



GUNLAKE QUARRY NEWSLETTER

October 2021



Overview

The Gunlake Group (Gunlake), consisting of Gunlake Concrete and Gunlake Quarries, is an Australian family-owned business that is expanding to meet customer and market demands, across the Greater Sydney area, Southern Highlands, and Southern Tablelands. Gunlake operates the Gunlake Quarry, approximately 7 km north-west of Marulan.

With an infrastructure boom in the Greater Sydney region, Gunlake forecast that demand for products from the Quarry will continue to increase. It is proposed to transport more quarry product along the Primary Transport Route in response to this increased demand. This will be achieved through an increased extraction and production rate.

Gunlake Quarry Continuation Project

Gunlake has lodged a new State Significant Development (SSD) application for the Gunlake Quarry Continuation Project, with the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. The application seeks the following changes:

Saleable product Increase the fixed annual tonnage limit to 4.2 million tonnes per annum.

Product transport Increase maximum daily truck movements only on the Primary Transport Route

Quarry life Extend the approval for quarry operations for 30 years to 2051.

Within the Gunlake Quarry Continuation Project, there will be NO CHANGES to currently approved:

- hours of operation;
- pit disturbance area;
- blasting frequency; and
- the truck movements on the Secondary Transport Route, ie south of the Brayton Road/Ambrose Road intersection and through Marulan.

Planning approvals process

Gunlake has prepared an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to accompany the SSD application for the Gunlake Quarry Continuation Project.

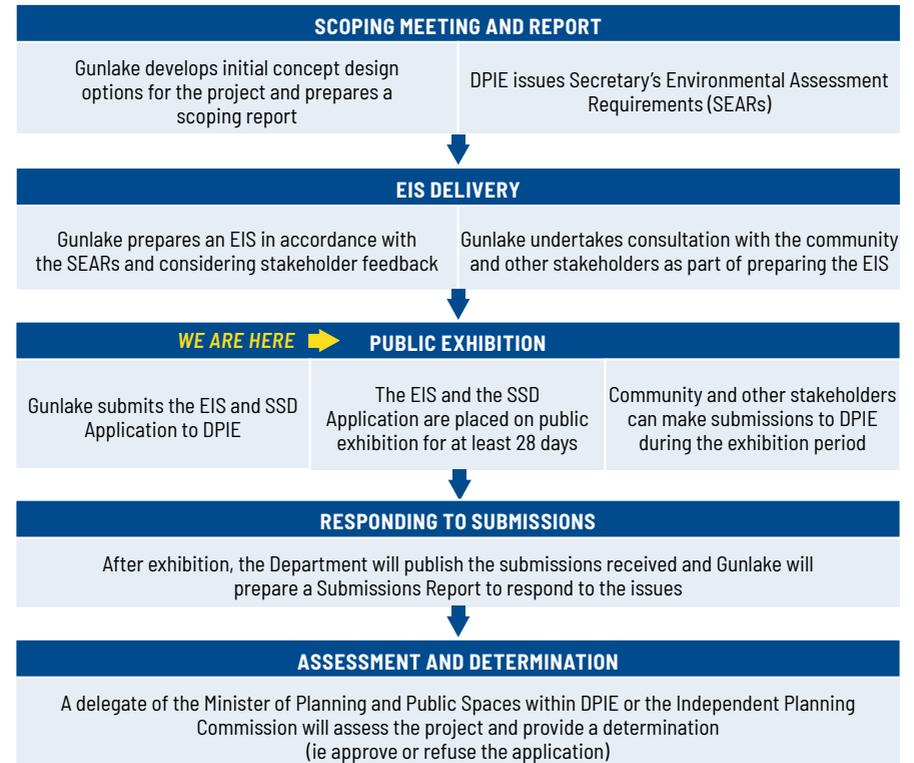
The Gunlake Quarry Continuation Project SSD application will be on exhibition from **8 October 2021 to 4 November 2021**, and can be viewed on the following link: <https://mpweb.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/40926>

Technical Assessments Findings

Gunlake has engaged EMM Consulting Pty Limited (EMM) to prepare an EIS including detailed technical reports assessing the potential environmental, social, and economic impacts (and benefits) of the Project.

Technical assessments findings include:

Traffic - The Continuation Project will increase Quarry product truck movements along the Primary Transport Route (Brayton, Ambrose and Red Hills Roads from the Quarry entrance to the Hume Highway) from a maximum of 295 outbound and 295 inbound truck movements per day to a maximum of 375



outbound and 375 inbound truck movements per day. No changes are proposed to Gunlake Quarry traffic volumes on the Secondary Transport Route.

