

From: [Amanda Albury](#)
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Subject: Stephen Albury objection to Martins Creek Quarry Project SSD-612 (Daracon/Buttai Gravel Pty Ltd) being given any further approval to operate at Martins Creek.
Date: Tuesday, 15 November 2022 1:23:48 PM

Stephen Albury

[REDACTED]
Limeburners Creek NSW 2324

Email: [REDACTED]

14th November 2022

Attention: Independent Planning Commission NSW Panel – Daracon/Martins Creek

Stephen Albury objection letter sent via email 15/11/22: ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au at - 1.17pm

Dear Sirs/Madams,

Subject: Stephen Albury objection to Martins Creek Quarry Project SSD-612 (Daracon/Buttai Gravel Pty Ltd) being given any further approval to operate at Martins Creek.

I object to Daracon being given any further approval to operate at Martins Creek.

I ask the IPCN Panel refuse to give Daracon any further approval and revoke all past and present approvals and close them down. Due to the impacts Daracon has already had and currently has on people affected and also due to the company operating illegally.

The adverse affects by Daracon operating at Martins Creek, causing health impacts to people in private homes, properties, towns, villages, suburbs and localities, with noise, dust, blasting, machinery etc. including truck movements is beyond justified. The continued approval and operation of Daracon would remove further bushland for all wildlife species including the Koalas living here, which is not acceptable to keep approving mining/quarrying in this area. Therefore Daracon/Buttai Gravel must be refused to operate at all, this includes any other companies or Government Departments and the land mitigated fully and all infrastructure and buildings removed and all remaining bushland including the mitigated areas remain for the preservation of all wildlife, thereby appointing Council and community/community groups, Landcare etc., wildlife organisations to maintain this bushland area and return Martins Creek and surrounding areas to the peaceful healthy Country life style, without the impacts of any mining/quarry

companies operating in any capacity.

The truck numbers are unrealistic at 280 movements a day through Patterson, Melbourne Street East Maitland, further congestion, noise, dust, fumes pollution. These trucks only pay rego. The road damage caused from trucks costs tax payers, Government Departments and Councils unknown dollars spent on road resurfacing. **For example - 1 truck is equivalent to approximately 1000 cars.** We have already seen the damaged roads due to the weather and it should not be the responsibility of local Councils, who do not have the funding to repair the roads that these heavy trucks damage, while making the owner/operator rich, yet their trucks to and from these mining/quarry companies cause damage to these roads and Rate Payers and State Government/tax payers should not be covering these costs to repair roads.

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I also object to the (new) haul road being given approval, with work already commencing on these properties, which will take the trucks directly left or right onto Dungog Road, impacting other homes/properties and other local Country roads in these areas. This approval must also be overturned.

For example - The areas that's these trucks travel to and from Martins Creek are country towns, villages and suburbs of Dungog Shire Council, Maitland Shire Council, Port Stephens Shire Council, Great Lakes Shire (Midcoast Council) etc. The money these Councils request from mining/quarry companies does not compensate for the damaged road surface. These mining/quarry companies and their truck movements permanently destroy the character and amenity of these Country towns, villages, localities and suburbs and cause numerous health issues to people being bombarded by Daracon's mining/quarry business.

The ongoing damage that heavy vehicles cause to local roads, the yearly registration doesn't go anywhere near the huge cost to both Local & state governments to repair & replace sections of roads damaged by constant heavy vehicles. We need to go to a more fairer system as implemented overseas, **For example:-** where heavy vehicles are charged by Government on a distance travelled system which is not only much fairer but provides more real funding for roads. These heavy trucks are hauling product up to 6 days a week predominantly for Sydney's appetite for hard rock.

Estimated cost to the Australian Federal Government is over \$3 billion dollars in funding shortfall for heavy vehicles damage.

Governments know that upgrading for more rail utilisation costs money, where as trucks on our roads bring in fuel revenue as well as registration, though using roads is not suitable or sustainable and the tax payer pays to have roads repaired or the rate payers from Councils due to the increasing number of trucks, yet the company owners make the profit and everyone else loses out. As there is an existing rail line at Martins Creek if IPCN approves Daracon to continue, the Commission must enforce Daracon to use the rail line only and take all the trucks off the road, this also would include stopping Daracon from

selling product where the customers come by truck, trailer/vehicles from entering the property at all Etc.

NOTE:- State Government can find the money to upgrade the hunter valley coal line which got the coal trucks off the road. It can be done, the railway line is already there are Martins Creek and runs into Daracon's property

The quarry is situated in natural forest/bushland areas and if Daracon or anyone are given further expansion, the wildlife and habitat will continue to be permanently destroyed.

Daracon has exceeded their extraction tonnage previously and should not be awarded with any further approvals due to this blatant exceedance as proved in Court. ALL Ministers, Government Departments and IPCN must refuse any expansion and close them down permanently. No other companies must come into these town areas regardless of rock resource and Daracon must start their mitigation process, returning Martins Creek, Patterson

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and surrounding Townships to the quiet Country Towns they are before the impacts of Daracon.

I am hoping IPCN will close down Daracon and stop any further mining/quarry activities in this entire remaining forest bushland areas at Martins Creek. All remaining forest bushland areas must be preserved for wildlife, including Koala's now listed as Endangered and will be extinct in the wild if Government Departments continue to approve companies to clear-fell forest bushland areas, regardless of the reason e.g. to be cattle farmers or for any mining/quarry resources classified as State Significant or not.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Albury

[REDACTED]

Limeburners Creek NSW 2324

Email:

[REDACTED]

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