

DIXON SAND (PENRITH) P/L

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Quarries

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18 November 1999

General Manager

Baulkham Hills Shire Council
PO Box 75
Castle Hill
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DOC. No.:
BOX No.: 14
22 NOV 1999
BAULKHAM HILLS SHIRE COUNCIL

Attention: Mr. P Lee

Dear Peter,

Re: DA No. 796/00 – Lots 29 & 196 DP 752025 Old Northern Road, Maroota

Further to the meeting held yesterday at the Council Chambers and discussions with yourself and other Council Officers, I confirm that Dixon Sand (Penrith) Pty Ltd hereby consent to the granting of a 10 year approval for the above development application.

I have also attached a copy of the minutes of meeting held at the Maroota Public School on the 4th of November 1999, and a letter prepared by the Eastbend Group for your perusal.

Yours Sincerely,



K. Dixon

Executive Chairman

Dixon Sand (Penrith) Pty Ltd

COMMUNITY MEETING

Thursday 4th November 1999.

Topic: Dixon Sand EIS and the effects on the community and environment.

Present: Various local residents and members of the Eastbend Rural group, Steve Smith (Dixon Sand Environmental consultant), Mark Dixon.

Time: 7.30 pm at Maroota Public School.

The meeting was organised by the Maroota Rural Resources and the Eastbend Group to give local residents a chance to ask Dixon Sand representatives any questions regarding the current EIS.

General concerns applicable to all sand extraction activities were raised including:

- 1. Total allowable truck movements permissible along Old Northern Rd and Wiseman's Ferry Rd. It was universally agreed that Section 94 contributions were not being spent in the locality, especially for road widening of Old Northern Rd. Steve Smith indicated that Dixons were required to pay Section 94 payments and construct a safety intersection to the site as part of their approval. Steve Smith also explained that existing truck volumes included Dixon customers that would redisperse upon Dixons reopening with no substantial net increase in truck movements. Also Dixon's would minimise truck movements during school 'pick up and drop off' times. It was also agreed that allowable truck movements should be definitive throughout the SREP9 area (including both Baulkham and Hornsby Shires), based on resources in the area, road capacity, environmental and community effects.**
- 2. Breach of the groundwater aquifer was a concern and how it would be prevented. Dixon's explained how groundwater conditions were monitored by themselves and the DLWC, to establish an allowable extraction depth of 2 metres above the high wet weather groundwater level. It was also explained how survey control points were used to prevent over extraction of precincts.**
- 3. The effects of consolidated clay tailings 'plugs' and the potential impacts upon the groundwater was raised. Dixon's enumerated that**

this issue had been raised in the Maroota groundwater study yet its impacts upon the overall water table was as yet fully classified. Dixons pointed out the difference in permeability between the tertiary/eluvial sand and the Hawkesbury sandstone deposits and their relationship to the water tables.

4. Concerns were raised over the impact of the quarry on environmental flows especially during extended dry periods. Dixons explained that their new water management system was extremely stringent and effective in the purification of dirty water. The onsite water system was a closed system whereby water usage was recycled and purified through a series of ponds before being allowed to enter the downstream creek. A low-flow pipe was included to preserve environmental flows during dryer periods and maintain a constant freeboard to prevent scouring and damage from larger storm events.
5. Concerns were raised over the impact of the development of Lots 1 and 2, and in particular the close proximity to the school and the additional traffic generation along Ol Northern Road. Dixons explained that under DCP 500 guidelines they would not be operating within a 250 metre radius of the school. Noise associated with winning material would also be attenuated by operating below ground, and by providing vegetated noise barriers and machinery enhancements. Furthermore all processing of sand was to take place on the existing lot 196, and as Lots 1 and 2 were not part of the current application no additional traffic was to be generated as a result.
6. Dixons also pointed out that they would be accepting an approval period of 10 years instead of 35 years.

The meeting concluded at approximately 9.30 pm

FAX COVER SHEET

TO Mark Dixon

Fax No 0245 668 245

Subject Article Community Forum Maroota 4 Nov 1999

Mark please find attached what was intended as the article for "The Hills News"

5-11-99

The first Eastbend forum of its new Natural Heritage Trust project "A Community Approach to Integrated Resource Management at Maroota" was held 1st night at the Rural Resources Centre Maroota.

The Projects aim is to facilitate community empowerment in natural resource issues and to advocate protection of Maroota as a unique bio-region.

The meeting was attended by community members and Representatives of Dixon Sand Mining to discuss issues regarding their current Development Application.

The meeting was facilitated by Theresa Perram and had successful outcomes in clarifying community concerns of the Development Application.

Consensus was reached between Sandminers and residents that there is little evidence of road improvements in the local area with regard to collection of money in Section 94 contributions designated for this purpose.

Participants at the meeting agreed that Dept of Urban Affairs and Planning urgently need to re-evaluate sand mining operations at Maroota in terms of useage of public roads.

There is a need for DUAP to evaluate maximum truck movements with sand mining operations in both BHSC and Hornsby Council. Residents feel that public roads have reached their finite carrying capacity.

Residents expressed concerns regarding the figure of 60 laden truck movements past Maroota School with this latest DA compounded by large volumes of truck traffic from surrounding quarries.