

STATEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

LEGISLATION – In accordance with Schedule 1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000 a development application must be accompanied by a Statement of Environmental Effects (except for designated development which is accompanied by an Environmental Impact Statement).

QUALIFIER – This Statement of Environmental Effects Template has been produced to assist applicants identify the environmental impacts of a development and the steps to be taken to protect the environment or lessen the expected harm.

The template is suitable for minor impact development such as dwellings, alteration & additions, outbuildings, small scale commercial & industrial development and minor subdivisions. It may be necessary for Council to request additional information depending on the nature and impacts of a proposal and the completeness of the document. This may result in the delay of the process of your application by Council.

Larger scale developments should be accompanied by a detailed and specific Statement of Environmental Effects. For further information in this regard please seek specific advice from Council's Environment Services Department.

APPLICATION DETAILS

Applicants Name: Robert John Swain
Location of Development: Lot:55..... DP751085.....
No. Street: Adams Scrub Road
Locality: Warialda.....

DESCRIPTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT

(Should include where applicable physical description of building, proposed building materials, nominated colour scheme, nature of use, details of any demolition etc).

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Development of a gravel quarry on Lot 55 on the property "The Caves" (Assessment number 10000297) on land zoned general rural, to provide gravel for council, contractors and on farm. The quarry is on a site previously used as an old quarry and the access road and quarry are already in place

Approximate life of the quarry at an extraction rate of 10000 cubic meters per annum should be up to twenty years.....

DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

(Describe the physical features such as shape, slope, vegetation, any waterways. Also describe the previous and current use/s on the site).

Prior to this application a quarry for farm roads was on the site. This DA is a formalisation of that quarry.

The quarry has a sloping Westerly aspect and is on the eastern side of Scrubby Creek. Vegetation in the area consists of gum, Cypress pine and eucalypt species and native grasses which do not require further removal as they are not present in the actual quarry area

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Describe the use of the land adjoining the site?

Adjoining land is used for grazing of livestock

CONTEXT AND SETTING

Will the development:

- Be visually prominent in the surrounding area? No

Why/Why not?

The site is not visible from the closest public road (Adams Scrub Road) or the neighbours or current owners as it is between two hills I.....

- Be inconsistent with the existing streetscape or Council's setback policies? No Yes

Why/Why not?

Not Applicable

- Be out of character with the surrounding area? No

Why/Why not?

As the quarry is hidden from view it does not affect the character of the area

- Impacts on the existing and likely future amenity of the area? No

Why/Why not?

No impacts on any amenity in the area as no existing amenities are in the area nor are future amenities likely to be affected

ACCESS/TRAFFIC & UTILITIES

(Note 1 dwelling = approx. 10 vehicle movements per day)

- Is legal and practical access available to the development? Yes

Describe where access is available:

Access from Adams Scrub Road is via an existing farm track already in situ (see Figure 3 on attached map).....

- Will development increase local traffic movements/volumes? Yes
If Yes, by how much?

Why/Why not?

Traffic volumes will only be increased when council or private contractors are extracting gravel. This activity will be of intermittent nature and of short duration on an as required basis

- Are additional access points to road network required? No

Describe where additional access points are required from:

Access is from Adams Scrub Road and no additional access is required

- Has vehicle manoeuvring and onsite parking been addressed in the design (Commercial/Industrial/Multi Res/Public Buildings only) ? No

Describe route of vehicle movements & number/type/location of parking:

There is ample areas for vehicle parking and truck and machinery movements

- Is power, water, electricity, sewer and telecommunications services readily available to the site? No Yes

Why/Why not?

Not applicable

- What type of vehicle/equipment will be used onsite?

List number, use & type of vehicle/equipment:

Bulldozers: For winning gravel

Front end loaders or excavators for loading extracted material

Trucks and trailers for transport of materials offsite

Numbers of trucks or machinery will vary depending on council or contractor requirements

- Can/Is disabled access provided ? No Yes
- Are disabled facilities to be installed/provided? No Yes

Number & location:

Not applicable

- Method/timing/frequency/type of deliveries (loading and unloading)?

