

# Albion Park Quarry Community Consultative Committee

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Albion Park Quarry CCC

Held on: 10/4/2025 – 1:22pm to 2:15pm

At: Shellharbour Civic Centre

Chaired by: Mr Brian Weir PSM

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### Attended

Mr John Murray, Community Representative

Ms Susan Dunster, Figtree Hill Representative

Mr Mark Miller, Shellharbour City Council Representative

Mr Todd Kalajzich, Cleary Bros Representative

Mr Mark Hammond, Cleary Bros Representative

Mr Brian Weir PSM, Chairperson

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### Apologies

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### Agenda item discussion

#### Item 1. Welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 1:22pm and 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 the usual declarations of interest being Messrs Hammond and Kalajzich as employees of Cleary Bros., the Chairman as paid a meeting fee and Ms Dunster as an adjoining land owner.

#### Item 2. Apologies

Nil

#### Item 3. Business Arising from previous Minutes dated 5 December 2024

The vacant community position will be discussed later in meeting.

In response to the question on notice regarding groundwater monitoring, Mr Hammond confirmed that groundwater monitoring was undertaken in September 2024 and again in March 2025, and will continue at 6 monthly intervals.

#### Item 4. Correspondence

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The Chairperson reported that Annual Report on the operation of the CCC had been submitted to NSW Planning for their approval.

### Item 5. Cleary Bros reports and overview of activities

The Chair invited Mr Hammond to speak to the report, and invited comment and feedback from committee members on each item in turn.

The Chairperson raised a potential error in the total production figure in the report, with 449,590 tonnes production to end of February 2025. Mr Hammond, on review, confirmed that the production figure should read 499,590 tonnes, which is the sum of the latite and agglomerate figures reported.

In regards to the Stage 7 update, Mr Hammond advised that the finalised Archival Recording is now on Cleary Bros website and is currently being printed on archival quality paper and ink prior to sending to Council.

In regards to the section on Air Quality, Mr Hammond confirmed that the January and February HVAS results had now been received, and are consistent with previous results.

In regards to the section on Biodiversity, Mr Hammond described the results of a recent trial on the soil within the Stage 7b area, noting the success of germinating the endangered plant *Zieria granulata* from a number of soil samples, which will be used to promote this plant on the rehabilitation benches.

In regards to the section on Blasting, Mr Hammond acknowledged one airblast overpressure result above the 5% criteria of 115dBL. Mr Hammond confirmed that the proportion of blasts above this 115dBL level remains below 5%, and that the quarry continued to comply with the blasting criteria.

In regards to the section of Cultural Heritage, Mr Hammond noted the proposed reconstruction of the central dry stone wall on the northern property boundary from late August. This would be further discussed offline with Ms Dunster as the adjoining landowner.

In regards to the section on Noise, Mr Hammond noted the surface works noise monitoring result recorded in February 2025 was the result of a dozer pushing overburden near the surface. Mr Hammond added that Cleary Bros will need to ensure a proactive approach to noise management as we move into winter where weather conditions can often enhance noise transmission.

In regards to the additional community representative, The Chairperson advised that they will continue to look for a new member from the Shell Heights area who will bring a positive contribution to the CCC. The Chair asked that all members continue to consider any potential members who they think may be suitable.

In relation to the Independent Environmental Audit, Mr Hammond advised that James Hart Consulting was engaged by Cleary Bros to undertake the three-yearly Independent Environmental Audit of the Albion Park Quarry, as required under SSD10369. The audit was undertaken in January 2025 and identified 5 non-compliances with the conditions of consent out of 152 conditions of consent. Of these, 1 related to a non-compliance previously identified and reported, while a further non-compliance related to a requirement to comply with the development consent which was therefore considered a non-compliance due to the previous non-compliance. Two non-compliances were related to improvements to training and awareness protocols and one non-compliance to the storage of fuels in 20L drums in the extraction area. The audit report and Cleary Bros response to the

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audit findings have been provided to the Department of Planning and also posted on Cleary Bros website.

The Chairperson requested an update on the revisions to the management plans as described in the report.

Mr Hammond responded that both the Biodiversity Management Plan and Historic Heritage Management Plan had been revised and submitted to the Department of Planning for approval. It is uncertain of when the plans may be approved by the Department.

No further queries were raised by members in relation to the Cleary Bros report.

### Item 6. Other Agenda Items

#### Sale of Cleary Bros to Maas Group

Mr Hammond provided an update on the report at the previous CCC meeting regarding the sale of Cleary Bros assets to the Maas Group.

