

Amanda Albury (final version)

[REDACTED]  
Limeburners Creek NSW 2324

Email: [REDACTED]

(M) [REDACTED]

Dear IPC Panel, DPIE and the Government/Ministers,

**RE: Amanda Albury - My objection to SSD-6612 Daracon/Martins Creek quarry project/Buttai Gravel Pty Ltd, being given any further approvals to operate and must close down immediately and mitigate the land destroyed and become part of a wildlife refuge with remaining bushland forests.**

- I object to Daracon being given any further approval to operate their quarry, regardless of rock mining their own land or land they lease in Martins Creek Township/area.
- IPCN must close down Daracon's operation in Maratins Creek completely and effective immediately and start the remediation process and protect the entire bushland area from any further mining/quarry, negative impacts. This entire bushland area and the area to be repaired/mitigated must ALL be put down as a (wildlife reserve In Perpetuity) and handed across to Council, Community, Community Groups and Wildlife organisations to work jointly on this site for the preservation of all wildlife species including Koalas now listed as Endangered.
- I started this letter on the 1st November 2022, finished on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022, please put this with the other email letters and website letter I sent IPCN previously, which makes up my objection to Daracon quarry operating at Martins Creek. My new scanner does not give clear scans, so I will be posting this letter via courier on Wednesday 16/11/22.
- I object to Daracon being given any further approval to operate at Martins Creek or anywhere for that matter. It is irrelevant whether Daracon owns the land they are digging up or leasing the land they are digging up. Daracon must be stopped from operating regardless. I request the IPCN Panel refuses further approval for Daracon to operate and orders them to close down completely. They are affecting a beautiful Country Town of Martins Creek and surrounding areas, including Patterson, Bolwarra Heights, Clarence Town, Brandy Hill, Seaham, Morpeth, Maitland etc. Daracon is affecting local businesses in Martins Creek and Patterson and also disgustingly affecting people's health, including the wellbeing and mental health of people having this thrust upon them, in their own homes and stopping the peace, quiet and enjoyment within their homes and on their properties.
- Daracon as other mining companies and quarries are: dirty, noisy, dusty, blasting/vibrations, crusher noise is ridiculous to force this onto people in their homes (like

a fighter jet plane hovering over a persons home), trucks and numbers per day are also ridiculous and should not happen. These companies approved change the amenity of the entire area to be horrible and the merits of Daracon mining a resource of rock should not dictate what happens to everyone else already living in their homes that find themselves the victims of these people running their businesses/companies without any care, concern for the impacts they are actually having on people that are catastrophically affected.

- This is not right or fare to have these types of companies wreck the environment, slaughter wildlife in numbers unknown, destroy bushland forests and destroy the lives of other people, wreck other people's health/wellbeing and businesses, because they are a mining company or quarry company or destructive housing developments that destroy the natural bushland, kills wildlife, pollutes natural water-sources and gives people catastrophic impacts and injuries associated with these types of mining/quarry/bad development operations.
- Also people watching the bushland being destroyed and knowing wildlife are dying is also extremely painful for people like me to watch.
- I am angry how people working in Government Departments hurt other people through their approvals they give these companies.
- I am angry that so many people in position of Ministers get photo opportunities to hug a Koala and yet continue to hand over the habitat to be destroyed and are party to catastrophic injuries and death, causing the extinction of wildlife and flora species in these bushland areas.
- I am angry that so much wildlife is constantly being handed over to mining companies/quarry companies or housing/industrial areas clearing bushland like they are digging holes at the beach, yet the ocean tide will not fill it back in.
- Yet in reality for every bushland area being destroyed wildlife are dying in numbers undocumented.
- I am also angry at the hipocracy of Government Departments and Local Land Services as Planning Department/other Government Departments pride themselves on wildlife surveys, courses, field trips, studies, yet are part of killing wildlife species with every disgraceful approval they give.
- I am also angry about the harm that people cause other people through their Government positioned approvals to companies, whose documentation is untruthful, misrepresented of what is actually in an area, or what will actually be destroyed if they carry out their onslaught of attack towards the natural environment and people are treated with so much

rudeness that they don't even write people living in private homes that will be affected. For every coal mine, quarry and CSG gas well venture, Magnetite, rock mine quarries, they have many things in common, they are not "a good balance", they are not "good for biodiversity", they are not "accountable for anything they do to the natural environment, slaughtering our wildlife, destroying headwaters of creeks to river systems and causing catastrophic impacts including health impacts to people who are all your victims.