Operations are envisaged during daylight hours only. Loading and unloading will take place at the pit out of sight and earshot of neighbours or the general public.

Timing and frequency will depend on the job at the time

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- Is the development likely to result in any form of air pollution (smoke, dust, odour etc)? Yes

Why/Why not?

Dust may be generated during extraction of gravel but no more than is generated on Adams Scrub Road during normal use. As the location of the pit is over 300 meters from neighbours or a public road no dust problem is likely

- Does the development have the potential to result in any form of water pollution (eg. Sediment run-off)? No

Why/Why not?

Water pollution as sediment run off has been addressed by the construction of banks and sediment sumps (See Figure 3 and the quarry plan)

- Will the development have any noise impacts above background noise levels (eg. Swimming pool pumps)? No

Why/Why not?

The aspect (between two hills) and distance from public roads and neighbours eliminates noise levels being above background noise

- Does the development involve any significant excavation or filling? Yes
Describe Location & Quantity.

Why/Why not?

Extraction of gravel requires excavation of up to 15000 cubic meters per annum

- Could the development cause erosion or sediment run-off (including during the construction period)? No

Why/Why not?

Erosion and sediment runoff have been addressed by the construction of sediment sumps and banks (see Figure 3).....

- Is there any likelihood in the development resulting in soil contamination? No

Why/Why not?

No soil contamination is likely,however fuel or oil spills are possible from machinery and this would be addressed on an onsite basis.....

- Is the development considered to be environmentally Sustainable (including provision of BASIX certificate where required)? Yes

Why/Why not?

Adequate stockpiling of overburden to rehabilitate the site has been set aside and containment of runoff and sediment make this development sustainable. At the conclusion of operations, a level site will be covered with stockpiled overburden and fertilized and seeded to return the area to its current use, grazing land. There is no necessity to extract materials below normal ground level as there is more than sufficient material in the hill site itself.

- Is the development likely to disturb any aboriginal artefacts or relics? No

Why/Why not?

No artefacts have been observed in the area in the last 45 years (personal observation).

- Are there any threatened species, populations &/or ecological communities &/or their habitats on the land or nearby? No Yes

If "Yes", How will the development impact? If "No", why not?

No threatened species will be impacted and threatened ecological communities have not been affected by previous operations See "Test of Significance Report"

• Will there be external lighting? No Yes

Describe location/type/wattage:

Not applicable

FLORA AND FAUNA IMPACTS

(For further information on threatened species, see www.threatenedspecies.environment.nsw.gov.au)

• Will the development result in the removal of any native Vegetation from the site? No

Describe location/quantity/type of vegetation.

Why/Why not?

No native vegetation is required to be removed as the existing quarry contains nothing but introduced weed species. See "Test of Significance Report"

• Is the development likely to have any impact on threatened Species or endangered ecological communities? No

(If the answer is yes to either of the over questions it may be necessary to have a formal seven-part test completed to assess the impact on threatened species – applicants are encouraged to consult Council).

Describe location/quantity/type:

Why/Why not?

No threatened species or communities are on the proposed site. There is grassy box woodland in the area but none of this community will be disturbed or impacted by the development. See "Test of Significance Report"

NATURAL & TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Is the development site subject to any of the following natural hazards: Yes

Bushfire Prone?

(Note if the site is identified as Bushfire Prone it will be necessary to address the Planning for Bushfire Protection Guidelines and in the cast of subdivision the development will be integrated. For further information please consult the NSW Rural Fire Service web site www.rfs.nsw.gov.au).

