

MEGAN ROCHESTER
█ CABBAGE TREE ROAD
WILLIAMTOWN, NSW 2318

**Letter of Objection to the Proposed Williamtown Sand
Syndicate Quarry
Application No. SSD6125**

Background

My family and I reside █ the proposed entrance to the development at █ Cabbage Tree Road, Williamtown. Our residence consists of four adults and three children. We have lived here since 2003 having moved from Salt Ash.

We have several concerns in relation to the development proposal. On top of these concerns is the other major problem in our area of the Williamtown RAAF Base Contamination and the fact that we reside within the “red zone”. The pressure of not knowing what the final outcomes will be in relation to this issue has just added to an already stressful environment of the possibility of having a sand quarry and out buildings operating across the road.

Concern 1 Traffic

Living on a busy (90km limit) road we understand that there are already many cars and trucks that pass past our property twenty-four hours a day. The trucks start well before 5.00am and are still passing (rumbling by) when we retire to bed after 11.00pm. Traffic flow has increased dramatically over the years due to airport expansion and transport goods by trucks to businesses in local areas. To think that we will possibly be having a large increase of trucks not only entering and exiting but also then going down to the Cabbage Tree Road roundabout to turn around and come back pass our property is mind blowing. As well as the noise there is also the airbrake noise from trucks entering and exiting the proposed development. These noises will be right outside our bedroom windows. Every truck for the sand mine will actually be passing us 3 times.

Since moving here we have had to adjust our driving when either entering or exiting our property. We indicate our intention to turn two full properties before. We still have had some very near misses with both cars and trucks.

When travelling east and indicating our intention to turn right, most motorists pass us on the left hand verge of the road, directly in front of the proposed entrance (which is directly in front of our driveway). My concern with a turning lane into the proposed development (appears to be a traffic island separating the main road and the turning lane)

is that when we or visitors to our property, slow down, indicating to turn into our driveway the motorists behind us will try to overtake on the left hand verge be distracted by trucks leaving the site and push us into oncoming traffic, thus causing a head on collision or pushing us into our post and rail boundary fence. Most overtaking vehicles tend to not even slow down as they overtake.

What will happen when a truck overshoots the left turn onto the exiting lane travelling at least 60km with a full load to get to 90km from the proposed development and becomes distracted by passing traffic (at 90km) often other trucks? We don't want the development at all BUT we certainly oppose to suggested early opening times.

Concern 2 Health

My daughter (eleven years old) suffers from asthma and has medication to curb any breathing attacks. I am very concerned about dust and sand that will be flying around and blowing across the road to our property. Like most children she enjoys her large rural backyard and plays in it everyday. Why should I have to keep her indoors when the wind is blowing in our direction the damage that the debris will do to both our house and motor vehicles.

What of the damage caused by debris to both the house itself and cars. We already have a dust problem due to the loss of bushland due to several bushfires and increased traffic flow.

Concern 3 Environment

We have always enjoyed the lovely rural atmosphere and have been visited by many native animals. These include several varieties of birds including black cockatoos and wrens, koalas, frogs, blue tongue lizards, possums and goanna. All of these animals have crossed over a busy road from the proposed development site to enter our property. They have been a welcome sight and my children have learnt a lot from their antics. As recent as last year we were visited by a female koala and could hear her male friend's grunts. What will happen to their environment if the proposed development goes ahead? Flora and Fauna do not relocate simply because we wish them to!

As well my children have used the area across the road as a resource for their school projects. We have found the area to have a wealth of environmental information with new ecosystems evolving after bushfires and flooding.

Conclusion

We have enjoyed a lovely semi-rural lifestyle here, with native animals, our own farm animals and show dogs. We already have the Williamstown RAAF Base contamination to worry about and what it will do to our property valuation and our health, to now also have the possibility of a sand mine across the road is totally overwhelming and has

created undue stress in our household. I worry about my family's health particularly my daughter. Our life style has been severely affected over the past few years and the situation is becoming unbearable.

Yours sincerely

Megan Rochester
Resident
█ Cabbage Tree Road
Williamtown, NSW 2318