

MINUTES OF SANCROX QUARRY

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

- Meeting Date:** Thursday 7th November, 2019
- Venue:** Bayview 3, Rydges Hotel, 1 Hay Street, Port Macquarie
- Present:**
- Lisa Andrews (LA) Independent Chairperson
 - Andrew Driver (AD) Eastern Region Development Manager
 - David Keys (DK) Area Manager
 - Steve Kenworthy (SK) Sancrox Quarry Manager
 - Belinda Pignone (BP) Grad. Environmental Planning and Compliance Coordinator
 - Maurice Driscoll (MD) Community Representative
 - Maureen Churnside (MC) Community Representative
 - Hilton King (HK) Residents Action Network - Stakeholder Group
 - Geoff Freeman (GF) Community Representative
 - Tony Thorne (TT) Community Representative
 - Lauren Kitchen (LK) Observer (King and Campbell - student planner)
 - Jeff Gillespie (JG) Community Representative
 - Kieran Metcalfe (KM) Port Macquarie Hastings Council delegate (*arrived at 11.10am*)
- Apologies:** John Cassegrain Community Representative
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ITEM 1: Opening & Introductions

The meeting was opened at 11.03am by the chair and members were welcomed. Those that travelled to be at the meeting were acknowledged. LA advised that Port Macquarie Hastings new delegate on the CCC was Kieran Metcalfe, Strategic Planner.

As the inaugural meeting was held in July last year, the chair invited all attendees to introduce themselves and state their position on the CCC.

ITEM 2: Apologies: As above.

ITEM 3: Declarations

LA advised that she is an approved Independent Chairperson with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and engaged by Hanson to chair this CCC. No changes to members' previous declaration.

ITEM 4: Business arising from previous minutes

ITEM	ISSUE	WHEN	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Provide copy of project map (complete)	With minutes	AD/LA
2	Future presentations to CCC (Dust – monitoring & suppression; Noise – monitoring and mitigation)	When available	AD
3	Link to project website (complete)	With minutes	LA
4	Advise CCC of next meeting date (complete)	When known	AD/LA

ITEM 5: Correspondence – sent with Meeting Notice on 31/10/19

- 10/7/18 – Email from HC requesting information on SSD definition. Information provided with link.
- 14/7/19 - Email to member with the draft minutes for review. Some comments received back and incorporated into final version.
- 28/7/19 - Email to members with the finalised minutes.
- 6/11/18 – Email to members with a save the date for 23/11/18. Responses received.
- 20/11/18 – Email to members advising that the meeting would not be proceeding on 23/11/18.
- 5/1/19 – Email to CCC members with an update on the progress of the expansion project assessment (EIS exhibition).
- 23/2/19 – Email to CCC members with and EIS update (Social Impact Assessment).
- 22/8/19 – Email from MC requesting an update.
- 23/8/19 – Email response provided to all CCC members advising that following feedback from DPIE, the EIS will be submitted on 28/8/19.
- 8/10/19 Email from PMHSC advising of new delegate on this CCC – Kieran Metcalfe (replacing Sandra Bush). Pecuniary Interest & Code of Conduct forms completed and returned on 9/10/19.
- 30/10/19 – Email to members advising of the exhibition period for the EIS of the proposed expansion of the Sancrox Quarry and seeking feedback on holding a CCC on 7/11/19 during the advertising period. Response emails received back from members.
- 31/10/19 – Email to members with the Meeting Notice & Agenda for this meeting.

ITEM 6: EIS Discussion

LA explained the purpose of this CCC was for Hanson to answer any questions that members had in relation to the EIS that was placed on exhibition on Friday 1 November concerning the proposed quarry expansion.

Questions were asked and answered throughout the meeting in relation to:

Expanding community consultation, not just discussing with the CCC and concerns that some residents were not aware of the proposal, especially in the Sovereign Hill development, Thrumster and Fernbank Creek area.

The Department of Planning, Industry & Environment’s (DPIE) requirements of the SEARS, the assessment process, response to submissions phase, adequacy test process, referral of the application to government agency, potential determination by the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) etc.

Concerns were raised with the quality and content of the EIS document, as well as the following issues:

- Whether there is sufficient resource to justify a 30 year extraction life
- The pit footprint
- Noise, noise envelopes, noise mounds (size), etc
- Dust, blasting/vibration impacts
- Impacts on existing and future residential development (conflicts, sterilisation, etc)
- Quality, detail and legends of topography maps
- The management of the over burden, including containment, storage and disposal of material within the site
- The impact of the development on local fauna and flora
- Hanson's property at Bago that could be developed instead of Sancrox expansion (less impact)
- Potential for the exhibition period to be extended.

