwelt/Daracon was done in a fair, respectful or ethical manner, in regards to the community it would effect, I believe it should be redone.

All these above points reinforce concerns from the community that Daracon was not trustworthy, and had little respect for our community. If there not doing the fair and reasonable thing now, how can anyone have any faith that if this is approved that they will do the right thing.



Picture from our hastily convened Public meeting held on the 2th of June to inform residents only 200 seats were available due to COVID restrictions all seats were filled



Picture from hastily called press release 30 minutes notice on a week day 29th 2021, residents of Paterson and surrounds the residents are concerned about the Quarry expansion

Road Usage and effects

- 280 truck movements per day, 40 truck movements per hour on the number 1 haulage route, (before reaching Bolwarra, where you can add another 15 laden trucks from the Brandy Hill quarry, the effect on the effected residents, child care centre, businesses and residents on the haul route in East Maitland will be horrendous).
- Beyond the stated safety concerns
- Martins creek intersections (station St), and road alignment issues, mitigated by the fact that the quarry trucks are taller than the average vehicle therefore allowing for better visual of the road.
- Historic Goswick Bridge, one lane bridge.
- Lack of road footpath Tocal rd.
- The Flat/Pitnacree rd meets the Melbourne St intersection, this Intersection already suffers from a poor level of service during peak periods but Daracon/Umwelt has no recommendations for improvement due to the physical constraints of the intersection.(Even Maitland

Council has publicly announced they oppose Martins Creek Quarry Expansion due to existing traffic issues congestion issues, Flat Rd/ Melbourne St intersection, with Daracon has no recommendations for improvement due to physical constraints.

Paterson is a small but extremely busy historic rural village, and is the main shopping precinct for the surrounding villages (Martins Creek, Vacy, Toryburn, Gresford etc. providing local and visitors with a local grocer, butchers, community park, BBQ area and kids play area, local farm equipment supplier, Art studio, community hall and dance studio, an number of B&B's, cafe's, hair dressers, chemist, doctors surgery, local churches, local tavern and a pubs, 2 museum, a sporting centre, which offers a golf course, netball courts, cricket field, a gym, primary school and preschool, a number of major school bus stops for many of the local primary, high school, public and private for the region, a rail way crossing, local RFS station, and it is the gate way for tourism to the Upper Hunter, Dungog, Horse Studs, Equestrian centres and many other high end tourism destinations. These businesses, activities, community and visitors will be negatively effected if 280 extra large trucks move through this very busy little town centre.

- Its also a school drop off for many school students in the area, safety is a large issue there is not pedestrian crossing to cater for the residents and especially concerning to the young and old, the intersection is on the haulage route, and there are numerous incidents involving quarry trucks in Paterson there was an incident in the week of the 21st of June a truck missed the corner turning into Duke St behind a bus, nearly ran up the back of it, had to swerve to miss the back of the school bus which sent it onto the oncoming traffic, and there have been numerous other incidents, partial loads being lost on the street, cars being side swiped and large rocks falling off quarry trucks near young school students, reducing the numbers of trucks through town by 10 will not mitigate the risk .

The cumulative effect of traffic in Bolwarra, where Martins Creek Quarry trucks will combine with the Brandy Hill quarry trucks, (15 trucks/ hour on top of the Martins creek Quarry which will run 20 trucks /hour) this will have a huge impact on already busy roads and intersections. Cumulative effects of traffic will also occur at the intersection at Pitnacree Rd and Melbourne St East Maitland, this is an extremely busy intersection. I believe reports done on Traffic and cumulative effect have not been properly researched nor increase in traffic due to increased residential footprint, that have been approved and will be approved in the future.

The Dungog Shire Mission is “peaceful rural lifestyle”. This cannot be achieved if this ADA goes ahead as it is. With 280 large truck movements added to existing traffic, this will have a dramatic effect on the rural amenity of the small township of Paterson as it did in the past when Daracon ran the quarry illegally manner, not historically as is stated



Picture of intersection of Duke and King ST Paterson there are 2 school bus stops on both sides of these roads very close within metres of this intersection.

Train air quality and noise : There are many safety concerns around dust, silica, fly ash and diesel fumes that are an unfortunate part of these quarry truck movements and will have a negative effect on the health and well being of local residents. I am also concerned about effects of trains used as haulage as the containers are not covered so there are health issues for residents that live along the haulage route, silica, and fly ash both are considered to be carcinogenic I feel these issues have not been properly addressed.