Mr Hammond advised that the Albion Park Quarry is now owned by Regional Quarries & Concrete Pty Ltd, who are a wholly owned subsidiary of Maas Group, and will continue to operate under the Cleary Bros banner. All property, approvals, licences, bonds, and other obligations associated with the Albion Park Quarry have now transferred over to the new owner, and the majority of employees have been retained with the new company, including Mr Kalajzich and Mr Hammond. Quarry operations continue to be business as usual.

Mr Hammond added that following the sale, the owners are exploring opportunities for improvements to the Albion Park Quarry complex. These opportunities are still under consideration. An update will be provided in the event any of these are progressed.

Mr Kalajzich added that future changes would likely focus on improving efficiencies at the quarry.

#### Independent Environmental Audit 2025

This matter was previously discussed in Item 5.

### Item 7. General Business

No further general business was raised by any members.

### Item 8. Next Meeting

Mr Hammond suggested that the next meeting be held on Thursday August 28, 2025 at 1:00pm at the Albion Park Quarry, which will include a site visit.

Meeting concluded 1:50pm

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## Action Items

Action	Responsible	Status
Chairperson to continue to canvas opportunities to fill vacant community representative position	Chairperson	

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## Other comments

Nil

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## Upcoming meetings

August 28 2025 1:00pm meeting at the Albion Park Quarry.

## Item 5 – Albion Park Quarry CCC Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### Cleary Bros reports and overview of activities

#### Progress of the project

Cleary Bros are currently extracting rock from Stage 7a. To the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025, 449,590 tonnes of hard rock products were extracted and transported from the extraction area for FY25 (representing an annualised rate of 749,385t), including approximately 272,485 tonnes of higher quality latite products and 227,105 tonnes of products manufactured from weathered material and red agglomerate. In addition, 89,193 tonnes of clean fill material has been imported to the Pit 1 area (Storage Area) for rehabilitation of the quarry void. Production going forward is expected to increase to an annualised rate of approximately 800,000t as the site continues into the higher quality resource. Site-won production has been supplemented with purchases of raw and processed material from other quarries at times to meet customer demands and to ensure suitable quality of material while we continue to establish in Stage 7a. These imports have reduced in recent months and are expected to remain at lower levels going forward.

#### Stage 7 update

Since the last meeting in December 2024 the following works have been undertaken:

- Finalisation of the Archival Report for the Belmont.
- Further infill planting of the northern and Stage 7a vegetation screens.
- Topsoil and cover crop stabilisation of the first western bench of Stage 7a.
- Weed control prior to establishment of the Biodiversity Stewardship site.
- Topsoil and overburden stripping from continuation of surface disturbance within Stage 7a.
- Drilling, blasting, and extraction of the hard rock resource from Stage 7a.

Upcoming works associated with Stage 7 include:

- Tubestock planting of the Stage 7a amenity bund.
- Tubestock planting and direct seeding of the first western bench of Stage 7a.
- Commencement of the eastern ridge vegetation screen.
- Ecological studies to support the establishment of the Biodiversity Stewardship site.

#### Site visit

A site visit was held last meeting. No site visit is planned for this meeting.

#### Monitoring and environmental performance

##### **Air Quality**

The HVAS records dust particles that are suspended in the air and are smaller than 10 micrometers, which is referred to as particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>). The rolling annual average has increased slightly from the last report, from 12.9 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 14.2 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at the end of December 2024, which is below the criteria of 25 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The annual average includes results from before the relocation of the monitor in April 2024, and so changes in the average may relate to the new location rather than changes in dust levels associated with quarrying activities. There were no exceedances of the 24-hour incremental criteria since the last meeting.

Cleary Bros has operated the three real time particulate dust monitors in line with the Air Quality Monitoring Program. The reliability of these monitors has improved considerably in the past 6 months, and are now generally operating as expected, with alerts triggered in the event of high dust levels as required. This has assisted quarry supervisors to adjust activities as required, such as redirecting water truck activities to certain areas.

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

##### **Biodiversity and Visibility**

No vegetation clearing has been undertaken since the last meeting. Some minor clearing will be required over the next 6 months along (and inside) the western boundary of Stage 7a, as well as regrowth along the existing dry stone wall that is planned to be relocated in August – September 2025.

Since the last meeting, works have focused on infill planting of both the northern and Stage 7a vegetation screens, with 400 tubestock planted in late February comprising a range of faster growing local Acacias (wattles), casuarinas, and eucalypts. Since fencing both screens, plant growth has been excellent and limited

watering required. We have found that since the fence was installed around the Stage 7a screen, many seedlings which had been grazed to ground level have sprung back. These will continue to be monitored in coming months, with additional infill planting undertaken as required. Vegetation growth on the amenity bund has been sporadic, with some parts establishing well, while others have not had the same success. Cleary Bros will look to plant tubestock at strategic locations on the amenity under in Autumn 2025, to boost vegetation establishment prior to Winter. Seeds have been sourced and tubestock selected for planting/seedlings the first western bench of Stage 7a in the next month. In line with the approved Rehabilitation Management Plan, Cleary Bros will be trialling direct application of native seed in designated sections of the bench, with tubestock in other sections used as a control to assess effectiveness. The success of each of the direct seed and tubestock zones will be monitored, and used to inform future quarry rehabilitation techniques.

