

**Minutes of the Meeting of Cleary Bros Albion Park Quarry Community
Consultative Committee**

**Held at the Shellharbour Civic Centre
On Thursday December 8, 2022 at 1:45 pm**

Present:

Chairperson	B Weir
Community Representative	J Murray
Fig Tree Hill Representative	S Dunster
Shellharbour City Council Representative	M Miller
Cleary Bros Environmental Officer	M Hammond (via Zoom)
Cleary Bros Representative	P Jackson

Item 1: Welcome and Apologies:

The Chairperson welcomed all Members and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the Land on which the meeting was being held and paid his respects to Elders Past, Present and Emerging.

The Chairperson acknowledged Mr Jackson as joining the membership replacing Mr Kalajzich as member.

Item 2: Declaration of pecuniary interests:

The usual interests being Messrs Hammond and Jackson being employees of Cleary Bros., the Chairman being paid a meeting fee and M/s Dunster being an adjoining land owner, were declared.

Item 3: Business arising from previous meeting dated 28 July 2022:

Nil.

Item 4: Correspondence:

Consultative Committee draft guidelines received by the Chair from the Department, which has been shared with all members.

Item 5: Progress of Project:

Mr Weir tabled the report from Cleary Bros which had been previously circulated and asked members if they had any further comments or queries on this report (attached).

Mr Hammond added further comments on the progress of the Project as follows. Cleary Bros had met further with the Department regarding their concerns around the visual impact and impacts to heritage landscape of the latter parts of the Project (Stage 7e). Cleary Bros has since refined the eastern parts of the Project footprint to minimise the visual impacts of the Project from the east. Cleary Bros are hoping to submit the amendment in January, with Project Determination likely to follow in the first half of 2023.

A site visit was proposed for the next meeting to coincide with anticipated works in Stage 7, which was accepted by all present.

Mr Miller asked about the implementation of the real time air quality monitors.

Mr Hammond advised that the real time air monitors were currently being used to provide SMS alerts of high dust levels. Following approval of Stage 7, the Air Quality Management Plan would be updated and the monitors deployed around the site.

Mr Miller asked if Cleary Bros had received any feedback from the community around blasting. Mr Hammond advised that no direct feedback or complaints had been received since the last meeting. Mr Jackson advised that he is a member of the local social media groups and observes comments from community members from time to time regarding quarry blasting. Mr Miller asked if Cleary Bros would be interested in being part of community days that are run with Council and the NSW Police in the local communities, to encourage communication of quarry blasting with the community. Mr Hammond advised that Cleary Bros would likely be open to that opportunity, as it would allow one on one discussions to improve community understanding around quarry blasting.

Ms Dunster asked about distance from Bass Point quarry blasting to residences. Mr Miller suggested the western part of Bass Point quarry is around 400 metres to the closest residences.

Mr Murray asked if the rainfall helped revegetation works. Mr Hammond advised that it had definitely helped the newer plants, but also had increased weeds growth on site.

Item 6: Other Agenda Items

i) Development Application for Stage 7 of the Quarry

This matter was dealt with in Item 5.

Item 7: General Business:

Nil.

Item 8: Next Meeting:

Mr Hammond suggested that the next meeting be held on July 27, 2023, with a site visit beforehand.

In closing the meeting the Chairperson thanked everybody for their attendance and input and extended to all the Compliments of the Season.

Meeting concluded 2.10pm.



Item 5 – Albion Park Quarry CCC Meeting 8th December 2022

Cleary Bros reports and overview of activities

Progress of the project

Currently excavating rock from Stages 5 and 6. For FY23 to 31 October 2022, 268,115 tonnes of hard rock products were produced on site (annualised rate of 804,346t), including approximately 146,487 tonnes of blue basalt products and 121,628 tonnes of red agglomerate. Production going forward is expected to remain at approximately the same rate.

Other works undertaken since the last meeting include the re-sealing of the entrance roads and road to the concrete batch plant, to reduce dust generation in these areas.

Albion Park Stage 7 update

At the last meeting, Cleary Bros informed the CCC that following exhibition of the EIS, Cleary Bros were currently preparing a response to the submissions provided by the various government agencies and Council on the proposal. This “Response To Submissions” was submitted to the Department of Planning and Environment at the start of November 2022, and is available on the Major Projects website. Cleary Bros also submitted an “Amendment Application” as part of the response, with the following changes to the proposal from what was previously exhibited in the EIS:

- Reduction in the project footprint to exclude impacts to one threatened plant and reduce impacts to another threatened species and critically endangered ecological community
- Amendment to the final landform to promote a free-draining environment once rehabilitation is complete.
- Amendments to the final landform and project staging to minimise the impacts to visual amenity from newly developing areas of Shell Cove.

