

Independent Planning Commission
Suit 15.02,
135 King Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Via email: ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au

Submission – Objection to the Martins Creek Quarry Project

The CB Alexander Foundation (the Foundation) would like to lodge a submission of objection on in response to the proposed development of the Martins Creek Quarry Expansion that is currently open for comment.

The Foundation owns the land of Tocal College which contains 2,200 hectares of farming enterprises including 650 head of beef cattle, a 320 cow dairy, 100 Australian Stock horse breeding enterprise, 92,000 free-range egg production, Honeybees, 300 Dohne sheep flock and cropping/hay making.

The College hosts, hundreds to thousands of people each day (depending on specific events) including students, staff, contractors, and visitors. The main entrance to the College located at 815 Tocal Road Paterson is also the main route for trucks going to and from the Quarry.

Each year there are around 100 students aged from 16 -20 that live on site. There are 118 staff on site to support this training, run the farms, and deliver the work of NSW Department of Primary Industries and Hunter Local Land Services. The residential facilities, classroom and offices are on the western side of the road. The dairy, motel-style accommodation and Local Land Services are on the eastern side.

The College is also a community resource with groups using the facilities on a regular basis for events such as cross-country athletics carnivals, craft workshops, conferences, and other gatherings. There is also a pool that is available to the local community. On average 54,000 people visit the site each year. This does not include the annual field days, which drew 28,000 people to the site from Friday 30 April to Sunday 2 May 2022.

The proposal for the Martins Creek Quarry to change from a ballast quarry to a general construction aggregate quarry is a major concern for students, staff, and visitors to the College and Homestead noting that the increase to 1.1 million tonnes of material extracted per year would lead to an increase of up to 40 trucks per hour using Tocal Road on any given week day equalling up to 280 trucks per day.

Whilst the Foundation notes in the Assessment Report provided that traffic volumes generated by this project would not result in a change to the existing levels of service for roads along the primary haulage route, the Foundation strongly disagrees and believe that this amount of increased traffic will become a major issue for the safety of students, staff and guests entering and leaving the site, farming operations including the effects it will have on livestock and crops, and the social impacts to residents and students due to increased noise and air pollution.

Students and staff operate large farming equipment on this road to move between various farmlands operated by the College on both sides of Tocal Road for thousands of hectares spread across both sides of Tocal Road Paterson which will become incredibly challenging with the proposed increase in trucks travelling on the road.

Students are also required as part of their formal study to work in a variety of aspects of the farming operations including the dairy, which they access by crossing Tocal Road on foot twice a day.

There is accommodation and offices located across from the College at 815 Tocal Road, and the entrance to the Tocal Homestead at 957 Tocal Road Paterson, that has up to 20,000 guests per year, has vehicles including buses, horse drawn carts, wedding cars and guests that are entering and exiting through to Tocal Road without a dedicated turning point in place.

The Foundation strongly objects to the change of use of the Martins Creek Quarry.

Yours Sincerely



VICKI PRIEST
SECRETARY CB ALEXANDER FOUNDATION
15 November 2022