Roydon Quarry
Hearing

R & N S Chand
Weedons Garlic

Reference Consent Numbers:

1. Canterbury Regional Council:
   CRC192408, CRC192409, CRC192410, CRC192411, CRC192412,
   CRC192413, CRC192414

2. Selwyn District Council:
   RC185627

4 December 2019
Good morning, my name is Narrell Chand and I will be speaking on behalf of myself, my husband Ravin and our family.

We stand by our written submission. Today, I am going to briefly focus on a few things that are important to us.

"It doesn’t make sense for a Council to allow all this area to be lifestyle blocks and then let a company like Fulton Hogan put a big Quarry in the middle." Alison Bowman (friend)

1. We have lived in the Weedons area for 24 years – 20 years at 102 Weedons Ross Road beside the Weedon’s Golf course and 4 years at 342 Maddisons Road. We bought a lifestyle block in both locations for the fresh air, closeness to town, rural atmosphere and views, to bring up our family, less traffic and noise than town and to grow vegetables. We were and still are surrounded by agricultural activity – sheep, deer, horses, poultry, flower growers, plant nurseries, and vegetable growers. Quarrying is not an agricultural activity it is a mining activity!

2. In 2014 we purchased 10 acres of agricultural land on Maddison’s Road from Peter Holmes. Please refer to the location map of our property. Our intention was to start a small vegetable growing and selling business and to build a house. We began working with Trident homes and had paid for a concept plan and were about to pay a deposit for the next stage. Just one week before Christmas 2017 2 Fulton Hogan employees drove into our yard and informed me FH had purchased two farms opposite our property and were to be our neighbours. My first thoughts were dust, noise and loss of amenity. ‘Who wantsto live next door to a quarry”!

3. After discussing this with my husband (who was working in Fiji on contract at the time) we decided to delay building our house, move back to a home we owned in Rolleston, and to rethink and await the outcome. For the last 2 years, our lives have been put on hold. The possibility of living opposite a quarry has caused us a great deal of stress and cost us financially – in transport cost and supporting 2 properties.

4. We have continued to run a vegetable growing and retail business from Maddison’s Road. We grow garlic, broccoli, lettuce, corn, potatoes and pumpkin for sale at the gate on Saturdays and Sundays. Please see the photos on the screen of our trolley and crops. We have a visibility on Facebook as Weedon’s garlic with well over 1000 followers and are supported by the local community with an average of 60 cars stopping each weekend to purchase vegetables. Our aim is to extend the operating hours into the week and make this our full-time employment.

5. These are the concerns we have and how the proposed quarry would continue to affect our lives:

Noise

We live 1.3 km from the railway line. At night when we have stayed at the property, we can hear the train very clearly going past. The quarry will be located between the railway line and our property, as illustrated in the location map. We will hear the screening plant working and
the trucks entering and leaving the quarry each day. Can you also imagine trying to sleep at night while trucks are dumping clean fill into the quarry?

Dust

This is a major problem in Canterbury due to fine soils and frequent dry, windy conditions. While studying at Lincoln University it was often discussed how the Norwest wind carries the Canterbury topsoil out into Pegasus bay! From the Rakaia and Selwyn Gorges the nor 'wester sweeps down through the appropriately named town of Windwhistle onto the Canterbury Plains. Not only is the nor 'wester ferociously strong, it is also hot and extremely dry and can last for as long as five days. I doubt that Fulton Hogan would be able to suppress dust under these conditions.

We do not want to deal with extra dust on our vegetables which will affect our production and quality. We do not want our house, washing and body subject to more dust.

Traffic

Maddison's road is already a busy road with many people using it as alternative to SH1 in the mornings and afternoons. Heavy trucks and trailers are very noisy, don't always see small cars and have chipped my window screen, and car paint work. Heavy trucks with trailers should not be allowed to travel near built up residential areas, especially through Templeton and around small block holdings where there are horses, sheep and people working and exercising.

Water

We are fortunate to have access to the best water in the world. We draw our water from a well and tap into an aquifer 50m down. As our rivers are braided, who knows if the water we access, passes under the proposed quarry site.

We do not want our water contaminated with dust and vehicle washings.

Amenity

It is a small issue but it is important that in a residential area you keep your surroundings clean and tidy. For a company this tends to be a low priority. We have noticed that there is always rubbish dumped along the Fulton Hogan berms on Halketts Road. This is probably because this area is unattended with very little maintenance. This is already happening at the proposed quarry berm along Dawsons Road.
6. Land use, Soil Type and Quarry Remediation

Is a quarry the most appropriate use of this site? The soil type for this area is Templeton silt loam. This soil is one of the best soils in Canterbury for Agriculture. Please refer to the soil map taken from LINZ. Once the quarry is excavated, we will lose this ground for a very, very, long, long time. We are talking about centuries here, that is if it will ever be remediated to its original glory. What a mess we will leave the environment in for future generations? And this being close to where people prefer to live and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. If anything, there will be more concentration of residents living in this area in the coming years, if the growth in Rolleston is anything to go by.

There is no good evidence of quarry land being remediated to its original form. The proposal does not show a good and practical solution to this remediation issue.

Our suggestion would be that another condition be added to this application if granted. For every hectare of the land remediated in the exiting quarry at Pound Road, only then Fulton Hogan is allowed to excavate the same area at Roydon quarry.

In conclusion we are totally opposed to the Roydon Quarry. in our view this is not a suitable location for a quarry being so close to residential areas and is a waste of good agricultural land.
Soil Map

Dominant (shallowest) depth to hard soil / gravel / rock

Obtain Data
Depth to a layer that makes augering or digging difficult. Contains the dominant depth class in the polygon Where there are two dominant classes with the same proportion, the shallowest class is used.