Cleary Bros are now waiting on further feedback from the Department of Planning and Environment. This will likely either involve a request(s) for further information, or progression to Determination.

Site visit

No site visit is planned for this meeting.

Monitoring and environmental performance

Air Quality

Depositional dust, which consists of larger dust particles that can settle out on surfaces, have varied across the site (12-month average), with the gauge closest to the site entrance averaging 5.4g/m²/month (down from 6.7g/m²/month at the time of the last meeting), while all other gauges recorded between 0.9 and 1.7g/m²/month, which is lower than report at the last meeting. It is expected that the measurements at the gauge near the site entrance will continue to reduce over the following months, as works have now been completed on the Albion Park Rail bypass, and the re-sealing works around the front entrance that were undertaken in September 2022.

The High Volume Air Sampler (HVAS) records dust particles that are suspended in the air and are smaller than 10 micrometers, which is referred to as particulate matter (PM₁₀). The rolling annual average has continued to improve since the last report, declining from 12.0 µg/m³ in May to 9.6 µg/m³ at the end of October, which is largely related to improvements in regional air quality. There were no exceedances of the incremental criteria since the last meeting, with the highest incremental measurement of 36.4 µg/m³ below the criteria of 50 µg/m³.

The real time air quality monitors have been used in the previous 6 months to send an alert to the Environmental Officer whenever a sustained elevated reading is measured at the monitors. This has allowed Cleary Bros to respond to these instances in real time by reviewing dust suppression activities at the time.

The correlation with the HVAS is still relatively poor – for the most part there is a good correlation, but some measurements still show unexpected differences. Cleary Bros intend on deploying these monitors at three points around the perimeter of the quarry in accordance with an updated Air Quality Management Plan that will be required under the Stage 7 application.

All measurements of air quality are within the criteria of the Development Consent and Environment Protection Licence for the Quarry.

Boreholes

Cleary Bros have continued quarterly sampling of groundwater bores since the last report. Groundwater levels have remained relatively stable or increased slightly over the last 12 months. The concentrations of most major salt components and overall salinity are still higher than the long term average for the deep bores, while the shallow bores have remained relatively stable, likely as a result of increased rainfall entering the shallow aquifer over the past year.

Groundwater management and monitoring is in compliance with the Development Consent for the Quarry.

Blasting

All blast results have complied with Development Consent and Environmental Protection Licence limits. 2022 average and maximum blast overpressure (noise) at the nearest sensitive receptor (as at 19/11/2021) were recorded as 106.3 dB(L) and 114.1 dB(L) respectively. 2022 average and maximum blast vibration at the nearest sensitive receptor (as at 21/11/2022) were recorded as 2.24 mm/s and 5.37 mm/s respectively.

Rehabilitation and Revegetation

Revegetation works are now moving into the maintenance phase, in accordance with the Revegetation Management Plan approved under the Development Consent. Planted vegetation within the revegetation areas are now largely self-sufficient with no additional watering required. The focus in these areas is now on restricting annual weed growth around the smaller seedlings, to ensure they can compete. In Zones 2 and 3, tree growth has surpassed expectations, and is largely self-sufficient, with weeds generally controlled under the expanding canopy. Excellent germination and continued growth of seedlings have been observed along the southern rehabilitation batter which was hydroseeded around 18 months ago.

Community Complaints

Two community complaints have been received since the last meeting. One was in relation to dust near the entrance to the site, and the other related to material drag out from the front gate. Both complaints have been investigated, and have supported the re-sealing works around the entrance roads.

Community Engagement

Paul Jackson, Cleary Bros Stakeholder Relations Manager, will be replacing Todd Kalajzich as a Cleary Bros representative to the CCC. Todd will continue to make himself available when matters of a more complex or technical nature concerning the quarries arise. Mark Hammond will continue to represent Cleary Bros on the CCC as the quarry environmental officer.

Information provided to the community and any feedback

The Cleary Bros website is regularly updated to ensure all required information is current, including approvals, management plans, and environmental monitoring data.

Cleary Bros recommend the above report is received and noted by the CCC

Signed:

Mark Hammond (Environmental Officer)

24/11/2022