

From: [Dom Jacobs](#)
To: [IPCN Submissions Mailbox](#)
Subject: Deep Creek Quarry
Date: Tuesday, 19 December 2023 6:42:23 PM

Dear Commissioners,

I am a mother and grandmother, FAWNA wildlife carer, and a long time resident of Gloucester. My family has strong connections in the area. We all rely on our road network for work and pleasure. My submission represents their views as well as my own.

We are all concerned about our environment's ability to withstand the impacts extreme weather events generated by climate change, let alone inappropriate developments like quarries, that will necessarily generate greenhouse gas emissions well into the future.

There is no indication from the operators that they will see to reducing and eliminating their operational emissions over time, let alone how they will deal with climate emergencies (floods, extreme heat, drought). That's not good enough by today's standards.

Industrial developments like Deep Creek Quarry, in a region recognised as rich in biodiversity and rural in character, are out of step with community lifestyles, the tourism industry, and a shared aim to protect environmental assets (clean air, water, and established forests - carbon sinks). These things will sustain our community into the future.

Offsets for environmental damage don't work.

The Department has failed to meaningfully assess the social impacts of the Quarry.

We only heard about the Quarry because of notifications from the Gloucester Environment Group, well after comments on the EIS had closed because **no "official" consultation took place around Gloucester.**

A lot of us people rely on the road network to connect to the Pacific Highway at Twelve Mile Creek. This Quarry trucks will endanger people at that intersection - it's a dangerous intersection, that the Department foolishly thinks is fit for purpose. The intersection will be one to avoid if quarry haulage trucks start using it 6 days per week. We need to see an independent review of the intersection - not from the proponent or the Department - to give a true picture of the conditions.

Bucketts Way is an alternate Pacific Highway route in emergencies (for emergencies that happen between Twelve Mile Creek and Nabiac that close the Highway). It is unsafe to have a designated on a quarry truck route share this road. Quarry trucks will delay the diverted traffic flow.

The Quarry should have costed into their economic assessment, the money needed to build the road infrastructure required for their quarry to operate safely - and -we strongly state that **cost**

should not be shafted onto the taxpayer.

What I and my family want to know is **how so many quarry applications can happen at one time in the Port Stephens and MidCoast areas?** Collectively these quarries will destroy our regional environmental corridors, our lifestyles and our wildlife. They will certainly impact our road system. When has the Department come to speak to the Gloucester community about so many proposals? We all share our region - what happens in one area affects us all.

It seems to me and my family that we are just building quarries so that we can build the infrastructure to accommodate their operation. Build the quarry so we can build the overpass that allows the trucks and other traffic safe access to the Pacific Highway. **How pointless is that?**

We have not seen any **evidence to show that this quarry is required above any other quarry, anywhere.**

We do not believe the Department of Planning has fairly assessed the negative impacts - both socially and environmentally -of the quarry on our region.

On behalf of my family, I ask the Commissioners to **refuse the quarry application.**

Regards

Dominique Jacobs