Describe location/type/severity:

While the development is in a bushfire prone area the nature of the development substantially diminishes any risk of overrun by fire. The development would actually be a safety zone in the event of a bushfire. As the development is in a bushfire prone area a bushfire evacuation plan is attached in the event of a bushfire approaching during quarry operations

After referring to the RFS Classification of vegetation formations guide (attached) the area and adjacent land to the quarry are in the "managed land" category which is the least bushfire prone

RFS suggested 8 points (copies attached) which are addressed below:

1.Aims and objectives of Planning for Bushfire Protection (PBP)

Points (i) to (iii) are not applicable as there are no buildings

(iv) Access and egress are catered for by the access road to the site

(v) Managed land surrounding the development addresses this point

(vi) The quarry has no utility services

2. The only bushfire prone land is along Scrubby Creek which has extensive Teatree growth. This has never burned, because of lack of fuel underneath

3. Ignition sources have been identified and only involve the potential of machinery igniting.

4. Not applicable as no explosives or fuel will be stored on site

5. Not applicable as there is no mulched material on site

6. Managed vegetation classification addresses vegetation management and fire suppression. A quarry by its construction is a natural fire suppression area

7. Operational access to fire fighting equipment and personnel is by way of the access road off Adams Scrub Road

A quarry development is not really covered in the publication "Planning for Bushfire Protection" 2018.

Will the development result in any technological hazards? No Yes

Describe hazard/s.

Why/Why not?

No phone reception or powerlines in the vicinity.....

Identify any proposed hazardous materials &/or processes &/or any potential emissions from the proposal.

Describe: Nil. No hazardous materials or processes to be introduced to the site. The only emissions (dust) have been addressed earlier

WASTE DISPOSAL

Sewer/Septic:

• How will effluent be disposed of? To Sewer Onsite

Indicate location/size/disposal method for onsite system:

Not applicable

• Will liquid trade waste be discharged to Council's sewer? No Yes

Type and quantity?

Not applicable

• How will stormwater (from roof and hard standing) be disposed of:

- Street Drainage System
- Other (of other provide details)

Describe:

Not Applicable

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Garbage & other Waste:

- Will the development produce waste? No
If "Yes", please specify quantity:

- What type/s of waste will be generated?

Describe:

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- How will waste be disposed of & the frequency of disposal?

Describe:

The only waste likely would be from rubbish from lunch or smoko breaks

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- How will waste be stored onsite?

Describe:

Rubbish bin

- Will the proposal have any economic consequences in the area? Yes

Why/Why not?.....

By provision of gravel at this site cartage costs for council will be less, benefitting the shire as a whole.....

Private contractors and the owner will benefit through an extra income stream

Will the proposal affect the amenity of surrounding residences?

by overshadowing/loss of privacy/increased noise or vibrations? No

Why/Why not?.....

No near residences so not applicable. The residence 490meters from the site is unoccupied

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- Is the development situated in a heritage area or likely to have an impact on any heritage item or item of cultural significance? No

Why/Why not?.....

No heritage area in the vicinity,so not applicable.....

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- What are the likely social effects of the proposal?

(Issues which may need to be considered include demography/community services/amenity/quality of life/employment rates/health & safety)

Better roads and economic benefit and employment to subcontractors

OPERATIONAL AND MANAGEMENT DETAILS

Note: This section is only relevant to commercial/industrial/public buildings and other non-residential uses

- Description of operation
- Winning, loading and transport of gravel from the site

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- Numbers of staff No permanent staff.....

- Description of production process

Winning, loading and transport of gravel from the site.....

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- Hours and days of operation
Daylight hours only. Operations may take place on any particular day of the week depending on the requirements of customers
- Maximum expected number of customers/day and at one time.
Unknown but generally only one
- Type and quantity of goods handled including any hazardous substances
Gravel for roads and road base
- List and describe the type of quantity of raw materials and finished products
15000 meters of gravel per annum
- Advertising/business signage onsite Nil

Applicant Signature Date

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Privacy Policy – This information is required under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act and Regulation to process your application. Your information would comprise part of a public register related to this purpose. This information will be kept by Council and disposed of in accordance with the Local Government Disposal Authority. You are entitled to review your personal information at any time by contacting Gwydir Shire Council.