

Melissa Allan (VPA)

From: Rhonda Kirby [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 26 November 2021 4:45 PM
To: richard.wynne@parliament.vic.gov.au; jaclyn.symes@parliament.vic.gov.au; jaala.pulford@parliament.vic.gov.au; danielle.green@parliament.vic.gov.au; tania.maxwell@parliament.vic.gov.au; craig.ondarchie@parliament.vic.gov.au; wendy.lovell@parliament.vic.gov.au; mitchell.advocacy@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au; Peter Cooper (VPA); Samuel Duff (VPA); Laurie Mitchell (VPA)
Subject: Amendment C58-Beveridge North West PSP

I wish to make a submission re the above.

The proposed development of a quarry at 175 Northern Highway was first raised some years ago. The council listened to the concerns of many residents, as well as Yarra Valley Water, and rejected the planning permit. The applicants then took the matter to VCAT. Residents attended the hearings, taking time off work in many cases because they believed how vital it was have the quarry stopped to retain and maintain the environment of Wallan we so love. The matter was withdrawn by the applicants (possibly because the strength of feeling against this proposal).

Conundrum now are trying once again via the Beveridge North West Precinct Structure Plan.

The Mitchell Shire Council has now rejected this application twice but Conundrum seem driven to ignore the local community and their elected council and place their financial greed above all else, and in doing so, if permitted, will destroy a wonderful clean rural township. Quite simply it would be environmental vandalism which would be disastrous for our beautiful town, and the growing township of Beveridge.

I have lived in Wallan for 27 years, and yes it has grown in that time, but it has been residential growth.

The choice to live in Wallan is a lifestyle choice, clean air, and green open spaces greet you as you leave the Hume Highway and turn onto the Northern Highway.

It has meant in my case a long commute to work over the last 27 years, firstly CBD, then Kensington and then Fitzroy. However as you approach Beveridge the air changes, it is clean, fresh country air and you know the commute has been worthwhile for the life style Wallan offers.

If the quarry is approved there will be many negative impacts on the town and its residents.

- Air quality would be impacted and given the very windy nature of Wallan this could impact on residents health.
- Traffic would be severely impacted, in and out of Wallan The Northern Highway is a single lane road. The queues in peak hour are a major problem now, the truck traffic would cause this to be disastrous. Traffic queueing to come off at Wallan would have the potential for fatalities. The Hume highway is a 110k zone. Traffic travelling at that speed coming up to a stationery queue of traffic is an accident(s) guaranteed to result in loss of life.
- Property values would drop, who wants a quarry on your doorstep with the noise, dust and vibrations from blasting.
- Blasting will cause structural damage, again impacting property values as well as destroying the peace that our current environment is so loved for.

The residents have voiced their concerns over congestion, noise, dust, vibrations from blasting and the impact on our health and wellbeing and overall lifestyle and liveability, the council has listened and agreed the impact is negative so I request the VPA and Planning Minister Richard Wynne do the same.

This is not the only place they can mine for Basalt, and to put our way of life in danger for the convenience of the location for the mining company should not be considered.

Please, do not allow the greed of Conundrum Ltd not to mention that of the current land owner, destroy a wonderful way of life that we have enjoyed so for long and would love to continue to enjoy for years to come.

Rhonda Kirby
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