

# Brandy Hill Quarry Community Consultative Committee – Annual Report for 2021

<b>CCC / Project Name:</b>	Brandy Hill Quarry	<b>Reporting Period:</b>	March 2020 to March 2021
<b>Independent Chairperson:</b>	<b>Lisa Andrews</b>	<b>Proponent Contact:</b>	<b>Andrew Driver</b>

## 1. Executive Summary

Hanson Construction Materials Pty Ltd operates a hard rock quarry, Brandy Hill Quarry, in the suburb of Seaham in New South Wales. The quarry, originally approved by Port Stephens Shire Council in 1983 has been operated by Hanson since 2001. In 2017 the company applied for an expansion into new areas of the existing site for the further extraction of aggregates and road base products up to 1.5 million tonnes per annum and to extend operations for a further 30 years. The proponent also sought to install a concrete batching plant, capable of producing 15,000m<sup>3</sup> per annum and to receive up to 20,000 tonnes per annum of concrete washout material for recycling.

The project operates in accordance with its existing approval and a Community Consultative Committee has been meeting regularly since December 2013. The CCC operates in accordance with the guidelines. The membership consists of:

- Six local community representatives
- One Port Stephens Council (LGA) delegate
- Three company representatives (Hanson); and
- One Independent Chairperson.

The Brandy Hill Expansion Project was approved by the Independent Planning Commission on 16 July 2020.

The CCC meetings had increased during the assessment, consideration and determination of the application and are now held quarterly as the proponent works through its pre-approval conditions of consent, preparation of management plans, voluntary planning agreements with Council, etc.

The CCC is an effective communication forum between the community and the company, who have worked hard to establish an improved working relationship with members. Whilst there have been issues in the past due to competing opinions, members are respectful and keen to get the best outcome for the community.

## 2. CCC activities over last 12 months

- The committee met in April 2020, June 2020, December 2020 and March 2021.
- Attendance is consistent, with some apologies registered depending on competing obligations with volunteer members.
- Presentations to the CCC at these meetings comprised of:
  - Update on the quarry expansion development application, assessment by DPIE & progression to IPC for determination
  - Update on the response to submissions and proposed mitigation of issues raised during the public exhibition stage

- Ecology/Biodiversity (including management of Koala Habitat)
- Environmental, Dust and Noise Monitoring
- Traffic Management
- Driver's Code of Conduct; and
- Complaints Register

## Key issues

Trending topics of committee discussion can be summarised as:

Issue	Actions Taken	Outcome
<b>Concerns with truck movements to and from the site, especially along Brandy Hill Drive and Clarence Town Road.</b>	Drivers operate under a Drivers Code of Conduct and the company demands strict compliance. Any complaints are addressed immediately. It is noted however, that most issues are not attributable to Hanson trucks.	Hanson trucks are tracked via a GPS system to ensure compliance with its trucking movements. Truck drivers are audited regularly and any non-conformances are dealt with swiftly and firmly, even extending to sub-contractors. Hanson have worked with RMS to reduce the sign posted speed limits in the area to support the community's concerns.
<b>Local Road Speed Limits</b>	Truck drivers adhering to local speed limits.	Hanson have imposed its own speed limits to ensure that drivers do not cause impacts or safety issues to other road users and residents.  Hanson has also made representations to RMS to successfully reduce speed limits on Clarence Town Road.
<b>Bushfire Management</b>	The committee has agreed that potential training between the RFS and residents would be beneficial to ensure management of bushfire risks in and around the project site and environs.	Make enquiries with RFS regarding conducting training sessions.
<b>Voluntary Planning Agreement with Council</b>	Members wish to ensure the best outcome for residents and the community regarding the VPA with Council. Hanson are required to contribute to certain items under the control of Council, such as a	Hanson has met with Council to progress these matters. They are keen for the contributions (when paid) to be directed to the works

	cycle path, bus shelters, road maintenance, etc.	asap and not be delayed by Council's own works program. The community feel very strongly about installing the footpath/cycleway and busways as a matter of priority and safety.
<b>Biodiversity</b>	Koala Habitat and biodiversity also remain a strong focus for the community. Hanson engaged a consultant to address these concerns with a report being submitted to DPIE/IPC.	Appropriate corridors and biodiversity offsets will be put in place to manage these environmental issues.
<b>Management Plans</b>	The proponent is in the process of preparing and updating Management Plans associated with the project.	CCC will be advised when these plans have been approved by DPIE.
<b>Blasting Notification</b>	Following concerns raised by some residents, a blasting notification system has been put in place.	Residents are informed electronically of intended blasting occurrences on site.

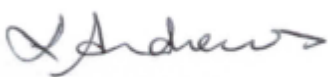
### 3. Focus for next 12 months

The planned activities for 2021 will be guided by the contributions of the CCC members. These activities are likely to include:

- Updates on pre-approval / conditions of consent for the expansion project.
- Updates of Hanson's VPA with Port Stephens Council and implementation of works.
- Updates from Hanson regarding infrastructure changes on site to address and mitigate expanded operations on site.
- Drivers' continued compliance with the road rules and driving to conditions in accordance with the Drivers Code of Conduct.

To the best of my knowledge, there are no outstanding or emerging issues that have not been addressed.

CCC minutes are available on the project website.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	15 April 2021