

I oppose the Martins Creek Quarry Expansion.

I object to the expansion of Martins Creek Quarry on the grounds of Daracon being unable to prove the long term impact on human health, environmental health and the livelihood of the historic villages surrounding the proposed expansion

I also object to the expansion of Martins Creek Quarry on the grounds they cannot prove the long term impact from the dust fall out on asthma sufferers like myself who moved to the country for free air.

I work from home as a National Sales Manager for an eco-agricultural input supply company. Owned by one of the top 10 companies in Australia, where Safety and Sustainability are the leading agenda in any meeting and program. But feel my personal lifestyle safety and environmental sustainability are being taken away from me by the possible expansion of the Daracon quarry.

With regards to community & personal safety, it is the roads and vehicle movements. The heavy truck movement through this small village of Paterson where the main businesses, Butcher, IGA, post office, hotel, service station and cafe are all on this small stretch where it is proposed for high numbers of trucks to use impact the safety. The safety impact of accessing these businesses on a daily basis is very concerning to me. There is already very little room to park and manoeuvre vehicles. The proposed heavy vehicle movement goes against the Dungog LEP (Land environmental Plan) which restricts driveway access numbers due to the road safety.

I have already noticed an increase in Daracon branded service and work vehicles travelling our roads. Increasing the traffic and safety as they use smaller roads like Martins Creek road to access the quarry site.

The social impacts on the small village will result in people leaving the community impacting the local businesses offsetting any gains in employment of outsiders to the quarry. The impact of dust and air quality from the quarry affect houses and human health. With noted Silica content from the quarry.



Dust drifting across the valley,
impact environment and residents

As a qualified agricultural agronomist the impact on environmental biodiversity and ecological impact are heavy. Notable water runoff is not controlled. Dust with Silica content, impact on native flora and fauna, especially the koala colonises in this region, disrupting their fragile habitat and impacting on their ability to maintain their social structure.



Local Koala
photographed near
quarry site

The cultural and historical heritage of the local region and community is under threat. There are a number of historical site is the Paterson township. The blasting, continual traffic is of major concern.

The township street layout makes the heavy number and truck size movements even more dangerous. Changing, disrupting and devaluing the town to profit a single quarry who has publicly stated that he recommends residents move away if they don't like it because the community was not going to stop him. This group with the way he has been proven by the courts to continue to break the rules, indicates they cannot be trusted to follow through on anything they has proposed to address community, environmental, heritage and safety concerns.



Trucks having to
give way to each
other get around
King Street corner.

The above outlines just some of the impacts and why I oppose the quarry expansion.