

Dixon Sand Community Consultative Committee – Annual Report for 2020

CCC / Project Name:	Dixon Sand (Haerses Road Quarry)	Reporting Period:	May 2019 to April 2020
Independent Chairperson:	Lisa Andrews	Proponent Contact:	Hunny Churcher

1. Executive Summary

Dixon Sand Pty Ltd operates the Haerses Road Quarry and Old Northern Road Quarry at Maroota. The development consent was originally issued for the Haerses Road Quarry by the Minister for Planning on 14 February 2006. This quarry extracts and processes sand to supply concrete and speciality sand products to the Sydney metropolitan market.

The quarry site is approximately 128 hectares and located in Maroota, 49 kms north-west of Sydney, NSW within The Hills LGA. The region holds a sand deposit in excess of 100 million tonnes. Accordingly, the area is scheduled under the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (SREP) No. 9 – *Extractive Industries*.

The CCC was established in 2017 and operates in accordance with the guidelines. The membership consists of:

- Three local community representatives (one alternate)
- Two Council delegates (The Hills)
- Three company representatives (Dixon Sand); and
- One Independent Chairperson.

The meetings are held bi-annually (May and November).

The committee receives information from the project operators regarding its compliance with the conditions of consent including the monitoring of environmental, air, noise, rehabilitation and water management on the quarry site.

The CCC is an effective communication forum between the community and the company.

2. CCC activities over last 12 months

- The committee met in May 2019 and November 2019.
- An extraordinary meeting was held on 24 February 2020. The purpose of the meeting was to answer any questions in relation to the Haerses Road Mod 3 application that was currently on public exhibition. This provided CCC with an opportunity to address any issues that may have arisen in the community as a result of the proposed increase in extraction rates.
- Attendance is consistent, with some apologies recorded depending on competing obligations experienced by volunteer members.

- The CCC benefits from the regular attendance of the bush regeneration and rehabilitation contractor (Bush-It) at each meeting, who provides a comprehensive presentation of works undertaken and the program for future works.
- Updates on Bio-banking agreements.
- The proponent continues to consult with the CCC in regard to its current DA before the Department of Planning (Modification 3 for the Haerses Road Quarry), to increase extraction rates as well as its proposed Old Northern Road Quarry No. 2.

3. Key issues

Trending topics of committee discussion can be summarised as:

Issue	Actions Taken	Outcome
Truck movements to and from the site	Drivers operate under a Drivers Code of Conduct and the company demands strict compliance.	Ongoing monitoring by company.
Consultation process for Mod 3 – increasing of extraction rates	Proponent provides CCC with comprehensive information.	Extraordinary meeting held to give CCC members the opportunity to ask questions during the exhibition period..
Community concerns with Mod 3 application in relation to the increased traffic/truck movements, retention of Buffer Zones, dust and groundwater impacts	The proponent prepared a Q&A sheet for distribution to the community, addressing the concerns that have been raised. Letterbox drops were undertaken to neighbouring properties.	The proponent continues to engage where possible and invites enquiries from any member of the community.
Rehabilitation/Weed Management	Consultant attends each CCC and provides updates on the rehabilitation program, including weed management.	Ongoing attendance.
Concerns with the school zone/bus stop at Maroota Public School	Whilst not technically an issue for this CCC, a community representative has raised concerns regarding traffic around the school. Accordingly the Chair has written to the local Member of Parliament seeking their assistance.	With local MP.

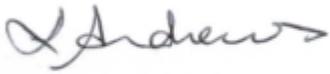
4. Focus for next 12 months

The planned activities for 2020 will be guided by the contributions of the CCC members. These activities are likely to include:

- Ongoing updates from the proponent regarding the Haerses Road Quarry Mod 3 application and the proposed Old Northern Road Quarry No. 2 assessments.
- Regular updates on environmental monitoring of the site, including TEOM data, dust deposition, noise, groundwater and surface water as well as bush regeneration works.
- Drivers' continued compliance with the road rules and driving to conditions in accordance with the Drivers Code of Conduct.
- Continue to investigate and address any complaints received. It should be noted that the company follows through on all complaints, even when it has shown that they relate to other companies in the area.

To the best of my knowledge, there are no outstanding or emerging issues that have not been addressed.

CCC minutes are available on the project website.

Signature of Chair:	
Date:	30 April 2020