

Minutes

18 September 2023

Project name	Karuah East Quarry - Community Consultative Committee	From	Michael Ulph
Subject	Meeting Minutes – September	Tel	0458 049 847
Date / Time	18 September 2023 / 4.17pm	Project no.	2218437
Attendees	Michael Ulph (Chairperson) Scott Ellerton (Karuah East Quarry Pty Ltd) Mat Radnidge (ADW Johnson) Tessa Hestelow (Community Representative) Wade Cameron (Community Representative) John Lyall (Port Stephens Shellfish Program) Janine Reid (North Arm Cove Residents Association) Bob Trotter (Community Representative)	Apologies	Uwe Seil (Community Representative) Goetz Schraer (Community Representative)
Others not present	Mathew Bell – Mid Coast Council Shai Richardson – Karuah LALC Shane Emmanuel (Community Representative) Isaac Daley (Karuah East Quarry Pty Ltd)		
Objective	Record discussion and actions from this meeting.		

Agenda Item	Notes
Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Michael Ulph paid respect to the traditional Aboriginal custodians of the Karuah region, and Elders past, present and future. – Welcome to Scott Ellerton, new Environment & Development Manager. – Joel Fleming (former Environment and Development Manager) resigned from his position at Hunter Quarries Pty Ltd and will no longer be a CCC participant.
Declaration of Pecuniary Interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Michael Ulph confirmed that KEQ Pty Ltd is paying GHD (his employer) a fee for Michael to act as the Independent Chairperson for the CCC. – Mat Radnidge confirmed that KEQ Pty Ltd is paying ADW Johnson (his employer) a fee for Mat to be a member of the CCC. – Scott Ellerton is an employee of Hunter Quarries / Karuah East Quarry Pty Ltd.
Safety Moment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Michael advised that this is a new item he has added to the agenda to promote safety. – Mat advised that snakes are active and to be mindful of this.
Acceptance of Previous Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Draft CCC Meeting Minutes dated 13 March 2023. Moved: John Lyall Seconded: Janine Reid

Agenda Item	Notes
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft minutes dated 13 March 2023 were supplied to CCC members by Michael Ulph for review/comment. • An invitation was supplied to the CCC for the proposed 'Karuah Red Quarry' information session which was held at the Karuah RSL Club on 30 March 2023. Janine advised that she sent this invitation onto the North Arm Cove Residents Association (NACRA) which has a large member base. Bob noted that he attended this information session.
Company Report & Overview of Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scott and Mat described the project in summary, including current approvals, licences, management plans and project history (including previous modifications). • Scott discussed compliance monitoring: • Air quality. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Three anomalous results were recorded in May and June 2023 that resulted in one minor exceedance of the daily compliance limit for PM₁₀ (51 ug/m³ recorded vs limit of 50 ug/m³) recorded by the high-volume air sampler (HVAS) at monitoring location DDG4. KEQPL are investigating the cause. Tessa noted that this may be a result of people undertaking fire hazard burns. Wade noted that ground clearance works associated with the powerline adjacent to the highway have been recently completed which may be the cause. ○ Two DDG recordings in June 2023 were unavailable due to contaminated matter (eg. bird droppings / organic material) entering the gauge. As a result KEQPL have increased vegetation management at monitoring sites and undertaken a compliance review of the monitoring stations. As a result, some minor relocating of some monitoring stations will be undertaken following DPE/EPA endorsement. ○ Results of the HVAS for Total Suspended Particles (TSP) and dust deposition gauges are well within criteria. ○ Scott confirmed where the air monitoring equipment are located. <div data-bbox="424 1305 1434 1765" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="424 1765 842 1798">Air Quality Monitoring Locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Management. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scott noted that rainfall in 2023 is less than that recorded in 2022 and is below average. ○ Dam 1 is the primary water storage for KEQ and provides water for dust suppression. Designed to have 12ML of water storage. ○ There were no discharges from Dam 1 during H1 2023.

