

From:
To: [Hearings](#)
Cc:
Subject: Notifications Consent Submission: Group 592
Date: Wednesday, 25 November 2020 8:21:46 PM

Group ID: 592

Consent name: Taggart Earthmoving Limited

Consent number: CRC204106, CRC204107, CRC204143, CRC211629, RC205104

Name: Andrew Macfarlane

Care of:

Mailing address 1:

Mailing address 2:

Suburb:

Town/City:

Post-code:

Country:

Mobile phone:

Work phone:

Home phone:

Email:

Contact by email: Yes

Is a trade competitor: No

Directly affected: No

Consent support/hearing details

- CRC204106: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC204107: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC204143: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC211629: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- RC205104: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing

Reasons comment:

I own the residential property at 55 Huntingdon Drive, Rangiora, where I reside with my 5-year-old son. It would appear from the map provided by Taggarts that my property is the closest to the quarry of those on Huntingdon Drive. The quarry will be around 200 metres from my boundary according to the map. There are several issues of concern to me: Dust.

With the proposed quarry being for greywacke, silicosis becomes a very real and dangerous issue for residents. Smaller respirable crystals can be carried up to 1.5 km away from quarrying operations, and are invisible to the naked eye. The New Zealand Environmental Protection Agency recommends a setback of 500 metres from quarries to residential properties. I note that there have been some wind readings provided by Taggarts. While I do not have the benefit of access to data on this issue, I can say that I have spent quite some time standing at my back fence. I can say with certainty that the wind often comes directly from the proposed quarry area straight to me. There are no trees, proposed bunds, or any other obstacles to prevent wind and dust from the quarry coming straight into my property. With this in mind, is there a real time monitor proposed to monitor dust levels for residents? And if this is the case at what level will the trigger point be set? If the level is set at the level at which dust becomes a nuisance or even dangerous, how will mitigation be undertaken? This is more of an issue out of hours, for example weekends when residents would be more likely to be outside, and there will be no staff on site to undertake mitigation work quickly. What mitigation is being proposed? A water truck is slow and requires an operator to be on site. This would be a major issue out of hours, and at night. If consent is granted remotely operated sprinklers would in my view be necessary. Dust out of working hours and at night is just as much of an issue for residents as it is during quarrying operations. Delays of hours in mitigation is quite simply unacceptable. Water trucks really are old technology for this type of operation, and not an acceptable solution for an issue that can potentially become a serious health risk for residents. A safe and fair setback from quarry to residential properties is 500 metres. Given that the number of properties within this limit is very large, I would submit that even with dust mitigation being proposed that the quarry should not be able to proceed. Noise: There are a number of issues relating to noise. While the report from Taggarts states that noise will be at acceptable levels for residents, I have some concerns around aspects of this. The noise level of rocks falling into an empty truck is an example. While the background noise of operations may not exceed local limits, this is an example of a noise which will resonate at levels which will disturb residents. I am surprised that bunds are only proposed on two sides of the quarry. With my residence being approximately 200 metres away from the proposed quarry, I would submit that bunds between Huntingdon Drive and the quarry be made a condition should the proposal be granted. The bunds need to be completed to a high standard which includes stipulated vegetation. I would also propose that tree planting be a condition should the proposal be approved. An example of this would be fast growing leafy trees for example pittosporum. Planted on the bunds these could provide not only visual cover, but also help prevent dust dispersion. I would also propose that any bunds and required planting be established and complete prior to any quarrying operations commence. Mental Health: An issue that I don't think can be under-estimated here is the mental health of residents. As a health professional I am very aware of the stress that something like this can place on people. There are several points to note here. A significant issue is the drop in property values that is likely to occur if the quarry goes ahead. While this will have a significant financial effect on families, the impact on mental health is very real. Financial stress can be a significant contributor to mental health issues. The stress potential health effects will have on families could be very significant. I am very concerned about the health effects of silica dust on my 5-year-old boy. The thought of this is even now causing me considerable stress. We have an amazing outdoor area which backs on to the racecourse land. If we are unable to utilise this area to relax and unwind this will have a further negative effect on our mental health.

Consent comment:
(nothing entered)