

Our ref: GC15-184-T01  
Council ref: 321.2015.43739.1

15 September 2015

Chief Executive Officer  
Bundaberg Regional Council  
PO Box 3130  
**BUNDABERG QLD 4670**

**Attention: Grant Barringer**

Dear Grant,

**APPLICANT'S RESPONSE TO COUNCIL'S INFORMATION REQUEST—SECTION 278 OF THE *SUSTAINABLE PLANNING ACT 2009*— MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE (DEVELOPMENT PERMIT) FOR EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY (EXTENSION TO EXISTING QUARRY) AND ASSOCIATED ENVIRONMENTALLY RELEVANT ACTIVITIES LOCATED AT CLARKES ROAD, GIN GIN (DESCRIBED AS LOT 104 ON RP21941)**

On 28 August 2015, we received Council's information request in relation to the abovementioned development. The information request sought the information shown in italic font below. In accordance with section 278 of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, we submit the following response and attach amended proposal plans and Site Based Management Plan for Council's consideration.

1. *Quarry Operation Plan: provide a spatial plan of how excavation will occur on site, specifying excavation cells, depths, and locations. An indicative time frame for the excavation period of each cell is requested, if available.*

Comment—further information cannot be provided at this stage. Preliminary assessment has revealed that resources are available to investigate these matters, but at this stage investigations have not been undertaken. A Quarry Management Plan will be submitted to Council prior to excavation works occurring on site.

2. *Explosives and Blasting: blasting can potentially generate adverse impacts — air-borne and ground-born vibration — both of which are affected by blasting parameters, local geological characteristics and topography between the blast source and the receiving environment. Provide details on:*

- 2.1 *time of day and day of week that blasting operations will occur;*
- 2.2 *frequency of blasting;*
- 2.3 *duration of vibration impacts of blasting event;*
- 2.4 *experience of shot-firers who will undertake blasting events;*
- 2.5 *storage of explosives: will explosives be stored on site. If not, where will explosives be housed or transported to the site?*

Comment—the majority of extraction will be via bulldozers and excavators, with blasting only required for extracting hard material that cannot otherwise be extracted. Blasting will therefore be undertaken sporadically and for minimal periods of time. It will occur during normal operating hours and will be conducted by fully licenced and experienced blasters in accordance with the Queensland Government – Business and Industry Portal requirements. No explosives will be stored on site as the licensed blaster will transport explosives to the site. The operator will notify adjoining land owners before any blasting event occurs.

3. *Site Management Plan: please provide an amended Site Management Plan that provides details on:*

- 3.1 *cultural heritage and the manner in which artefacts etc will be handled;*
- 3.2 *complaints about the operation of the Quarry – and the manner in which such complaints will be handled;*
- 3.3 *blasting operations;*
- 3.4 *weed control proposed.*

Comments—refer to the amended Site Based Management Plan for more information.

4. *Rock Crushing: At item 3.1.6 (page 10) of the Site Based Management Plan, reference is made to the fact that “crushing of rock” will occur. Provide details of this operation, with particular reference to any adverse emissions (noise, dust etc), site location for plant and the manner in which will be addressed by the operators.*

Comment—further information cannot be provided at this stage. A Quarry Management Plan will be submitted to Council prior to crushing works occurring on site.

5. *Prevailing Winds: item 4.1.4 of the Site Based Management Plan indicates that “prevailing winds are such that dust would be carried away from the majority of sensitive receptors” – however no detail has been provided in*

*regard to prevailing winds in the area for various seasons of the year. Provide details of affected properties from the “prevailing winds”.*

Comment—dust mitigation measures will be undertaken in accordance with conditions of the development approval. Dust generating activities will cease when visible emission are occurring off site, and dust suppression equipment will be regularly maintained and operational. Refer to the amended Site Based Management Plan for more information.

6. *Noise and emissions: in order to address any adverse emissions from the proposed Quarry, provide a Draft Noise and Emissions Management Plan for the proposed operations.*

Comment—due to the significant distance between the operation and the nearest sensitive receptor, noise emissions generated from extracting and screening processes will be mitigated through natural means such as distance, vegetation cover and changes in topography. Noise on site will be managed in accordance with the requirements of *The Environmental Protection Act 1994*. It can be conditioned as part of the approval to submit a Noise and Emissions Management Plan

7. *Buffers: it is noted that InsiteSJC Plan GC15-184-P Proposed Quarry Site – depicts the “footprint” of the proposed extraction area. Provide details of the depth/width and construction details of the proposed to surrounding properties and site boundaries.*

Comment—the buffer areas have been slightly increased to reduce the potential impacts on adjoining properties. Refer to the updated plan GC15-184P prepared by Insite SJC.

8. *Restoration/Rehabilitation of Site: provide detailed restoration / rehabilitation and after-care plans. Detail the proposed use of the site following decommissioning of the Extractive Industry and rehabilitation of the site. The Rehabilitation plan ideally should include details of design, initial landscaping works, soil spreading, final land form construction and after-case. Provide details of rehabilitation steps proposed to be taken at every stage, from design through operation, to decommission, to ensure restoration is integrated into the operation of the site.*

Comment—rehabilitation of the site will be undertaken progressively and in accordance with conditions of the development approval and the rehabilitation management plan; this plan will be developed within two years of the operation ceasing. Refer to the amended Site Based Management Plan for more information.

9. *Security of Site: provide details of the manner in which the quarry site will be:*

9.1 *fenced or otherwise secured*

9.2 *site access*

Comment—all practical measures to restrict public access to the site will be undertaken. Existing security fencing is installed around the perimeter of the site, with suitable warning signage to be installed at appropriate intervals around the perimeter.

This response addresses all of the information requested in accordance with s278 (1)(a) of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*. We request that Council now continue with the assessment of this development application.

If you would like to discuss this matter, please call me on (07) 4151 6677.

Kind regards,

**InsiteSJC**

Katrina Sproule

**Planning Officer**

Enc.