

Independent Planning Commission

MARTINS CREEK RAILWAY BALLAST QUARRY EXTENSION

Dear Sir/Madam

We “STRONGLY OPPOSE” to the above proposal.

Our country roads were never meant for these numbers of high speed heavy vehicles. That is why we have a railway to carry heavy loads, in which Martins Creek has one of them. It's called The North Coast Railway, it has it's own dedicated Quarry Siding that's been there all my lifetime & was used for shifting all quarry materials in the past.

I have lived & worked on my family property all my life (almost 70years) near the single lane “Gostwyck Bridge”. Since Daracon took over the running of Martins Creek Quarry, we have seen & heard everyone of those trucks, one after the other, all day long, it never stopped.

Family & friends visiting us, comment how the environment has changed. Back to the way it was before truck numbers from the quarry got out of control. You can now hear the birds in the trees, the air quality is so much cleaner. No dirty dangerous diesel fumes, no rattling empty aluminium truck bodies, heavy braking coming & going from the Gostwyck Bridge. How did they get away with making our lives sheer hell for so long before they were shut down, it just couldn't go on the way it was.

People making these decisions on our lives & livelihoods, have never lived here, nor seen the operations or experienced what a day entails with the constant truck movements. Daracon Consultants have never spoken to us nor our neighbours, who have lived with this for years & suffered for so long.

New residence that have now moved into the area since Daracon was shut down, do not realise what they are in for.

There has to be another way for Daracon to move these materials. Daracon say they are going to increase the length of the siding to accommodate larger trains to move more material by rail.

The proposed travelling route is also a major School Bus Route for both Primary & Secondary Students. The increase of truck movements will endanger our children & neighbouring children, entering & exiting from the school buses.

If this Proposed Increased Truck Numbers goes ahead, the cost to the local communities will be horrific. Our peace & quiet will go & our properties will be heavily devalued. Our country roads, which we have to travel on & have paid for through our rates will be greatly damaged. Our small thriving town of Paterson will be ruined again, peoples way of living shattered. People will no longer visit our quiet community & businesses could vanish. As if it's not hard enough to survive any business at the moment. MENTAL HEALTH will increase significantly. Is this how Daracon want to be known for.

Daracon is only interest in getting more money in their pockets, & don't care how their side effects are affecting us,

who live in the area. If Daracon were genuine, they would try to keep all people on side as their quarry business is not without a lot of side effects.

I am also quite concerned as at times there is unusual coloured water that flows down the creek which runs from the quarry area. The creek flows through our property, then through more properties, eventually entering into the Paterson River, just above the proposed weir to be built by Hunter Water, for town water supply. Even in dryer conditions with no rain, the creek water level can go from a trickle to a fast flow high volume stream. The colour of the water, instead of being crystal clear, is a bluey milky colour (photos supplied). It looks like liquid blue metal. One would think water that colour could only be coming from the quarry holding dams. What is in this water? How safe is this water? Should Hunter Water be informed.

G Priestley

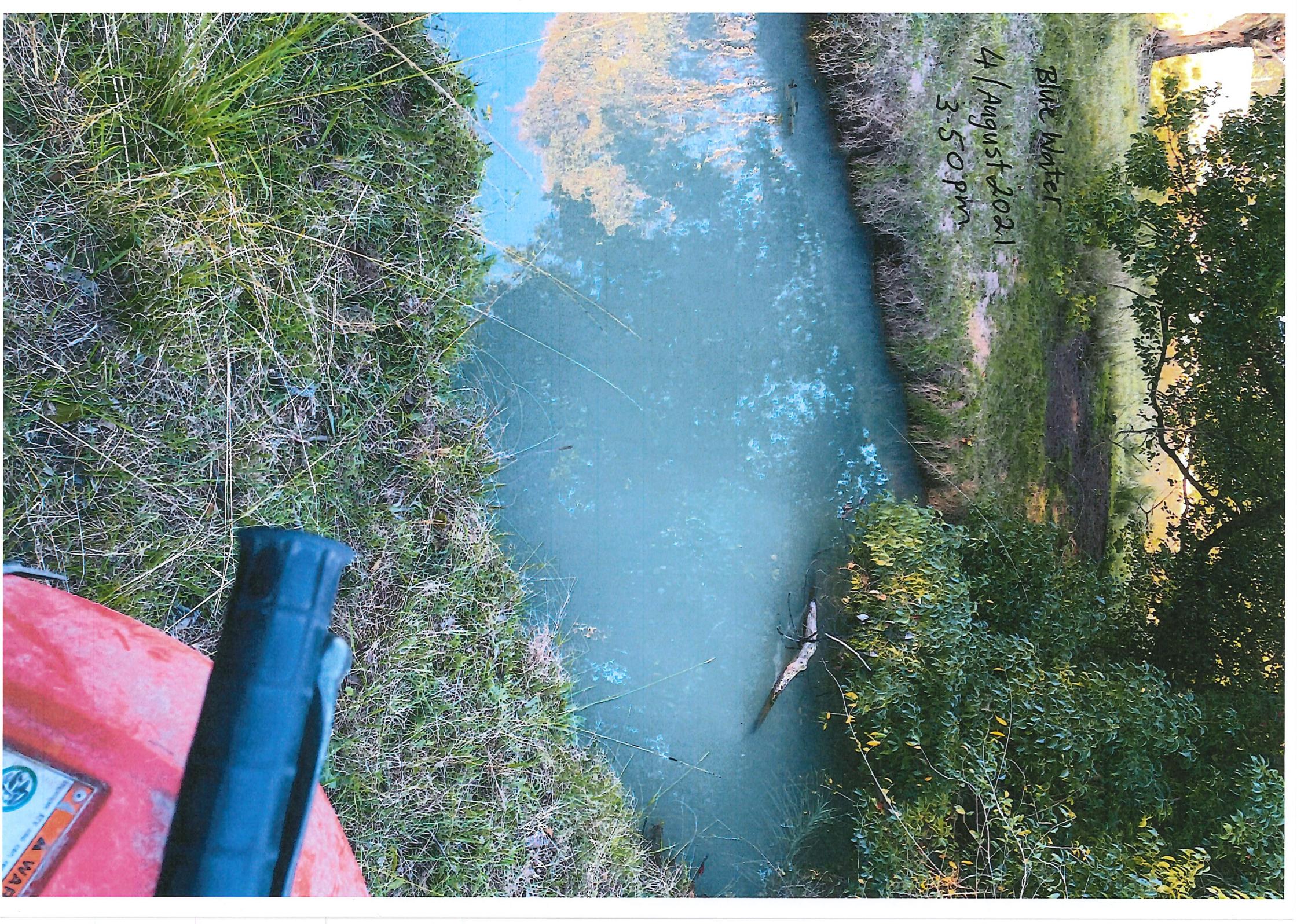
[REDACTED]

Martins Creek NSW 2420

Blue Water

4 / August 2021

3-50 pm



Blue Water

19 August 2021



Dungog Road.
Sub Station
on Grace Ave.

Martin's Creek
Quarry.

Blue Water
4 August 2021
3-5:00pm



19 | August 2021

4.20 pm

Blue Water

