

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Hearings](#)  
**Cc:** [submissions@golder.co.nz](mailto:submissions@golder.co.nz)  
**Subject:** Notifications Consent Submission: Group 422  
**Date:** Thursday, 6 June 2019 12:32:58 PM

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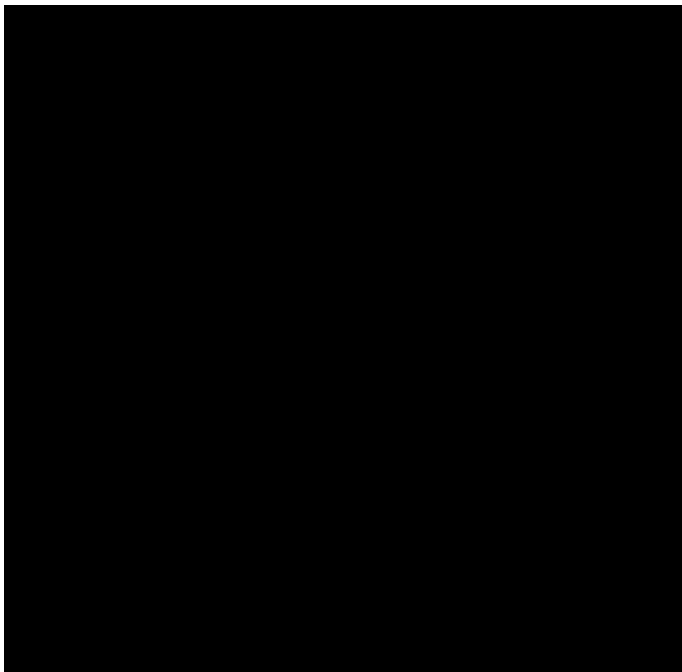
**Group ID: 422**

**Consent name:** Fulton Hogan - Roydon Quarry

**Consent number:** CRC192408, CRC192409, CRC192410, CRC192411, CRC192412, CRC192413, CRC192414, RC185627

**Name:** Dr Jennifer Jordan

**Care of:**



**Contact by email:** No

**Is a trade competitor:** No

**Directly affected:** No

**Consent support/hearing details**

- CRC192408: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC192409: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC192410: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC192411: neither | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC192412: neither | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC192413: neither | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC192414: neither | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- RC185627: neither | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing

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**Reasons comment:**

This submission is made from the perspective of an interested party, both in 1) in my professional capacity as a clinical psychologist to highlight the potential negative impacts of the Royden Quarry proposal on nearby residents in terms of their quality of life, physical and emotional wellbeing, and 2) as a Selwyn resident with experience of rural living. Siting of this quarry Firstly, I understand and support the need to quarry materials for the local region and I acknowledge the detailed reports in the application prepared by Golder Associates for Fulton Hogan (1) regarding mitigating strategies to minimize potential negative impacts to the community as well as the environment. The application rates the likely adverse impacts for the local community in most cases as minor or low risk (Golder Associates, p 48). I therefore object to the siting of this proposed quarry which is inappropriate due to the proximity of extraction and refill activities to houses on the boundary of the long established village at Templeton. I am not assured that the adverse effects on this community will actually be minor in areas of dust, noise and changes in amenity values. My concerns are noted below. NIMBY argument There is a view within the quarrying industry (2) that objections to the current proposal are just another example of the NIMBY response by residents whenever such an application is lodged. While it is certainly true that most people would not be keen on such a major change happening in their neighbourhood, I would argue that the NIMBY response is actually justified in this present circumstance due to the proximity of the proposed quarry to the immediately adjacent rural houses (just over the fence or across the road) but also to the village of Templeton. The likely adverse effects of the quarrying operation means that this proposed activity would arguably be judged by most reasonable people as being (literally) too close to their backyards. Others have noted the inadequacies of current planning regulations that have allowed this proposed activity to be sited unreasonably closely to a residential area, far closer than the Ministry for the Environment's current recommended setback of 250m and closer than would be permitted in other jurisdictions like Australia. Just because the proposed siting of this quarry is currently legal does not mean it will remain so, however if approved, the duration of the consents sought here will continue to affect this community for decades. Negative impacts In my opinion, this proposed quarry is likely to contribute to reduced quality of life due to potential impacts on emotional wellbeing, possibly physical wellbeing, for some as well as having potential financial repercussions, regarding resale value of their properties. Templeton is likely to be seen as a less desirable place to live if the quarry proposal is approved. . People who are most affected in their physical or emotional health who want to move away may have their ability to move on affected by loss of value in their home which may affect their ability to afford comparable housing elsewhere. For this most affected group, being trapped in a situation where they are concerned about possible future impacts on their health and wellbeing due to being affected by the dust, noise, and loss of amenity is likely to have significant mental health impacts. I am very familiar with this scenario having worked clinically with many people after the Canterbury earthquakes who were "stuck", being unable to sell their homes due to issues outside their control (insurance impasses in most cases), with depression and anxiety problems becoming very common. Dust The applicant document rates the risk of adverse events from dust to be low. I consider that this underplays risks for the following reasons. There is well established evidence that exposure to dust, especially that containing crystalline silica is a long term occupation risk factor for those working in the quarrying industry. In the developing world there are documented negative health impacts to nearby residents however in developed countries similar to New Zealand, data are lacking about the long term risks of serious disease for those living nearby. No evidence however does not mean no risk. Local public health officials have been quoted as acknowledging that some individuals may experience other health problems from exposure to dust. I note that prior to the current application, there have been concerns expressed by residents on Old West Coast road about impacts on dust from the neighbouring quarry blowing onto their properties and affecting their breathing and quality of life. Even if long term serious health problems are considered unlikely, it seems likely that those with existing respiratory