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Dam 1

- The capacity of Dam 2 is 0.5ML and is designed to manage runoff from the existing weighbridge area.
- Dam 2 had 3 days of controlled discharge during the monitoring period and compliance with water quality parameters was achieved.



Dam 2

- Dam 3 had 7 days of controlled discharge during the monitoring period and compliance with water quality parameters was achieved.

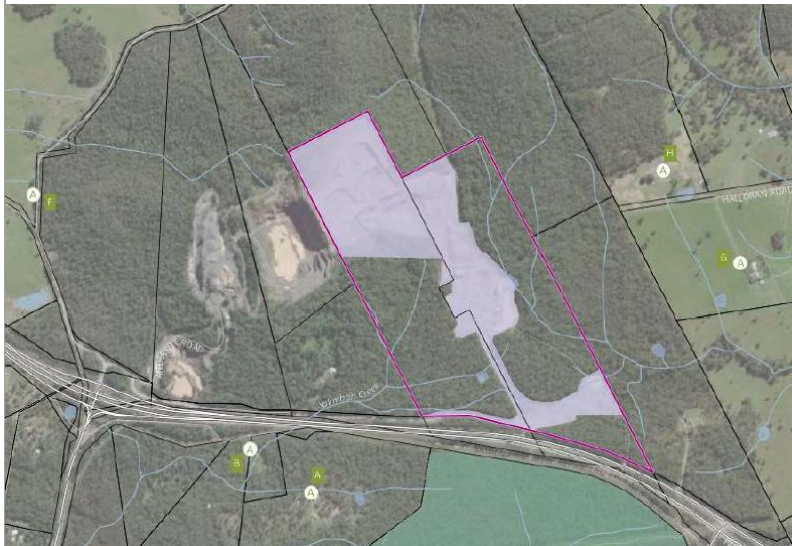
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Dam 3

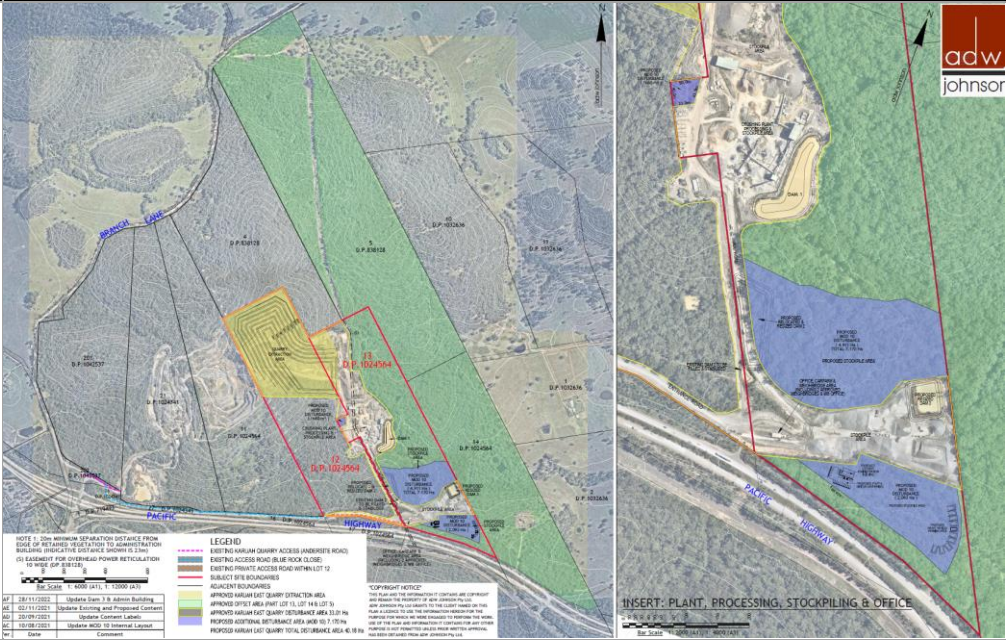
- Noise Monitoring.
 - Quarterly noise monitoring was completed at the approved noise monitoring locations in the surrounding community on 7/8 February 2023 (Q1), 19/24 April (Q2) and 10/11 Aug (Q3). Noise monitoring confirmed the KEQ's operations were within the approved noise limits at all locations.

