

Shaun Farmer

█ Cabbage Tree Road

Williamtown NSW 2318

Letter of Objection to the Proposed Williamtown Sand Mine

Application No. SSD6125

My name is Shaun Farmer I currently reside █ Cabbage Tree Road Williamtown, I am writing to you today in response to the proposed sand mine at 398 Cabbage Tree Road Williamtown, the proposal has several considerations left out that I believe are critical to the residing residents living in direct vicinity of the proposed site including that of bus stop access, water table levels and air pollution.

Air Quality, due to the increase flow in traffic and disturbance of silica particles in the air I have a great concern for my youngest sister who suffers asthma, with the increase in the density of silica in the air around where we live I fear that she will experience difficult of breathing and decrease in general health as she did after the October 2013 bushfires that raged through the bushland across from our premises. As a result of the bushfire she found it extremely hard to breath due to an increase in dust, ash and silica in the air that was blown from the proposed site. Her asthma is worsening as it is.

Ground Water has always been a contentious issue for those that live along Cabbage Tree Road; it is used in many residents' everyday lives from irrigating gardens, livestock and nurseries to providing water for businesses. My first issue is what form of water the applicant intends to use to mitigate the silica and dust emissions from the site as is mentioned that they will undertake in the Environmental Impact Statement. Currently the site is within the "Red Zone" determined by the Environmental Protection Agency, due to the contamination issue arising from RAAF Base Williamtown, I believe that it is unethical seeing the current justification determining the contamination issue is yet to be resolved thus if the applicant were to use ground water they could potentially be damaging the environment furthermore as no testing has been conducted on the site. There is no water supply to this property.

My other issue is that if the applicant was to source their water from an offsite location what would the applicant do to reduce the fluxuations in the water table that are a result of increased addition to the water table on-top of what is already naturally occurring? Due to the Applicants proposal to remove current land vegetation to access the sand underneath, there will be a loss in the natural removal of water from the water table that takes place in the form of transpiration. What is the applicant going to do to mitigate the increase in the water table that is caused by the removal of vegetation in order for them to conduct their operation?

I strongly oppose any proposed approval of any form of mining at the site due to the concerns raised above. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns related to this submission.

Regards,  
Shaun Farmer