



NAME REDACTED	OBJECT	Submission No: 177923
Organisation:	Key issues: <i>Nosie, Traffic, Air quality, Biodiversity, Water resources</i>	
Location: <i>New South Wales 2324</i>		
Submitter Type: <i>an individual making a submission on my own behalf</i>		
Attachment:		

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Independent Planning Commission- Eagleton Quarry Project

Attention: Minister for Planning

REFERENCE: Opposing the Eagleton Hardrock Quarry Development

Application No: SSD 7332

Location: Lot 2 DP1108702, Barleigh Ranch Way, Eagleton

Applicant: Eagleton Rock Syndicate Pty. Ltd

I would like to express my complete opposition to this proposed development as a resident of the area which will be impacted by this development. I am totally opposed to the application and development of the Eagleton Hardrock Quarry. I have great concerns about the impact it will have on our community and environment.

I fervently oppose Eagleton Hardrock Quarry Development and strongly object to the above stated development on the following grounds including but not limited to:

- â€¢ Noise*
- â€¢ Dust contamination*
- â€¢ Operation of the proposed quarry*
- â€¢ Safety*
- â€¢ Personal impact*
- â€¢ Local business impact*
- â€¢ Water contamination*
- â€¢ Pollution*
- â€¢ Natural vegetation and environmental impact*

Noise- At the moment noise emanating from the area of the proposed Hard Rock Quarry is already a worry what with the MX Central (a motor cross circuit) and the MG car .The last thing this area needs is another potential for noise pollution. Should the proposed Eagleton Quarry be approved, there will be Boral Quarry and the proposed Eagleton Hardrock Quarry almost operating next to each?? Necessary NO!

These two quarries would then be working daily to extract gravel via blasting, rock crushing and excavation. My family and I are currently shielded by the natural topography from Boral Quarry operations, but this proposed development will reduce the skyline (eliminate the hill) and remove a significant buffer from Quarry noise. The proposed development involves the reduction in skyline (eliminating the hill) which will be the



removal of the natural barrier that the existing hill provides. This will intensify the noise from Boral Quarry and we will be exposed also, to the noise from proposed Eagleton Hard rock Quarry. We already hear the local Gilson's Quarry located in Winston Road, the MX Central motor bike track, so much so that at times that it sounds as if they are in our house. Take away the skyline and this will intensify and there will be no peacefulness at all any day of the week.

I cannot emphasise enough that once the proposed quarry reduces the skyline, we as with all local residents, will be exposed to much greater levels of noise, not only from the listed quarry operations (blasting, rock crushers, loaders, trucks, earth moving equipment and rock hammers); but also noise from the freeway which is currently blocked by the natural topography. Once this hillside is reduced/removed, this increase in noise will be 24 hours a day!! We will be permanently and irreversibly be affected by NOISE!

Public safety – The roads in the area are already inundated with trucks from the other quarries located in this region and as such contribute to the poor state of the roads in Eagleton. As these roads were only built as country roads and not as main roads to carry heavy loads add to this many more truck movements a week and you have the formula for disaster.

Operations – The fact that the quarry intends to work from early in the morning until late at night is concerning as there are shift workers in the area who need to sleep during the day and also workers who start early in the morning and need to retire early of an evening, not to mention children in the area.

Personal impact – I live here for the country life style not the industrial life style that seems to be being pushed upon me. I find the proposal of another quarry in the area to be an encroachment of my rights to live in a country environment as I was here a long time before these developers showed up.

My husband and I bought our home in Eagleton 20 years ago and have worked hard investing every spare bit of time and money into our home and property in keeping with its surrounds, ready for our retirement into a natural and healthy lifestyle. My family and I desired the peace and tranquility of a rural setting and lifestyle. The proposed operating hours of the Eagleton Hardrock Quarry will truly take away our peace and tranquility and impact negatively on our life and our health. Already our health is starting to be seriously affected by the stress of this proposed quarry!

Local business – Eagleton is also the location of the Eagleton Ridge Respite Centre that deals with many types of disabled people. The centre has over 3500 clients on its books and provides employment for many staff. The proposed quarry and its operation would be located straight behind the centre and would cause stress and inconvenience to both patients and staff and impair the great work done by this organization.

Water contamination - water from the area of the proposed quarry flows into the Grahamstown Dam and has the potential to pollute one of the main water supplies for Newcastle and the surrounding areas. The proposed Eagleton Quarry is located within the catchment of Grahamstown Dam. This dam supplies the greater Newcastle region with much of its water needs. There is rainfall run-off from the site of the proposed new quarry towards the Grahamstown Dam. In times of high rainfall events, there is a high potential for rain waters to carry pollutants from the proposed quarry site to Grahamstown Dam.

Pollution – As the residents of Eagleton rely on tank water for their daily needs, dust from another quarry would only add to our concerns for the quality of our drinking water. Our home, as per our neighbors, has no town water connection. We rely on collection of rainwater from our development (house roof) for showering and our only source of drinking water. With the hillside reduced/removed, this will alter existing air movements, with the strong likelihood of increased contamination settlement on our roof and water tanks. Even if the proposed quarry uses sprinklers the high winds we have here will dry it up quickly and send dust and contaminates air borne. The proposed quarry is located in a North East direction from my home and as the summers here are usually dry and hot and the winds predominantly North Easterly.



When we purchased our home in Eagleton we wanted a cleaner and healthier lifestyle for us and our family. This is our life and if we cannot enjoy the fundamental reasons of living here to be able to open doors.

Environmental impact – There are many different species of native wildlife in the area and day after day their habitats are being destroyed by developers without too much concern for the animals well being. We are rapidly running out of areas for Australian wild life to live. This proposal is just another infringement on the wild life’s natural areas. PLEASE CONSIDER OUR WILDLIFE OVERALL! Also consider our Koalas. The State Government recognise that the koala’s habitats, across the state, are under threat. This development will have a likely significantly impact on the local koala population, which is an unacceptable risk and threats to other vulnerable flora and fauna species are too great. The subject site contains significant numbers of eucalyptus punctate trees. Since 2002, acknowledgment of this tree species as important, it is now commonly accepted by Port Stephens Council and the and local experts, that koalas are known to use trees in this area and koalas have been located on the proposed quarry’s site and surrounds. Overall the site is used by koalas as stated in surveys and we demand that an extensive survey be conducted over a minimum of 2 years, to fully assess the species on site.

There are numerous hard rock quarries throughout the lower Hunter with more than adequate capacity to supply the existing demand, and expected future growth. This development will provide financial reward for a few but create a permanent reduction in living quality to me, my family, my neighbours, local community and other families in the area.

I hope that Independent Planning Commission will take all my concerns into account. This proposed development is causing considerable stress to me and fellow residents. There are enough quarries and certainly no need for this one. Please consider the community and the environment when determining the outcome.

I appreciate your time in regards to this matter. Please notify me of the Department’s decision with regard to this application.

Kind regards,

Eagleton Resident