- To reward Daracon with a continued approval, shows Daracon and all other companies that they can do whatever they want and wherever they want, and dig up whatever amount of land they want without any or little to no consequences. Daracon must be used as an example to their company operating elsewhere and other companies watching what will happen to Daracon Quarry at Martins Creek.
- **Truly where are people working in Government Departments really to stop these companies hurting people?**
- **Where are you all when your decisions affect other people?**
- **When people contact the Departments as I have done with my nose and others bleeding from the dust from Hunter Quarries, pouring off the cliffs and pits in any wind. We the victims of these approvals/your approvals; are left to suffer the consequences of people working in Government Departments giving these heinous approvals, and the company gets away with causing us the health issues we have.**
- **Does anyone care in the slightest of the realtime and actual impacts these companies are having?**
- What should happen yet Government Departments todate do nothing. When we people are impacted and suffering health issues including the dust causing nose bleeds while people sleep or while we are awake, either inside our homes, which then have caused us to close our doors and windows particularly at night to stop the dust being pushed through the screens. We have nose bleeds walking around our gardens or gardening around our properties and either not waking up from sleep while our nose bleeds or being woken up due to the nose bleed. Now for 7 years my husband and I woke up most mornings with blood taste in our mouth, it was not until the outwards nose bleed in September 2019 I had, that we realised what had been happening, and we closed up the house doors and windows and became prisoners in our own home from Hilton Grugeon/Hunter Quarries dust, in our attempt to stop us breathing it in while we slept.
- I am angry that people are left in these situations and they must be addressed by people working in Government Departments and not fobbed off as is happening to me since October 2022 when I had another outwards nose bleed while gardening outside on a day that had a gentle swirl wind breeze in a 360 degrees and when it came from the East to

west, Hilton Grugeons dust poured off the cliffs and pit in columns of dust directly onto us, the dust hurt my eyes and I did not stay out long and came out in intervals, that was until my nose bled so badly, it would not stop and I stayed inside for the rest of the day.

- I am angry that people working in Government, mining companies/quarries and their consultants and employees write the most disgusting untruthful documentation and NEVER write against the realtime impacts that they or other companies have on the natural environment and everyone and everything else in this natural environment that is being catastrophically impacted.
- I am angry that these companies do not report on their real time impacts that these companies and Government Departments do not want to address and do not address as these realtime impacts arise.
- **How is any of this including people's health impacts justified by any of you is beyond me to keep approving these companies to get bigger, destroy more bushland, kill more wildlife and continue to impact more and more people's lives and health?**
- I am angry, my husband and I are your victims, when the Council, Planning Department, then IPC approved Hunter Quarries in 2014, more bushland was destroyed, no dust water suppressant ever! All unretained dirt and rock that comes across to our place from the cliffs and pits on the slightest breeze. Yet IPC panel refused to meet the people already impacted by Hilton Grugeon/Hunter Quarries, including PAC coming to our place. Hunter Quarries is over 10.5km away from us, directly parallel to us and impacts us every day and has contaminated our drinking water (tank water) and has killed the lichen and is causing us respiratory, nose and throat issues as well as nose bleeds.
- I am angry, how can you keep approving these companies when you know the damage they do to the wildlife, the environment's bushland forests, creek systems/river systems and people, including people's businesses?
- The IPCN Panel would know people ARE impacted and therefore must stop these companies from having "free range" or an "automatic approval process", when clearly they should not be operating in any of these areas of bushland or in areas where people are living and all mining/quarries must therefore be regulated and owned by the Government.
- How is Daracon able to operate approximately 10km out of their area? Is this true? How could this happen? If Daracon is operating approximately 10km away from approved area and this is actually true, why is Daracon able to continue to operate? I am also hearing like so many other quarries such as Hunter Quarries, that Daracon has also taken out more rock than their approval for the year of 2022, is this true?
- Why would or should anyone in Government Departments approve a company that has operated in this way? Daracon is being talked about by other quarry owners, including

