I wish to lodge an objection to the proposed expansion to the Martins Creek Quarry as proposed by Daracon.

First can the documents be amended regarding the church in Paterson, it is NOT a Baptist Church, but Anglican from the mid 1800’s. The large sign in front of the Church clearly states Anglican and the surrounding old cemetery. Just goes to show how little research they have done. It is really disrespectful to Paterson. It states that during a funeral Daracon will advise drivers. This will be impossible because they will not be able to find a Baptist Church, nearest one in Rutherford, off the haulage route.

Why is no mention of the township and businesses being badly affected by this development, Mr. Preshaw from the Department only mentioned mitigation, assessment and will take it on notice. Surely a small gesture to the destruction of Paterson could be made by the Department of Planning.

Where Daracon cannot fix problems it is simply overlooked, or not even put in the document.

Here are a few items the commissioners must consider:-

1. ONE lane bridge at Gostwyck - trucks coming down from the quarry one after the other WILL be dangerous to traffic already on the bridge. Putting layaways either side WILL NOT fix this problem
2. The corner of Gresford Road, and the Paterson Museum has been completely ignored, so the traffic exiting here for the Public School, Preschool, Mechanics Workshop, two Museums (rail, historical), large cemetery, golf course, sporting ovals, expanding subdivision, large egg production farm, fire brigade, ALL exit this road, plus residents. How the hell is that going to work?
3. Moving or relocating school pickups when or where, again this was airbrushed aside, plus the major disruption to the town - time and time again people have stated about the dangerous situation of trying to access all of these businesses, again the Department of Planning said NOTHING at all. How can one business affect over 18 other businesses and community facilitates, and demand they all become under their control.
4. There are 11 roads entering the haulage route from the Quarry to Tocal, these are Dungog Road, Gresford Road, Webbers Creek, Duke, Prince sts, entrance to Tucker Park, Sloane, William, Paterson Road, entrance to Tocal Homestead, entrance to Tocal College, opposite side entrance to Dairy, and entrance to Local Land Services, this is even before the trucks hit the towns of Minaribba, Bolwarra, Maitland Vale and onto East Maitland, has this been factored into any report.
5. All environmental issues either land, water or fauna and flora have been completed - but really brushed aside with spin from the applicant – we will train our staff to be more environmentally friendly just does not cut the mustard.
6. What other major development, whether Local or State, can go ahead with no compliance or with any works done for 2, 3 or whatever years, then put it back to the council and more importantly the ratepayers, to fix any problems.

I

I hope the commissioners will consider my points and other objections and reject the application. Your actions in rejecting this proposal will save the village of Paterson and surrounding communities from 25 years of traffic hell and destruction of our lifestyle.

Michele Ellicott

14th November, 2022