AD reiterated that the EIS had passed the department's adequacy test and DPIE had set the exhibition period. Further, that the advertising phase is the opportunity for the public to raise issues with DPIE for its consideration and assessment.

Request from GF for production numbers. AD took on notice due to commercial in confidence issues.

Action.

Clarification on whether the application for mining is for 20 or 30 years. AD advised that the current approval is for 20 years and the proposal is for 30 years, which is the cap for DPIE approvals for mining. The quarry can take out 20 years of rock under the current approval, as is. The new application if approved, will have a maximum mine life of 30 years from the day it is granted and the original consent will be surrendered.

Issues discussed included, the location of the quarry, convenient access to the highway, market for the resource, local employment/sub-contractors/businesses, etc.

Regulation and compliance – the quarry has recently been audited by the EPA and results were compliant. Concerns raised by JG regarding dust at his residence and potential for more impact with the expansion. SK further advised that the NSW Resources Regulator had carried out an audit and confirmed that all necessary controls were in place, water sprayers, water trucks, rehabilitation, dust monitoring equipment, PPE, etc. He confirmed that no complaints have been received by Sancrox Quarry regarding its operations.

MD raised concern with the lack of screening trees and Hanson's observance with the original conditions of approval. SK advised that he is in discussion with Council and contacting Essential Energy in relation to this issue, in terms of tree species and location of screening. The previous trees were removed in May this year, which had provided protection in the past. Currently working with neighbour to re-establish in accordance with the project consent. It was agreed that additional work is required to manage dust suppression with the current weather conditions and drought.

Discussions regarding proposed 24 hour operation and potential noise impacts. Whilst it was agreed that little noise from the operations is heard during the day, due to background sound levels, it will be noticeable at night. AD explained the reasoning of operating at night; to supply to concrete plants, despatching a truck to a plant at 7am involves issues around congestion/peak hour traffic. Stating that often larger project works are undertaken at night, i.e. airport upgrade, duplication of highway, supply to RMS and PMHC. It was

explained that the number of times the quarry opened at night in the past experience had been low (20 nights per annum). Transport movements in and around the area fits the road design.

MD stated that at the July 2018 meeting he enquired about the expansion triggering the legislation that would require land acquisition and AD at the time advised that Hanson would manage mitigation of the site so it would not trigger this requirement.

KM advised that Council is looking at the long term future of the western corridor, stating that not all land was viable and Council was conducting an investigation and seeking feedback on what residents would like to see happen with this area.

Discussions regarding the history of the area, the UGMS, potential future rezoning of the lands in Sancrox and Fernbank Creek.

MD raised the matter of correspondence that Hanson had provided to Council & Consultant Land Dynamics in relation to the Sancrox Rd, Sancrox & Le Clos, Sancrox - Community Survey. AD advising that Hanson were protecting its position in relation to the future of the quarry. LA commented that because the correspondence had been raised at this meeting, that a copy of the letter should be sent to all members for clarity. No objection raised to its distribution.

LA recommended that should the expansion application be approved, that a representative from the Resource Regulator section be invited to attend the CCC to present on its regulatory inspections for NSW mining projects. **Action.**

It was agreed by all that coexistence was an important factor between neighbours and the project and the importance of ensuring mitigation measures are in place for any future expansion, to control noise, bunding, vegetation, dust, traffic, etc. GF commented that he had lived in the area for 10 years and had no issue with noise or dust. Further commenting on potential property value decreases, potential loss of regionally significant wildlife corridors, etc.

Discussions regarding the “end of life”/future land use of the site when mining is over. Nothing has been identified at this stage and it is difficult to predict what the future requirements will be.

GF stated that there have been some issues in the past that could have been dealt with better by Hanson, water discharge outside of boundary, screening, drainage pipes, easements, watercourse, etc. sometimes the community/neighbours feel powerless. SK advised that water sampling is undertaken every two months and there has been no water discharge for over 12 months.

DK reiterated that Hanson’s focus is compliance, legislative requirements, employing local people and local services to deliver to their customers.

LA recommended that any member of the public could raise their concerns with Council or the appropriate regulatory agency for further investigation.

ITEM 7: General Business

LA explained that this CCC has been established in accordance with the Department of Planning’s guidelines and will continue to meet throughout the assessment stage and life of the mine.

ITEM 8: Next Meeting

Following discussions and taking into account the Response to Submissions timeframe, it was agreed to hold a CCC in six months' time:

- Thursday 23rd of May, 2020 – commencing at 11am at the Rydges Hotel.

Meeting closed at 1pm with LA thanking all members for their attendance and contribution.

ACTION:

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Quantity/volume of product mined and dispatched from Sancrox Quarry (taken on notice)	AD
2	Distribute copy of letter that was discussed during meeting	LA