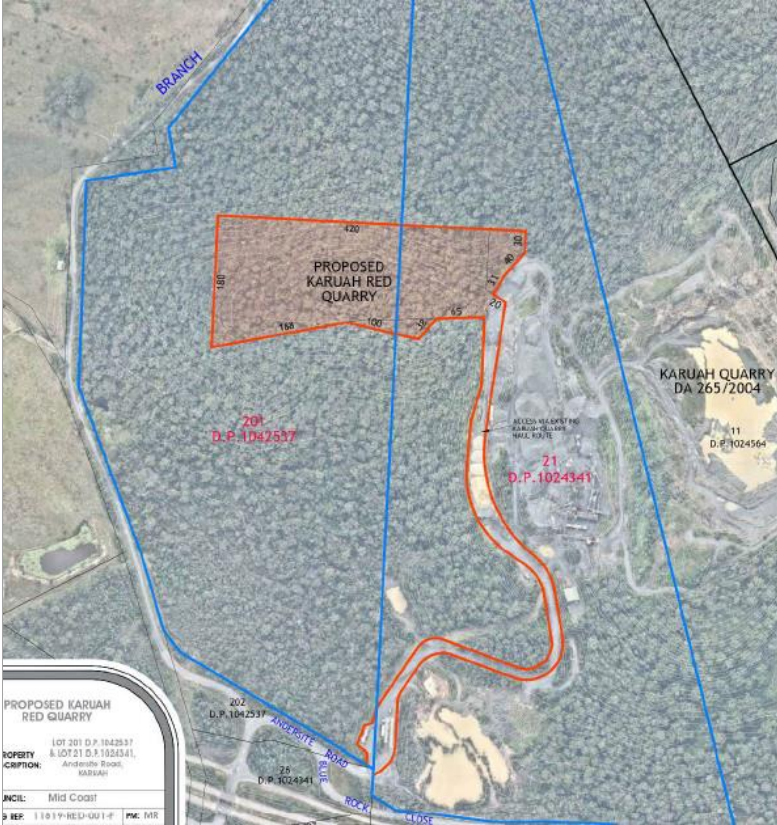


Attended Noise Monitoring Locations

- Blast monitoring.
 - There have been 10 blasts in H1 2023. All blasts were within compliance limits.
- Production.
 - Production during Jan 2023 – Jun 2023 was 435,208 tonnes.
- Complaints. 3 complaints were received during the reporting period:

Agenda Item	Notes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Feb 2023 – Complaint re: blasting from a resident from Limeburners Creek. KEQPL assisted DPE with a review of the matter and DPE confirmed no further action necessary. ○ May 2023 – Complaint re: traffic incident at Glenwood Drive, Thornton. All KEQ truck drivers were subject to a toolbox talk regarding safe, professional and courteous driving expectations. ○ Jun 2023 – Complaint received regarding dust from a resident on Halloran Road. The resident observed a dust plume and understood that it was the result of standard operational activity. Following investigation it was confirmed the dust plume was the result of a compliant blast and that a miscommunication associated with the blast register had occurred. This matter has been resolved.
Mod 10 Update	<p>Recap:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx 7.17 Ha for additional stockpiling next to the existing stockpile area. The blue area on the figure below. • Facilitate improved surface water management and increased water security. • Include area for administration building and heavy vehicle parking. • No change to annual extraction limits, hours of operation, processing or vehicle frequency. • Required because there is not enough space to stockpile quality tested product, which is a key requirement for tenders for infrastructure projects. <p>Update: MR confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPE approved MOD 10 on 18 May 2023. • Commonwealth EPBC Act approval is progressing under the bi-lateral agreement between State and Federal government. For MOD 10, this relates to ecology matters and the process involves the State Government (NSW DPE and NSW BCD) undertaking an assessment and determination and then the Federal Government (DCCEEW) relies on the assessment completed by the State. • KEQPL are continuing to secure secondary approvals including EPL variation and Management Plan updates. <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tessa asked if there is a timeframe for construction. Scott confirmed it is possible that it will be constructed in the first half of 2024. Scott noted that after the Federal approval and secondary approvals are obtained, pre clearing ecology survey will be necessary and heritage survey will be undertaken. • Tessa asked if dust suppression will occur. Scott confirmed that existing dust suppression controls in place will be extended across the MOD 10 area (eg. use of water carts). Wade noted that during the earlier site inspection that it was clear that the water cart is being used to control dust.

