Responses to Resident Submission Letter

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How Addressed

Paragraph 2

We note in the EIS that PGH conducted a letter drop in May 2018 which we are aware of, and that they did not receive a response from us. The letter drop did not make any mention of the southern expansion. The text of the letter and the associated map only depicted the north Expansion western proposed Area. Discussions with Council during our own development planning stages and subsequent discussion with mine excavator operators over the ensuing years only referenced the north western expansion. It is this new southern expansion as only detailed in the EIS that does concern us.

Mining to the south is currently consented as per N72. The consented area is outlined in the plans attached to the consent as shown below.



In addition the Council has provided correspondence dated 11/9/2001 that determines the pit dimensions as 274m by 330m.

The Planning Certificate for the residents land to the south (Lot 1 DP838710) states any development of the site must consider relevant State Environmental Planning Policies as listed in the Appendix B of the Planning Certificate. Appendix B lists SEPP (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries (2007) as a planning instrument that must be considered. Principally, the mine was in existence prior to the construction of the dwelling in Lot 1 DP838710 and the potential impacts on any development should have been considered prior to construction. Given the consent boundaries of the mine, it would be reasonable to assume that mining could progress to the south up to the buffer limit of 15 metres.



Item	How Addressed
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	The consent condition 13 i) clearly states that the only area excluded from extraction is a 15m
	 buffer from the boundary of the permit area. (13. (i) The permit holder shall ensure that no extraction takes place within 15 metres of the boundary of the permit area. Within one month of the date of permit issue, the licensee shall erect squared wooden posts 8cm x 8cm, painted yellow, to stand not less than 0.75m in height at intervals of 30m on the above limit of the excavation.

Item	How Addressed
Item Point 1 The proposed southern extension will lower the skyline to the north east of our property by approximately 5m. Our property developments are limited by Council in that 'no structure shall be constructed in a location such that the roofline projects above the ridgeline levels crossing the site area and approved in	Existing consented structures on the property will not be affected by height restrictions relating to DA12232-2000.Council has assessed the impact to the skyline when granting the original quarry consent in 1979 and the latest amendment granted in 1990 and also when granting consent for the dwelling on lot 1 DP838710 in 2000.The elevation profile in the EIS indicating the line of sight from the existing dwelling is representative of the most prominent visual impacts to the occupiers of the land i.e. the most
crossing the site area and approved in DA12232-2000'The elevation profiles do not address the line sight potential impact crossing the whole property including ancillary sheds and livestock shelters etc. The lowering of the skyline may impact current developments and disadvantage any future developments we or any subsequent owner of our property may have.	elevated point. The existing sheds to the west of the dwelling will have no appreciable deviation from the illustrated line of sight in the EIS, being only 40m west of the dwelling. The north western corner of the property is approximately 10 metres lower than the dwelling and is thus further topographically shielded from the visual impacts of the quarry. Similarly, the remainder of the property lowers significantly towards its boundary to Shaw Street and will be further shielded from the visual impacts of the quarry. It should be noted that future developments would be subject to Council consent and would have to comply with their requirements at the time.

Item	How Addressed
Point 2 The cross-section plans for the southern extension indicate a shallow depression that may retain water and cause water seepage issues with our dwelling. We are aware of substantial groundwater movement in times of high rainfall and significant seepage coming to the surface south and west on our property. Our home is underground. The site was cut to bedrock and returned to original profile after construction. We are concerned that an excavation of the type and size proposed, coming over the hill towards us will allow if not encourage water to directly access the clay/rock transition layer and be funneled directly into our residence. This would directly impact on the footings of our structure, but also create the potential for damp/ mould and our ability to maintain a livable temperature inside.	The retention and management of water within the pit during operations will be substantially the same as current procedures which, to date, have not reportedly caused any issues for the dwelling.
	Survey data (12D) estimates that the 'roof' of the dwelling is at approximately 308m RL. The floor level is presumed to be approximately 3 metres below this level at 305m RL.
	The current pit floor ranges from 300mRL to 298m RL in the vicinity of the current pit sump (which lies below this level) and well below the floor level of the dwelling. The conceptual final base of the quarry will also slope to the north with the base at 298RL and the sump base at approximately 294mRL. Due to the current sump being north of the ridgeline, any movement of groundwater would be northerly and downslope into Humbug Gully. Dissipation rates from the sump are considered very low given the clay nature of the site.
	The final void has been designed to overtop at 300m RL which is below the floor level of the dwelling. The water balance has indicated that the final void is unlikely to fill and thus will be below the level of the dwelling and unlikely to cause groundwater issues.
	The site has not encountered groundwater to date and bore data discussed in the EIS infers the groundwater table is much lower than the proposed mine depth. Further the site is expected to experience a localised depression in the groundwater levels in and around the void which will not exacerbate groundwater seepage to the dwelling.
Point 3	It is unlikely that the development will impact meteorological conditions in the area.
We are contracted to provide real-time meteorological and aviation information. There is a risk that significant additional excavations may sufficiently alter the local environment as to endanger this data. Additionally, with the mine coming so much closer to us, the increased dust presents significant additional maintenance in checking and cleaning filters, screen, optical measuring equipment and cameras.	All efforts will be made to control nuisance dust. Investigations into providing a road-base or similarly sealed hardstand to store equipment adjacent to the dwelling are being undertaken. The water cart usage has also been increased to combat dust emissions from this area.

