Media release

Tuesday, 14 April 2015

**Quarry expansion means more jobs**

The Department of Planning and Environment has approved a proposal to expand Gunlake Quarry near Goulburn, creating more local jobs.

“The expansion will mean the quarry needs an extra five full-time jobs on-site and an extra 13 truck drivers,” a Department spokesperson said.

“The size of one of the quarry pits will be increased and the approved rate of production will be bolstered by 50 per cent to see up to 750,000 tonnes of rock extracted every year.

“There will be no change to quarrying or truck loading hours, or the methods used to extract rock.

“The increased production will result in more trucks travelling along Red Hills Road and the bypass road.

“But in direct response to concerns raised by the community, no additional trucks will travel on Brayton Road south of the bypass road.”

The Department exhibited the proposal late last year and received 15 submissions, including eight from the community.

Of these, seven objected to the proposal, mostly on the grounds of increased traffic and concerns around noise, dust, surface water and other environmental considerations.

The spokesperson said that the Department worked with the applicant and other Government agencies, including Roads and Maritime Services, the Environment Protection Authority and the Office of Environment and Heritage to address the issues raised.

“The approval includes strict conditions to manage traffic, noise and other issues of concern to the community and has applied strict conditions to address the issues raised during public consultation,” the spokesperson said.

“The Department’s compliance team monitors the conditions we impose to make sure developments such as the quarry expansion follow the rules and takes steps to enforce them if there are any issues.
“We have approved the expansion based on the fact that the associated impacts can be appropriately controlled and it will bring a number of benefits for the local community and NSW as a whole, including more jobs and helping to meet construction industry demand for rock.”

For more information about the project and to view the Department’s assessment, visit www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au

**Media contact:** (02) 9228-6128