

Monday 20 December 2021

Submission: Amendment C158 Beveridge North West Precinct Structure Plan

Wallan Environment Group strongly objects to the inclusion of the quarry at Spring Hill between Wallan and Beveridge. Such a proposal will disrupt, even destroy, the future of Beveridge North West, Wallan South and the proposed Wallan Regional Park.

Support for the quarry makes a mockery of Plan Melbourne:

“Melbourne is a city of inclusive, vibrant and healthy neighbourhoods”.

The 2016 PSP had no quarry. The arguments for its inclusion presented in the VPA Beveridge North West Report (2020), appear to give more weight to the opinions of the Conundrum Holdings P/L1 experts, than those representing the other authorities.

Summary of viewpoints by experts other than those representing Conundrum

Questions addressed by the panel Arguments presented at the hearing by the other authorities

What is quarry? its status as a Commercially viable (17 million tonnes of basalt); not unique (there are 13 alternatives, therefore no need for it to be protected at all costs).

Is it needed? The quarry does not appear on the Victorian Extractive Resources Hot List which has the total capacity to provide 160 million tonnes of material; the amount of material at Spring Hill (17 million tonnes) is insignificant.

Coordinating extraction & development? The presence of a quarry means an unacceptable negative impact on urban development and growth-area planning over a large area for a long time; sequencing scenarios for urban development and stone extraction are incompatible.

The presence of the quarry would:

- Destroy the visual landscape
- Significantly reduce the quality of public open space and recreational opportunity
- Pollute ground water decreasing the water quality of the Merri Creek down stream²
- Reduce air quality due to dust/wind
- Increase noise and vibrations caused by blasting the granite/hard rock

The inclusion of Hanna Swamp is commended. However, it must be considered in conjunction with Wallan South PSP and the proposed Wallan Regional Park. There should be a well- defined green belt separating the townships of Beveridge and Wallan, as drawn up in the Northern Growth Corridor Plan. A Southern Regional Park including both Spring

Hill and Hanna

1 Conundrum Holdings P/L is the company planning to extract stone from the quarry.

2 The Merri Creek flows through the suburbs of Melbourne into the Yarra near Dights Falls.

Swamp would demonstrate respect for the significant and irreplaceable landscapes that have been well-documented for this area.

The Wallan Environment group is a strong advocate for the liveability of Wallan. The quarry will reduce it significantly. We find it difficult to believe that the Hearings Panel recommended a quarry. We ask, why wasn't greater weight placed on all the high-level planning invested in the Wallan area? This includes Hazelwynde (the Yarra Valley Water & ICON Science RMIT project).

We recommend leaving Spring Hill as public open space, a landscape feature, a place to enjoy. Destroying the landscape and human well-being for something that is not needed doesn't make sense.

STOP THE QUARRY!

Yours sincerely,

Claudia James

President Wallan Environment Group

Upload your submission

[REDACTED]

I confirm that I have read and agree to the above conditions for making a submission.

Yes

I agree to the Collection Notice

Yes

To view all of this form's submissions, visit



This is not SPAM. You are receiving this message because you have submitted feedback or signed up to Engage Victoria. If you think you have been sent this by mistake please contact us at contact@engage.vic.gov.au.

[Privacy Policy](#) [Log In to Site](#)

Produced by [The State Government of Victoria](#). All rights reserved.



Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.