truck drivers that cart gravel, employees of other rock mine quarries and then the general public. The majority of the general public/community have no vested interest to see this quarry continue to operate at all and if they are approved to continue, what a mockery of Planning Laws and decisions made towards mining/rock quarry companies operational requirements with their “conditions of consent” that can be changed by various Government Departments, even court processes to water-down and/or remove entirely their operational conditions. For example: the Planning Department sought to remove Gloucester Coal/Duralie Coal’s Conditions of Consent in December 2010, which prompted ICAG Inc. with JCCC to go to the Land & Environment Court taking the Planning Department and Gloucester Coal to Court January 2011 to Feb. 2012. We achieved many things and stopped them putting a pipe into Mammy Johnsons River, Karuah River Port Stephens to belch out their contaminated dirty water that runs orange and/or black or dark grey. These companies should not be able to “change the goal posts”, I mean the area they mine or their Conditions of Consent, without severe consequences. These Departments assisting these companies to have their Conditions of Consent removed and/or watered down is also an ugly hypocrisy and should be stopped from happening.

- If Daracon is approved to continue to operate in Martins Creek, this would show all companies that are already approved to operate as mining companies/rock quarries and/or for those proposed mining companies; rock/mine quarries with Development Applications with the Planning Department and/or Councils currently. That all they have to do, is start small and get approval, as they already do, get further approvals for modifications or extensions as companies already do. Yet the difference is then as Daracon mined so far out of their approved area and took out more material than they were approved to do so, why would IPCN approve them or the Planning Department regardless of what or any Conditions of Consent are put against them, this would be diabolically wrong.
- If IPCN Panel rewards them and approves Daracon to continue to mine in properties in Martins Creek/area. Then ANY company can do the same and go and mine where-ever the company wants, with no consequences or penalties. By penalties I mean, there should be major dollar fines and also their licence to operate is revoked and they are closed down and their remediation work commences immediately, with timeframes and further fines incurred for further non-compliance and the area they are destroying is then returned back to the Community/Community Groups/Wildlife organisations/Council working together in partnership to see this bushland is managed for the wildlife trying to survive including the Koalas present in this bushland area. To dig more holes in the ground, produce more dirty water holding dams, have overburden dumps, rock heaps, machinery etc. should not be continued to be approved in ANY bushland forested areas. We have lost so much wildlife species from drought, floods and fires and land clearance either illegally and/or approved.
- For Daracon, or any company operating a rock/mine quarry, who is operating outside their approved area is shocking to me. These companies already cause catastrophic impacts on the natural environment/our precious wildlife, natural water sources, people/our health and the dust impacts from these companies quarries including coal mines in our valley of The Bucketts Way and elsewhere, these companies cause nose bleeds in adults and children, including impacts to our animals. **The impacts to local businesses in Martins**

**Creek and other areas and the amenity of Country Towns are changed negatively by these companies operating mining/quarries.** Daracon and what they have already done is clearly one of many examples why the IPCN panel must refuse any further mining activities/quarry activities on this or any other site of Daracon's at Martins Creek or any other company at this site and the bushland forests must be returned to remediation and put "into Perpetuity Preservation of the remaining natural bushland for wildlife including Koala's".