On going Blasting, and vibration, can clearly be heard and felt, the effects of blasting can be heard and felt in Wood glen close. The cumulative effects on the effected cannot be understated, or mitigated by a small reduction in road transport and a slight change to working hours, that will most probably be amended after the initial application is approved. This will have a huge impact on effected residents mental well being, physical health and lifestyle. This has already been proven by the communities lived experience.



Picture from Vogeles Rd Martins Creek taken by resident, of the quarry on June 8th 2021

“I noticed this dust cloud over the quarry cloud over the quarry when I was driving home, so stopped and took a series of photos from above the quarry. In just the short time I was there the effect of the dust on my nose and throat was quite unpleasant”

Environmental concerns : The project area Martins Creek Quarry contains matters of national, environmentally significant

- Slaty gum.
- Koala
- Regent Honey Eater
- Swift Parrot
- Eastern Spotted Quoll
- Hunter Estuary wetlands- a wetlands of international importance.

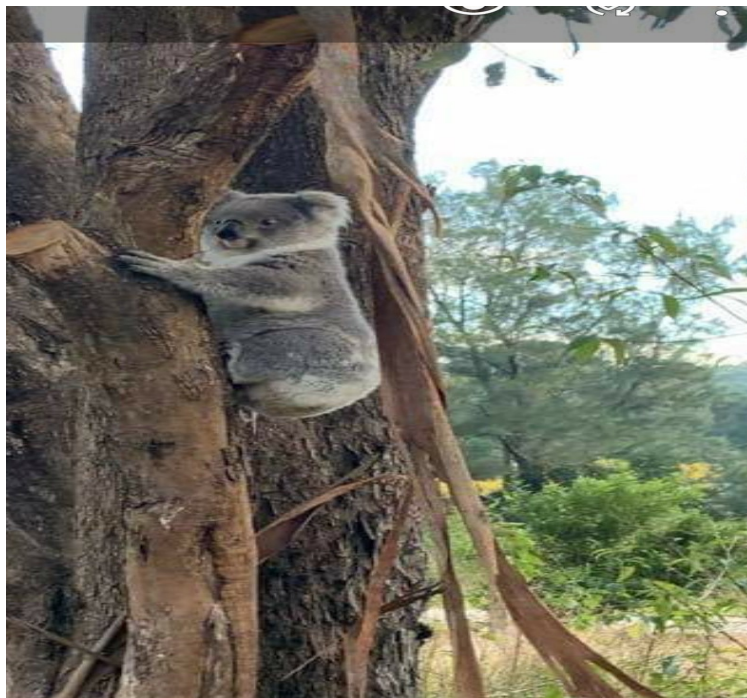
The extension is likely to contain some 21.61 Hectares of Core Koala habitat, there have been 2 sightings of koala on the project site, and local knowledge and history of a koala population on the site, there are also local history of spotted Quoll seen in the area as well as, echidna, bandicoot I believe this area should be protected, especially as there were 2 bush fires in the area that would have effected

connectivity of koala habitat plus the drought we experienced, this is a special area and should be protected. Here are some photos of our local Martins Creek koala population, all of these photos have been taken this year, and have been taken on properties on Vogeles Rd, and Black Rock Rd on vegetation that connects them with vegetation/ koala habitat on Martins Creek Quarry.





Pictures of Koalas taken from a number of local residents who's properties boundary is Martins Creek Quarry taken during 2021



This pictures is of a very healthy juvenile koala taken on Black Rock Rd, which runs on the boundary of the Martins creek Quarry, these photos were taken 28.7.21.

Economic impacts The proposed truck is also main tourist road to Dungog, the Upper Hunter and Paterson, will tourists want to take this route if their travelling with haulage trucks, I certainly wouldn't.

There is also the issue of house and land prices that will certainly be effect if this project is goes ahead. In in towns suffering similar fate, house prices have plummeted, after all who would want to buy a property on a haulage route.

Our town will suffer for Daracon to make their money from our resources, I strongly object to this extension of martins Creek Quarry.



Picture of last heritage walk on Paterson 2021 before Covid restriction were put in place, as you can clearly see tourism and an interest in heritage is healthy in Paterson, as well as Dungog.

I do hope you will consider my comments on
Martins Creek Quarry Expansion Application SSD6612
this proposal should be rejected.