

# BUSINESS HUNTER

11 November 2022

Adam Kelly  
Daracon Group  
PO Box 299  
Wallsend NSW 2287

Dear Adam,

**Re: Martins Creek Quarry Expansion Project**

We refer to Daracon's application before the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) in relation to Martins Creek Quarry Expansion (the Project). Business Hunter submits this letter in support for the Project.

Business Hunter represents over 4,200 member and affiliate businesses across the Hunter region. Our membership spans virtually business and industry sectors in the region and we have represented the interests of business so since 1886.

We recognise that the Martins Creek Quarry has been providing quarry products for railway construction, infrastructure and road construction in the Hunter for over 100 years. The quarry has provided employment for many people over this time and has contributed to the economic growth of both the region and the state.

We also note all levels of government have identified infrastructure provision and civil construction as a key priority area in their strategic planning. Furthermore, the level of construction activity related to these plans is at record levels and not foreshadowed to wane for many years.

In this context, the quarry will provide the region with continued access to high grade products from a local source to potentially be used for projects in the Hunter region and beyond. This is of significant importance at a time when supply chains of construction materials are stretched and other sources to substitute existing supplies are not readily identified or available.

We acknowledge the Project application has attracted significant attention locally and across the region. Business Hunter recognises Daracon's commitment and efforts to identify and address the community concerns and the actions and measures taken or agreed to seeking to mitigate impacts that will arise from the expanded activity in the event the Project is approved.

It is our desire to see the Project is considered in respect of the relevant planning and development controls and the IPC ensures the assessment and determination strike the right balance in terms of dealing with the matters raised in the submissions received.

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Business Hunter is supportive of the Project in the knowledge of its capacity to not only provide an essential raw material for a wide range on community building and economically important projects across the region, but also its capacity to support business and jobs growth now and well into the future.

We would be happy to expand on this submission if required.

Yours sincerely



**Bob Hawes**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Business Hunter**