

# Grants Rd Sand Community Consultative Committee Annual Report 2024

<b>CCC / Project Name:</b>	Grants Rd Sand	<b>Reporting Period:</b>	March 2022 to July 2024
<b>Independent Chairperson:</b>	Lisa Andrews	<b>Proponent Contact:</b>	Steve Jones

## 1. Executive Summary

Grants Rd Sand is a family owned and run sandstone quarry located on the Central Coast of New South Wales that supplies sand, sandstone and sandstone products for domestic and commercial projects.

The project operates in accordance with its approval (No. 080099 25 July 2014, which was modified in April 2018 to provide more improved biodiversity outcomes).

In October 2018, a Community Consultative Committee was established as per Schedule 5, Environmental Management Reporting & Auditing, condition 6 of the development consent:

### **Community Consultative Committee**

*6. If directed by the Secretary, the Proponent must establish and operate a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) for the project to the satisfaction of the Secretary. Any such CCC must be operated in general accordance with the Community Consultative Committee Guidelines: State Significant Projects (2016).*

The CCC operates in accordance with the guidelines. The membership consists of:

- Three local community representatives
- One Central Coast Council delegate
- Two company representatives and
- One Independent Chairperson.

The meetings moved from bi-annually in 2022 to annually in 2023 & 2024 due to there being no outstanding issues, concerns or community complaints in and around the project site. Of course, there was the option of calling for extra-ordinary meetings at any time, should the need arise.

As is often the case with sand mines and aggregate quarries; the main issue of concern for the community is traffic movements and dust. The Central Coast Council delegate has been instrumental in assisting with road rectifications, repairs and maintenance, which has alleviated most of the community's previous concerns. Dust is mitigated on site and monitoring confirms that there are no non-compliances.

The Grants Rd Quarry is located in a rural area at the end of a dead-end road and therefore, only provides access one way in and out. This combined with another sand quarry off Grants Road (Reservoir Rd) presents cumulative impacts for local residents.

The proponent has shown its ongoing willingness to work with the community and has not recorded any complaints attributable to the site since the CCC's establishment.

The committee receives information from the project operators regarding its compliance with the conditions of consent including the monitoring of environmental, air, noise and water management on the quarry site.

It is also pleasing to report that Central Coast Council has listened to the concerns of the community and provided additional signage on Grants Road, indicating speed limits, stop signs, parking signs, etc. Road maintenance works have recently been undertaken to mitigate safety concerns. Council's representative attends each CCC and any concerns raised by the community are investigated and appropriate action taken where necessary and available.

The CCC is an effective communication forum between the community, the Council and the company. It functions well and accordingly, fulfils its objectives under the Department's guidelines.

## **2. CCC activities over last 12 months**

- The committee met in July 2023 and July 2024.
- Members received information from the proponent in relation to its environmental monitoring, etc. No non-conformances have been recorded.
- The proponent advised that staff undergo regular health checks, in accordance with industry expectations.
- Members received information from the proponent regarding its 2023 Annual Report, which was accepted by DPHI.
- Briefing on the Independent Environmental Audit, which only identified minor administrative non-conformances.
- The committee membership is small, however attendance is high, with apologies received from members only because of other competing commitments.
- The CCC received a presentation by the Independent Chairperson on the Department of Planning's revised guidelines for SSD CCCs; outlining the changes and providing an opportunity to reinforce the objectives of the CCC and role of members.
- There were no joint CCC's held.

## **3. Key issues**

There are no trending topics for the committee's discussion. Previous concerns regarding Grants Road (speed limits, road shoulder & maintenance works, improvements to drainage) have all been dealt with and mitigated by Central Coast Council.

### **Review of Effectiveness of the CCC**

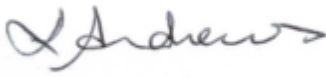
In accordance with the revised CCC guidelines, it is deemed that the CCC operates effectively. The proponent provides comprehensive presentations, ongoing notifications, timely responses to requests and completion of action items. There have been no concerns raised by CCC members.

#### 4 Focus for next 12 months

As a result of the briefing of the Department's revised CCC guidelines, which identified the ability to suspend CCCs, the committee at its meeting of the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024 agreed for the Chair to write to the Department recommending the CCC be 'paused' due to no issues of concern from the community. It was recognised that the CCC could be reconvened, should the need arise. Accordingly, the chair wrote to DPHI and they responded on 1 August 2024 approving the suspension of the Grants Road Quarry Community Consultative Committee.

The members have been advised of this outcome and thanked for their time and contribution at meetings.

CCC minutes are available on the project website.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	8 August 2024