problems might be adversely affected with exacerbated health problems if dust problems cannot be sufficiently contained. Others have noted that where residents live very close to a quarry, they may have more prolonged exposure over time than quarry workers who live offsite. Even where there may be no health issues, this dust nuisance does affect quality of life and amenity value of those who had chosen to live in this rural or semi-rural area. As a rural resident, I am very well aware that sand, soil and dust (as well as other airborne substances like pollen) does not respect property boundaries and certainly bypasses even tall shelter belts and well established planting. It is worth remember that Canterbury is noteworthy for its strong winds and that the Canterbury plains and deep rich soils around the Port Hills originate from windborne loess from the Southern Alps. Given the history of dust problems at other local quarries affecting nearby residents, it seems unlikely that this will be able to be as “easily” contained as indicated. Noise There is likely to be an increased noise nuisance, both from the quarrying activities and from the increased heavy vehicle traffic related to the quarry. Contrary to the application’s statement that noise is little affected by wind, as a local resident, I can confidently state that noise is transmitted differently in this area depending on various climatic conditions (wind, low cloud or calm conditions). For example, although I live around 9 km away, on some days, I can clearly hear the Ruapuna speedway but on other meeting days, barely or not at all. The application considers that these activities will not exceed existing levels of ambient noise and so the impacts would be minor. In my opinion, this is minimizing the likely noise nuisance. As a rural resident, I am well aware that contrary to the perception to city dwellers, the countryside is not quiet. The application notes aircraft, traffic and other activities, to which I would add agricultural machinery, roosters, barking dogs, racetracks and the military firing range amongst others. Most of these noises however are episodic and mostly occur during the daytime. The proposed operating hours are long (6am-10am throughout the year with consent sought for 24 hour operations for 150 days of the year. Noises that are tolerable during the day can become irritating and can interfere with sleep at night. There is a risk of the quarrying noise and the heavy trucks rattling along the roads creating such a nuisance. I appreciate that the planned routes in and out of the site are on quieter roads however the planned 1500 truck movements at the site each day represents a very large increase in heavy traffic on those rural roads with potential increased safety risks to commuters and road users. Amenity The proposal talks about positive visual amenity values with extra planting however in my opinion, there is likely to be a cumulative experience of loss of other aspects of amenity for local residents due to the dust, noise, traffic and change to their previous reasonably quiet lifestyle, as unwilling neighbours of an industrial operation. Although the areas I have highlighted above, dust, noise, and increasing traffic already exist in the local environment, the extended hours of operation and inappropriate proximity of this proposed quarry to residences has the potential to exacerbate these issues to a very significant extent, with corresponding negative emotional, possibly physical, and certainly quality of life issues for affected residents. References 1 Golder Associates (NZ) Ltd. Report. Fulton Hogan Limited Resource Consent Application to Establish 'Roydon Quarry', Templeton. 2018;November. 2 De Lacey H. The battle of Dawsons Road quarry. QUarrying and Mining (Q&M) [Internet]. 2018; (April-May issue of Q&M.):[<https://quarryingandminingmag.co.nz/q-m/quarrying/dawsons-road-quarry/>

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**Consent comment:**

Given the potential significant negative impacts of this proposal on the Templeton community, I would request that the consent authority decline this application completely due to the incompatibility of this proposed use with the rights of residents to continue to live a healthy life in the Templeton area. If the whole proposal cannot be declined, I would like to see the setback increased to reflect current best practice in other jurisdictions or ideally, the 500m that is being considered in future legislation regarding quarries.