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<p>Karuah Red Update</p>	<p>Scott and Mat provided details on the Karuah Red Quarry proposal.</p> <p>Mat noted the project SEARs (which is the list of requirements/inputs that the application needs to address) were extended by the NSW and are currently valid until 1 January 2024. HQPL are continuing to progress this application. Mat noted that if needed, the SEARs can be extended, amended or re-issued by the NSW DPE.</p> <p>Mat confirmed that there are no changes to the proposal as previously introduced to the CCC and the general community at the information session held on 30 March 2023.</p> <p>Summary of Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extraction of up to 100,000 tonnes of Red Rhyodacite material per annum for up to 20 years in a standalone quarry operation to be known as Karuah Red Quarry. • This is much smaller than KEQ (approved up to 1.5 million tonnes per annum) and Karuah Quarry (approved up to 500,000 tonnes per annum). • Karuah Quarry is also significantly scaling down operations as it approaches its upcoming closure in 2027 and is primarily used on a project specific 'campaign' basis. • Red rhyodacite is a different product from KEQ and KQ that is used for decorative landscaping and infrastructure projects. • Removal of vegetation (approximately 5ha) and establishment of offsets. • Site preparation and earthworks. • Blasting the quarry face. • Crushing, sorting and stockpiling material ready for transport from the site. • Use of existing haulage road to minimise disturbance. • Progressive rehabilitation of worked quarry areas. • Management plans will be established and implemented to manage / mitigate key environmental considerations.

Agenda Item	Notes
	<p>Approval Pathway and Project Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mat confirmed that Karuah Red quarry is a 'Designated Development' that will be assessed by Mid Coast Council and determined by the Hunter and Central Coast Regional Planning Panel. This approval pathway is unlike KEQ (which is a State Significant Development and dealt with by the NSW DPE), primarily because of the smaller size of the proposed Karuah Red operation. 
General Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael noted that there are updated CCC Guidelines (issued by the NSW DPE) for operation of the CCC. There are no significant changes to our existing committee. Michael noted that the new guidelines will require the code of conduct to be resigned by members every year. The new guideline also removed the requirement to advertise in the newspaper anytime new community members are needed. Michael will distribute to the CCC for information. Janine asked how bushfire is managed. Scott noted that there is a good buffer around operational areas that would allow for firefighting. Scott noted that HQPL have engaged with the NSW RFS (Karuah and North Arm Cove brigades). Mat noted that the KEQ consent requires the site to be equipped to respond to fires on site and also to assist RFS as far as possible if there is a bushfire in the surrounding area. Scott noted that bushfire trails are maintained. John noted that back burning in the area from the range has not occurred for 22 years and there is significant risk. Michael asked with a drought forecast, what happens if the site runs out of water. Scott noted that as a worst case scenario water would be trucked in and operations would be tailored to available water.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tessa indicated that meetings / site inspections during school holidays will be more favourable for her attendance. • Mat noted that the Quarry Manager Shane Burton has offered any CCC members a site inspection. If any member is interested please advise.
Next CCC meeting and site inspection to be scheduled.	Next meeting scheduled for March 2024. Michael to confirm details and issue calendar invites.
Meeting close	The meeting was closed at 5.07pm