



ARTY TYPE: Joan Evans painted the artwork presented to Holcim.



GRATEFUL: Holcim's general manager (NSW and ACT Aggregates) and Alana White, Holcim's Senior Environment and Community Liaison, Lynwood Quarry accept a painting from the community last Friday.

# Standing room only at Towrang bash

SOMETHING very unusual happened in Towrang on Friday night.

The Towrang community threw a party for major quarrying company, Holcim.

It was standing room only at the Towrang Hall, as over 60 locals along with Holcim's senior management team, saw CEO Mark Campbell presented with a magnificent painting from local resident and award winning artist Joan Evans.

The gift is an expression of the community's gratitude for the goodwill, cooperation, hard work, respect and innovative solutions Holcim have developed to minimise impacts from the

Lynwood Quarry on the Towrang Valley.

"Holcim have now set the standard for genuine community consultation, consideration and for demonstrating just how effectively large and normally disruptive industries can be successfully integrated into a pristine rural environment," TVPG president Mr Geoff Pearson said.

"We thank and congratulate Holcim. Others will now be judged by the standards they have set."

Mr Campbell told the party that after a slow start Holcim had come to recognise and value the natural beauty and extraordinary history of the

local area. He said he fully understands why local residents are so passionate about protecting the natural assets and the rural lifestyle they enjoy. He thanked the TVPG for the reasonable, professional and cooperative way in which it had worked through these issues, and developed solutions, with Holcim.

The Holcim team seemed to be quite overwhelmed by the warmth and sincerity of the community's embrace.

"After more than 20 years in the quarrying industry, I have never experienced anything quite like this," one Holcim executive said.

Mr Pearson said the community and Holcim now had a strong set of shared values, mutual respect and a determination to work cooperatively together.

"Holcim have set the standard others must now follow," he said.

The party went well into the night and a great time was had by all. A very strong bond, sense of trust and respect has been built between Holcim and the community, and everyone will be the better for it.

*Contributed, Towrang Valley Progress Group.*



October 30, 2015

Dear Towrang Community Members,

Holcim Australia Pty Ltd (Holcim) operates the Lynwood Quarry. Holcim is proposing to modify the Lynwood development consent through Modification 4 and open a new granite pit on Holcim owned land. The granite pit will replace the ignimbrite material currently being extracted. The granite material is better suited to providing consistent aggregate products for the life of the quarry. Throughout the assessment process Holcim has actively engaged with the surrounding communities to present the proposed changes contained in Modification 4 and listened to community feedback and concerns.

In response to concerns raised by members of the Towrang community regarding aspects of the operations at the Lynwood Quarry and potential impacts from the Modification 4, Holcim has developed a set of objectives and commitments which we believe will minimise potential impacts to the Towrang community. Holcim recognize that it is up to Holcim to develop the systems to achieve the objectives

Holcim propose the following;

### **Proposed Granite Pit**

#### **Objectives**

Holcim will do everything practicable to ensure operational elements for the proposed granite quarry pit and associated works, including haul roads, trucks, plant and machinery are fully screened from sight from all existing residences in the Towrang Valley and surrounds.

Holcim will do everything practicable to ensure operational elements of the proposed granite quarry pit and associated works, including haul road traffic, plant and machinery do not impact the existing residences in the Towrang Valley and surrounds as far as is practicable in relation to noise, dust and vibration.

It is understood that the building of the bunds, haul roads, and overburden mounds will be visible during construction and maintaining vegetation, however Holcim will undertake these activities in a way to limit the offsite visual, noise and dust impacts.

### **Holcim's Commitments**

Holcim proposes to achieve the objectives through commitments included in our Environmental Assessment and project description lodgment to the State Government.