- If the IPC/PCN/DPIE/Ministers or Government Departments give Daracon approval to continue to operate this is a shameful approval. If approval is given it is also a mockery of the Planning approval process. It also means that companies/operators looking at what Daracon has done, sets an example to be deceitful, lie and cheat their way to destroying further bushland areas that they are not even supposed to be in at all. The rock quarry mining industry must be controlled fully, they claim SSD in the hope of an automatic approval, yet they do not pay per tonne to the State as a coal mine and Daracon and other rock mine quarry companies must be held accountable for what they are doing and the impacts and wildlife deaths and peoples' health issues they are causing.
- As an example our property is approximately 10km from the Pacific Highway, and there is no way that a company can be out of their area by 10km, 5km, 2km or one 1Km. As they operate as self-reporting, self-monitoring, self-governing.
- There, there are many companies I hear about surrounding us on our property that request the truck drivers drive around the weighbridge. This is being done so that truck tonnes do not show up on their records.
- Therefore the IPCN panel must reject Daracon's application seeking approval to continue to operate at Martins Creek Township/area and therefore stopped from continuing to remove vast areas of remnant forest bushland areas for an abundance of wildlife including Koala's.
- I also would like to claim submitters rights, so that I can send my document with attachments I presented on Tuesday at Tocal, to add to my letters including this one, as my continued reasons why I am requesting IPCN reject entirely Daracons Development Applications and rescind their approval to operate.
- I talked about the impacts of Daracon and also the cumulative impacts of other rock mine quarries around them and us here in Limeburners Creek, either already operating, or the proposed quarries in Karuah area, Booral, Limeburners Creek and 12 Mile Creek in Wallaroo State Forest. I object to all these proposed quarries also that want to take up residence in natural bushland areas with a vast number of wildlife species trying to survive including Koalas, surrounded by people and our homes and properties.
- My objection about Daracon and the heinous crimes on the environment, slaughtering wildlife in numbers undocumented and the real-time impacts to people are never

documented like every other mining company/rock mine quarry regardless of the “resource” they seek to plunder.

- I can identify directly with people suffering health impacts from mining companies, as we are victims of Hunter Quarries dust, let alone the visual disgrace we see from our home and bushland mountains are destroyed. We are some 10+ km away as it coming closer to us in a West direction. We look to our East directly at Hunter Quarries who causes us and others, adults and children to have nose bleeds from the dust. We drink contaminated tank water and have 2 filters a year which is not enough and we are the ones to cover the cost at \$85.00 and more a water filter, yet we are not the ones contaminating our drinking water, Hilton Grugeon/Hunter Quarries is and he continues to get away with the impacts including his staff that are causing us and others around him. The blasting dust comes directly to us from the ground up, hundreds of metres high in the sky, as we are parallel to the open cut pits and cliffs, the Department refuses to insist that Hilton Grugeon install automated dust monitoring system on our property, something I have been requesting through to 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 (in a phone call to planning department staff).
- **Daracon quarry at Martins Creek Township** has impacted this Country Town and other areas, businesses, people, their health and wellbeing, destroying the amenity of the area, their properties and their homes. It is wrong of people to approve such onslaught of impacts onto other people, when they themselves are not the ones to suffer these catastrophic impacts, along with the ever dwindling remnant forests for wildlife and wildlife species in these areas being injured, killed, life extinguished. Mining kills all communities!
- Daracon should be stopped from operating in this area at all, including other mining/rock quarries companies who also do NOT act in the best practice/interest of the majority of people they interfere with.
- Why does people working in Government Departments allow these types of reports these companies write are shameful. They do not write the truth of what their industry actually does. These companies all have in common the destruction on the natural environment, slaughtering wildlife in numbers undocumented and the health issues to people, while the environment is left destroyed, creeks and rivers are dug up, discharged into, aquatic wildlife impacts again are not documented. They all produce excessive and unnatural noise including crushers that sound like fighter jet planes hovering over a persons home shaking it from the ground up, ground vibrations from these blasts, toxic plumes, silica dust, fumes from generators, equipment, trucks/vehicles, all these particles pollute the air and they ALL produce dirty water holding dams, that overflow and can run back into creeks and river systems affecting all wildlife and aquatic wildlife and polluting natural water-sources for wildlife in these immediate areas, other areas and downstream.
- **To the IPC panel, refuse Daracon or any other company the ability to continue on this or any other site in Martins Creek. The area needs to be returned to bushland for wildlife and give the people in all these areas the life they chose to live without these types of disturbances.**

