

[REDACTED]

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To: IPCN Submissions Mailbox
Subject: Martins Creek Quarry

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Dear Commissioners,

We note that Daracon have now made another response to the many objections to their application offering to reduce the intended truck movements by 10 %.

This, like all previous response by them should be seen as an ambit claim. Their statement simply recycles material which has been provided earlier and refuted. The one new element is their claim that only they can provide the necessary hard rock material for the local building and road maintenance industry, and they imply that failure to allow them to proceed would have significant economic consequences. It is interesting that this was not raised earlier by them. They say that weather, Covid, and other factors have delayed building projects and some of the other quarries have been unable to supply material. They also say that the industry is episodic and the market variable from time to time meaning that only road transport can give them the flexibility they need. They then state that they can agree to limit truck movements to 280 in both directions for 50 days a year between 0700 hrs and 1500 hrs. Those two statements are not consistent.

It is clear that if they need to exceed the stated limitations in order to fulfil a contract, there is nothing to prevent their doing so. There is no way to monitor the truck movements and no way to enforce the limits. Since they will be using contract drivers who are not their employees, there will be no way of policing driver behaviour either.

With regard to conditions in the construction industry, we are expected to take their word for it that they are the only people who can fill the gap. There are already six local quarries and according to the State Department of Planning and Environment, another seven are in the pipeline.

Finally, in Aidan Foy's first submission to the Department, he drew their attention to the fact that Lemon Grove Rd meets Tocal Rd as a blind corner 150m over the crest of a hill where the speed limit is 100 kph. This would give the driver about 4 seconds to stop or take evasive action. The Eelah Rd and Paterson Rd intersections are also within the 100kph zone. If this application is agreed to, all of Tocal Rd from Paterson to Lang Drive will need a speed limit of 80kmh.

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