Item	How Addressed
Point 4 Because we are underground, and built directly on the bedrock below, we have concerns that all vibration from mining operations will directly and negatively affect our comfort and repose. We already 'feel' the infrasound from operations at the mine, but with works coming so much closer expect the effect to be exponentially higher.	Operations on the site are restricted to the consented hours of 6:00am and 6:00pm Monday to Saturday inclusive. No operations are undertaken on Sundays, Christmas Day or Good Friday, except for essential plant maintenance. This should provide adequate amenity to the residents. No blasting is undertaken on the site.
Point 5 We already receive a significant amount of airborne dust from the mine both directly (when there's a northerly wind) and indirectly (easterly and southerly wind) blowing dust caused by vehicular traffic up and down Shaw Street.	As the foot print of the mine increases, dust suppression measures such as the water cart will be more frequently employed to reduce impacts. Rehabilitation will reduce exposed surfaces where practical to do so.
	All loads will be tarped and vehicle speeds limited to 15km/h on site and 30km per hour on the unsealed section of Shaw Street. The intersection with Shaw Street will be inspected daily during mining and hauling activities to ensure material is not tracked off-site. Street sweepers would be engaged if required.
	As discussed above, investigations into providing a road-base or similarly sealed hardstand to store equipment adjacent to the dwelling are being undertaken which will reduce the potential for dust emissions adjacent to the dwelling.
	Dust monitoring will continue on the site and further mitigation measures implemented if monitoring results indicate they are required.

Item	How Addressed
Item Point 6 Shaw Street is already frequently impassable to smaller vehicles as the road surface becomes severely corrugated from heavy vehicles (particularly semi-trailers with air-bag suspension). Granted, the mine do arrange for the road to be 'dressed' (running a grader or articulated loader up the road to knock the tops of the bumps), but the resulting surface is pretty poor most of the time. The most recent grading of the road with some sort of 'fill' left large rocks strewn all over the surface- certainly big enough to damage vehicles and big enough to cause vehicles to swerve to avoid them. Given the number of blind corners, erosion of the eastern side of the road from the pre-Christmas storms and increase in traffic the road is becoming at times quite dangerous. We run two businesses from this location and frequently (more often than not) have delivery drivers complain about the road. We have had on numerous occasions, drivers refuse to deliver and cited the road as being 'impassable'. This causes us significant cost and inconvenience. We believe with the expansion of the mine and the already applied- for increase in mining operation, that the road will degrade even more quickly and in all probability be more problematic, more often.	 PGH is required under the consent condition to provide a road contribution to Council for the maintenance of Shaw Street, which is a public road maintained by Council. This will continue should the proposal be granted. As the proposed development does not seek to increase the consented extraction tonnage limit, there will be no increase in traffic (due to the development) over that which is already permitted. As stated previously haul vehicle speeds will be limited to 15km/h on site and 30km per hour on the unsealed section of Shaw Street.

Item	How Addressed
Point 7 Fencing and livestock- while we applaud the requirement to improve the current woefully inadequate fencing we have experienced problems in the past with cattle grazing on the buffer paddock adjacent to our boundary fence. In places cattle have been pushing and damaging fences and grazing on and damaging our trees on our side of the fence. One young steer in particular had been seen running at the fence to deliberately startle our livestock and on other occasions running at and ramming mine equipment parked by our back fence, just recently over a dozen steer from another neighboring property repeatedly pushed over the fences and helped themselves to the mine vegetation and our newly establishing boundary wind-break kurrajongs. If the fencing could be upgraded to secure smaller, less destructive livestock and strong enough to keep neighboring cattle and roaming dogs out, it would be safer and better for all concerned.	PGH does not own nor lease the land for livestock adjustment. They will however, seek to repair and replace the fencing with stock proof fencing as required.