- **If the IPC panel approves a company such as Daracon, that has no regard for the loose legislation approvals they have been given and to wrought those loose boundaries/operation guidelines/conditions, where a company such as Daracon, is assisted by Government Departments to continue to alter their operating Conditions of Consent, operate illegally and then get rewarded to continue is beyond reasonable!**
- Further details of Duralie Coal is an example that in December 2010, the Planning Department notified all the former objectors, that they were going to give them full rescinding rights to remove all their Conditions of Consent, almost 100 Conditions of Consent including the “No River Condition of Consent” which would have given them the ability to put a pipe into Mammy Johnsons River 24/7, this river flows directly into the Karuah River into Port Stephens Marine Park. So ICAG Inc. with Johnsons Creek Conservation Committee (JCCC) who spent almost 2 years in Commission of Inquiry to have the coal mine refused and got almost 100 Conditions of Consent put down against Gloucester Coal/Duralie Coal. We went to the Land & Environment Court in January 2010 and the Planning Department was not successful in removing these Conditions of Consent, however shortly after the Court case ended 13 months in duration till February 2011, Duralie went back to Planning, there was a public hearing at Stroud and these conditions wording was altered and gave them extended train times and other things they wanted. So what this shows us is:, the companies wish list if the Government Departments keeps caving into them, these companies learn nothing and the Planning process shows us people that can see what is happening or maybe directly can see how this planning process works and how it is manipulated. These companies should not be given the opportunity to keep changing their parameters or whittle down their Conditions of Consent etc. or keep extending their areas of the mining land. I state: footprint (to use their terminology),
- **Daracon should not be operating at all anywhere and particularly at Martins Creek where they have done the wrong thing and must be stopped from operating.** To safeguard the entire area from having another company move in, the mining licence/quarry area of this entire remaining bushland at Martins Creek area must be preserved In Perpetuity for the remaining wildlife and Koala’s trying to survive to thrive in an area that will no longer be impacted by any type of mining/rock quarry/industry/or any development.
- **As stated should IPCN approve Daracon, you have all unfortunately set an extremely negative flow on affect to each and every other company operating currently or ones that seek approval, are given approval to operate, the negative precedent would therefore have been set by this IPCN decision to give Daracon any approval, which I believe would be a wrongful decision. I therefore ask that you all refuse Daracon outright!**
- These companies are devastating on their own and together, the cumulative impacts are catastrophic for each company and then multiplied by how many companies in an area of 10km, 20km or more radius as their dust keeps travelling. Noise of these rock mine/quarries you cannot get away from the crusher noise, blasting, equipment, truck movements. The amenity of quiet bushland areas where we are used to the noise of wildlife only in Limeburners Creek is also at risk of being destroyed by a proposed quarry in the Deep Creek Road/valley area and if this is approved will be catastrophic impacts to our precious wildlife including Koala’s, People, our animals, wildlife reserves,



accommodation businesses and downstream affects to Deep Creek that flows through the Karuah National Park joining the Karuah River, Port Stephens/Marine Park, this would be if approved 1300 metres from our home.

- We are just over 10km away from the Pacific Highway and at times loud trucks can be heard travelling north along the highway, noise travels and you can't mitigate against noise produced or mitigate against dust these companies produce. Again to clarify; we are over 10km away from Hunter Quarries on our property in Forest Glen Road Limeburners Creek. On October long weekend Sunday 2022, with the dust in the air from Hunter Quarries my nose bled and would not stop bleeding while I was outside. We have to have our window and doors closed during windy days. We cannot sleep with the windows open at night regardless unless its raining, because if we do, the dust lands on our face, furniture in the room and mirror, which happened in September 2019, when I had my first nose bleed (outwards nose bleed). We realised then we had to close our windows as we would wake up with blood in our mouth each morning and the taste of blood we could not work out what was going on, until the outwards nose bleed in September 2019. I woke up with a startle as I pushed talc dust particles and angulated rock bits into my eyes as I was waking up. Dust was everywhere on the bed head and foot, the dressing table, the mirror looked opaque, the side draws over 1 metre from the window in the corner of room and behind curtains. I write this dreadful accounts because this is real time impacts to us and other people from the dust from Hunter Quarries. Daracon would be no better I suspect there would be people that also suffer nose bleeds.

I would like to advise, that I will send hard copy of the documents I presented at the IPCN hearing at Tocal via post as my new scanner does not work. I have photos and maps of the cumulative impacts of rock mine quarries around Martins Creek, Brandy Hill, Seaham, Clarence Town, Dungog, to Karuah, Limeburners Creek etc.

Reject Daracon and send a clear message that what they have done is unacceptable!

Thank you  
Amanda Albury  
Limeburners Creek  
The Bucketts Way  
(M) XXXXXXXXXX