### **Blasting**

All blast results since the last meeting have complied with vibration and air overpressure limits of the Development Consent and Environmental Protection Licence limits. One blast recorded an air overpressure reading of 115.9dBL, above the 5% exceedance criteria of 115dBL, however the proportion of blasts above 115dBL in FY25 to date remains below 5%, and as such Cleary Bros are complying with this condition. FY25 average and maximum blast overpressure (noise) at the nearest sensitive receptor were recorded as 107.7 dB(L) and 115.9 dB(L) respectively at the monitor sited at 'The Cottage'. FY25 average and maximum blast vibration at the nearest sensitive receptor were recorded as 0.87 mm/s and 2.89 mm/s respectively at the monitor sited at 'The Cottage'.

### **Cultural Heritage**

Cleary Bros engaged Biosis to prepare an Archival Report for the Belmont, which has recently been finalised following review by Shellharbour Council. It is currently being printed in accordance with archival practices, and copies provided to Shellharbour City Council and the Shellharbour Museum. An electronic copy of the Archival Report is also available on Cleary Bros website ([www.clearybros.com.au/belmont](http://www.clearybros.com.au/belmont)).

Cleary Bros have been in discussions with an accredited dry stone wall builder in regards to the deconstruction of the existing dry stone walls and reconstruction at the entrance to the property via Dunsters Lane. The reconstruction work is currently scheduled to be undertaken in August-September 2025.

### **Noise**

Since the last meeting, Cleary Bros has undertaken monthly noise monitoring of surface activities on 6/12/2024, 20/1/2025, 17/2/2025 and 18/3/2025. On each occasion, the noise levels at the nearest sensitive receiver were measured for 2 x 15-minute intervals. For each of the December, January, and March monitoring events, the quarry was inaudible or faintly audible only for each of the monitoring intervals. During the February 2025 monitoring event, the quarry was audible during the first interval, albeit as a background contributor. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> interval, quarry-related activities were the dominant noise source, due to a dozer pushing overburden in the Stage 7a area with a direct line of sight to the monitor. A moderate southerly breeze increasing transmission of noise from the source to the receiver, resulting in a quarry-noise contribution of 52 dBA for the 15-minute interval.

Cleary Bros undertook the biannual attended noise compliance monitoring in November 2024. This was undertaken during standard weather conditions. The report confirmed compliance with noise criteria in the development consent with quarry operations either faintly audible or inaudible at each external receiver. The report is available on Cleary Bros website.

The real time noise monitor continues to record noise levels at the northern boundary of Stage 7. Validation of noise levels undertaken on the same days as the short term noise monitoring in 2025 has indicated the real time noise monitor has been under-reading by approximately 3 dBA. Adjustments have been made to correct this monitor and ensure an accurate reading. With quarrying activity becoming progressively more shielded within the extraction area, almost all triggers at this site now relate to external noise sources, such as from wind and birds. Nevertheless, it will continue to be used to assess quarry noise contributions, and will be particularly beneficial during surface activities such as drilling and soil stripping.

### **Water Management**

Cleary Bros have implemented the surface water and groundwater monitoring programs in line with the approved Water Management Plan. Monitoring of groundwater and surface water was undertaken in March 2025. There are no current or emerging issues associated with water management.

### **Independent Environmental Audit**

Cleary Bros commissioned James Hart Consulting to undertake the first Independent Environmental Audit for the Stage 7 area, which was required to be undertaken within 12 months of commencing quarrying in Stage

7. A copy of the report has been placed on Cleary Bros website: [www.clearybros.com.au/albion-park/](http://www.clearybros.com.au/albion-park/) There were no major adverse findings from the audit, however a number of recommendations were made to address minor non-conformances and improve activities on the site. Cleary Bros are currently making minor changes to the Biodiversity Management Plan and Historic Heritage Management Plan in line with these recommendations, which will be submitted to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for approval in the coming month.

#### **Community Complaints**

Cleary Bros have received one community complaint since the last meeting in relation to dust, which was received via Shellharbour Council. Cleary Bros were not able to obtain any specific information in relation to the complaint, and as such could undertake a general investigation only. Cleary Bros continue to utilise the real time monitoring network to inform and adjust dust management practices in response to any alerts.

#### **Community Engagement**

Cleary Bros suggests the committee include an additional community representative to ensure effective communication with the local communities.

#### **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)

26/3/2025