These commitments include:

- A 12 metre high amenity bund will be constructed adjacent to the western boundary of the proposed granite pit. A 12 metre high amenity bund connecting with the western amenity bund will be constructed adjacent the northern boundary of the proposed granite pit. The northern amenity bund will extend from the western boundary and will terminate before it intersects with the tributary which flows from the northern extent of the project area toward Lockyersleigh Creek. At spot locations the bund may be extended to 14 metres in height if required.
- Holcim will re-vegetate the granite pit eastern overburden bench as soon as practicable.
- Holcim will plant suitable native species to thickly vegetate the western and northern faces of the amenity bunds to grow to a height of 2-3 metres above the bund height.
- Holcim will engage a suitably qualified botanist/horticulturalist to ensure appropriate plants are chosen to ensure a thick, evergreen, robust screen can be achieved.
- In addition to the amenity bund, where required, Holcim propose to use semi-permanent visual screens to shield the overburden removal activities. The screens will be of sufficient height to obscure vision of mobile plant undertaking top soil and overburden removal activities. The screens will be repositioned as the overburden removal activities progress through the development stages.
- Holcim will construct bunding along the western and southern faces of the haul road to screen vehicle movements leaving the pit and traveling to the established primary crusher. The proposed bunding will be of a height of 5 metres where required to screen vehicle movements, entering and leaving the pit and travelling to and from quarry processing facilities.
- Holcim will ensure that noise escaping from the granite pit operation will be minimised as far as practicable and will undertake noise attenuation measures as required, including, if necessary, the use of rubberised liners in the truck bodies.
- All crushing of material from the granite pit will be conducted at the existing crushing facilities. Holcim will only use machinery required to undertake extraction as per our development conditions, including drilling, blasting, loading, hauling, dust suppression, overburden removal and activities related to these operations.
- Overburden will only be removed during daylight hours.

### **Required Maintenance:**

- Holcim will ensure that the amenity bund is properly maintained to ensure its efficacy for the duration of the quarry license.
- Holcim will ensure all bund vegetation is appropriately maintained, watered, fertilized and where required replaced or replanted from time to time to ensure the objective of the bund and vegetation is continually achieved.
- When from time to time during the quarry license period improved technical innovations emerge that would deliver an improved outcome to the above objective Holcim will promptly adopt those innovations where practicable.
- Trucks will be maintained to ensure noise reduction measures do not diminish over time.

### **Off Site Lighting Impacts**

#### **Objective**

Holcim will do everything practicable to prevent and or minimise any off site lighting impacts from the Lynwood Quarry to all existing residences in the the Towrang Valley and surrounds.

#### **Holcim's Commitments**

- Holcim will build a light proof fence with a minimum height of 9 metres along the full length of the western boundary of the car park access road and car park, shielding from view all road lighting and car park lighting fittings.
- Holcim will reduce the height of all light fittings used to illuminate the car park access road and car park to a height no greater than 8.5 metres above ground level. Holcim will cut off the surplus length of all light poles along the car park access road and in the car park just above the light fittings at 8.5 metres and ensure the light fitting cannot be moved to a greater height.
- All conveyor lights above the lighting screens are to be by default turned off and only illuminate when required maintenance or repair. When such maintenance or repair has been completed the conveyor lights will be turned off again.
- All conveyor lights above the lighting screen will be fitted with appropriate screens or light shades to reduce as far as is practicable any off site lighting impacts
- Holcim has committed to re-examine the Webb lighting report and to review the lights on the upper sections of the conveyor system. If additional screening is possible and practicable Holcim will modify accordingly.

- The list of recommendations made by Webb, presented and discussed at meeting 24 April 2015, includes a number of activities including adjusting light angles, reducing some 400w luminaires with 150w luminaires etc. Holcim will update the list of adjustments and attached to the Statement of Commitments with agreement that these light reduction modifications not be diminished or reduced, but they can be, by agreement, improved upon when the opportunity arises.

**Maintenance:**

- Holcim will maintain and repair when necessary the light proof fence so that for the duration of the licence period, and during any renewed licence period, the fence will achieve the stated objective.
- Holcim will ensure that at no time light fittings are mounted at a height greater than that of the light proof fence, with the exception of the current conveyor lights which exist above the lighting screen. Holcim have committed to installing switches controlling the upper half of the conveyor lights which exist above the lighting screens. Holcim commit to only using the lights to undertake emergency maintenance at night time as required.
- When from time to time during the quarry license period improved technical innovations emerge that would deliver an improved outcome to the above objective Holcim will promptly adopt those innovations where practicable.

I believe the objectives Holcim are committing to will be achieved by the means we are proposing.

Yours sincerely