Road Safety – The Road Safety Assessment Report, which includes a Road Safety Audit, found that the road upgrades implemented following the Extension Project approval (practical completion August 2018) meet and exceed conditions of the Extension Project Approval. The application of the principles in the relevant Austroads guidelines ensure existing cross-sections, road geometry and intersection geometry support the proposed additional heavy vehicle movements.

The Road Safety Audit found that key road safety hazards along the Primary Transport Route are appropriately managed and three aspects were highlighted for improvement: the road width across major culverts; installation of T-intersection warning signage on each approach to the intersections of Ambrose/Brayton Road and the Ambrose/Red Hill Road; and an inspection and renewal program to address deterioration in surface condition, line marking, guideposts, and other delineation, etc. Gunlake are in discussions with the road authority, Goulburn Mulwaree Council, regarding these matters.

Noise and vibration – There will be no changes to currently approved blasting frequency or hours of operation. Gunlake will continue to implement mitigation measures currently in place at the Quarry to minimise noise and vibration impacts on the Quarry's neighbours. Operational noise levels are predicted to comply with relevant noise limits at all assessment locations with the exception of one house close to the quarry. This receptor currently qualifies for voluntary acquisition under the Extension Project Approval.

The future total road traffic noise levels, inclusive of Gunlake Quarry trucks associated

with the Continuation Project, are predicted to satisfy the relevant road traffic noise criteria at the nearest potentially affected residences on Brayton Road, Ambrose Road and Red Hills Road.

Air quality – Emissions from Continuation Project operations are not predicted to cause any air quality criteria to be exceeded at any of the assessment locations, which include all of the private residences close to the Quarry.

Groundwater – The potential impacts of the Continuation Project on the groundwater level have been assessed using a groundwater model. The amount of groundwater flowing into the pit will remain low. No impacts to landholder bores or to beneficial uses of the groundwater source are predicted, and no impacts from groundwater discharge to the surrounding environment are predicted.

Surface water – Water balance modelling identified that the Continuation Project will reduce the likelihood and magnitude of overflows occurring from the water management system compared to the overflows predicted for the Extension Project. Surface water management will continue to operate in accordance with the approved Soil and Water management Plan.

Biodiversity – The Extension Project Approval provides biodiversity offsets to compensate for impacts to biodiversity within the Continuation Project disturbance area. Any impacts to biodiversity will continue to be managed in accordance with the Quarry's Rehabilitation and Biodiversity Offset Management Plan.

Aboriginal heritage – Gunlake consulted with the Registered Aboriginal Parties as part of preparation of the EIS. The Continuation Project activities will not include ground disturbance activities that have not been previously approved. Any potential impacts to Aboriginal heritage items will be managed

in accordance with the Quarry's Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan.

Historical heritage – No historical heritage sites have previously been identified within or in proximity to the Quarry site and, therefore, no impacts to historic heritage will result from the Gunlake Quarry Continuation Project.

Land resources and rehabilitation – Gunlake will continue to progressively rehabilitate areas where possible, although there are limited opportunities as most of the disturbed quarry areas will continue to be used during the Gunlake Quarry Continuation Project. The proposed final rehabilitation of the Quarry site at the end of the Quarry's life will not change as a result of the Continuation Project.

Visual – There will be no change to the existing visual amenity of the Quarry site as a result of the Continuation Project.

Social – In-depth interviews have been conducted with local residents, key stakeholders, and service providers. The in-depth interviews involved a discussion of the values, vulnerabilities and strengths of the local community, as well as the identification of perceived impacts and benefits as a consequence of the Continuation Project. Each of the service provider interviews also offered insights into the potential impacts and benefits of the Continuation Project to specific areas of service in the community. Data collected during in-depth interviews and outcomes of EIS engagement were used to inform the social impact assessment, which documents potential impacts and benefits to the community.

The Continuation Project will provide long term livelihood benefits from ongoing and increased employment, community



investment and involvement, and training and apprenticeship opportunities.

Economic – The Continuation Project will provide direct economic activity, including jobs, to the local area economy, and indirect economic activity to the local area via both wage and non-wage expenditure. Quarry operations and associated product transport under the Continuation Project will provide 228 direct jobs, comprising 90 quarry jobs and 138 transport jobs (full-time equivalent jobs, drawn from a pool of about 200 drivers).

How can I find out more?

Gunlake is committed to working with the community to understand your views, interests and what is important to you.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of the Project, please contact Gunlake:



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