



Greenock SA 5360

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CC : Ivan Venning MP, schubert@parliament.sa.gov.au, Tony Picollo MP light@parliament.sa.gov.au

Re : Kara Resources Mining Lease MC 4322- Letter of objection and request for further information

Dear Mr Howe,

Hello, our names are Peter and Kathi Werner and our property is located at Lot 40 & 41 Coad Rd Nain. We object to the proposed Mining Lease for the extraction of Dolomite as an unnecessary negative impact on the continued Farming environment that the whole local community has enjoyed, and us and our children. This Mining Proposal will create inconvenience, long term disruption and potential economic loss to our family and Vineyard, and our Local Community for a very long time.

Our concerns are as follows.

- 1) On Page 10 – section 1.1 it states there is no community in close proximity to the proposed operation.
 - a) Where in fact Nain is 1.2 km east of the boundary.
 - b) Nain is a small township which is the closest community, and not made up of scattered local farms, they are extra and many farms and households scattered East, West, North and South of the proposed operation.
 - c) Our farm being one of these, North/East of the proposed operation.
- 2) On Page 10 section 1.4 it states no public amenity will be affected or impacted on by the operation, the quarry will become completely confined to a depression within the hillside with **no visual impact**.
 - a) How can this statement be made when this operation will cover 55.65 Hectares, with Stage 1 taking 50 years to fully excavate the Dolomite to a possible depth of 48 metres, then Stage 2 approximately another 50 years, and what stopping Kara Resources from expanding out further. **EML 5686 (25ha) and Further.**
In the mean time and for the next 100 years, there are **buildings, equipment, trucks in and out, excavating, blasting, drilling, rock crushing, noise and dust** – need I go on
There will definitely be visual, environmental and economical impacts by this operation
For at least 100 years and possibly beyond.
Can Kara Resources Guarantee the Local community that this will not be the case?
 - b) The Nain Lutheran Church is a Public Amenity and has a good number in their Congregation with services every Sunday.
- 3) On Page 10 – section 1.5 it states **a small isolated quarry will not pose significantly increased impacts on the Local area**, operations are based on small to medium scale.

- a) Yet on Page 20 it states that “ **this will be a medium sized quarry**”
- b) A 48 metre deep quarry, expanding out over 100 years will neither be small or medium but a large hole / pit, ravine that will never be reinstated.
- c) The impacts for the local area will be huge and complex with air quality affected, noise, Dust pollution, environmental and economical hardship.
- c) We grow high quality grapes – our livelihood will be impacted. What guarantee will Kara Resources give us that this will not happen, as we have worked very hard for a long time to achieve
This?
- d) Kara Resources **will have to accept liability and expect compensation claims for our Losses as would others.**

4) On Page 10 section 1.5 it states the region is generally dusty in the summer months due to the surrounding unsealed roads, cropped and grazed paddocks as is common to any region in South Australia.

- a) This statement is false and very presumptuous, as the local farmers use the “ **no till** “ Farming methodology which greatly reduces the dust produced through the cropping process.
- b) Dust is so minimal from Farming Practices and unsealed roads and has never been an issue to the local residence. This should not be compared to the increased amount of dust generated by open pit mining operations.

5) In section 1.7 it states the winds are generally from the South/West.

- a) This is true for some days, but especially in the spring and summer months, you have strong winds commonly at 30 – 40 kms per hour from the West, North and North/ West. Which with added dust will be very damaging to Local Farming crops and Vineyards (yes we are only over the hill and the dust would blow straight to us and our Vineyard. There is hundreds of acres of Vineyard in the Nain/ Greenock area, and **most of these crops are High to Grange Quality.** The summer months are when our crops are harvested, Dolomite dust will affect our Quality as well as the Quality of all the local Hay and Feed.
- b) Also most of the Local Community collects rain water for drinking from gutters on roofs, now this will be contaminated by dolomite dust. **This will have an Impact on our and our childrens health and wellbeing.** The potential for dust related illnesses in the local community could increase.

6) Section 4.2 of the report states - **fortunately the site is located in a remote area** where public road use is limited. There will be a medium increase in road traffic once the quarry is developed.

- a) Describing this site as **Remote** is deliberately misleading as there are **18** Residence in immediate vicinity to the proposed site. Daveyston which is only 2.46 kms away has **20** Households.
- b) What does Kara Resources mean by limited road use? Yes Local traffic is limited to **Locals**, but farmers frequently move farming equipment and stock along these roads, and a huge increase in truck movement will impact on safety and inconvenience for these road users.

- c) Also children ride their bikes or walk along these routes to go to school, as well as many locals walking their dogs, their safety also would be impacted.

7) Page 21 section 2.9.3 it states – it is likely that eventually **60 Trucks will** access the site.

- a) This is a guess and more than likely **truck movement will increase as the Quarry expands.**
- b) Even 60 trucks a week is a huge increase in local road traffic, which will impact on local safety, peace and tranquillity.

8) On page 21 section 2.9.1 it states - access to the site **will be gained from existing roadways namely Nain Rd, the Old Kapunda Rd, Daveyston Rd and on the Sturt Highway at the Daveyston junction.**

- a) This is scary – **what guarantees have Kara Resources that they WILL NOT access the Sturt Highway through Greenock.** This access would be straight past the local primary school which would be disastrous. Also the reference to Daveyston as an access to Sturt Highway- this community of 20 Households are mainly young families with children, and what about Nain the 18 households there. **NO Impact, Remote area – this is a very misleading statement.**
- c) Also how are Kara Resources ensuring responsibility in **payment** on road upgrades,
- d) signage, safety, stormwater management, ongoing maintenance and ensuring all access roads are able to support the huge and ongoing amount of trucks and support
- e) equipment involved with this mine for the next 100 years and possibly beyond.
- f) And please **what guarantees can Kara Resources give that we as land owners will not incur any costs for these upgrades on our local roads for Kara Resources to access their site.**

9) Page 32 section 4.10 states – The activities will be no greater than that which emanates from surrounding farming and road traffic activities. The **noise** created from quarrying activities is **Miniscule** compared to regional levels generated by farmland and public use of roads.

- a) How can Kara Resources put mining in the category of farming when it comes to noise levels from mining activities, even assuming noise levels of farming activities greater than mining.
- b) Tractors, Headers and other farm machinery in our local area cause **no noise issues**, this is a **tranquil farming community** whereby residents live in harmony with farming activities.
- c) Noise levels of close to **110Db is not miniscule** and very damaging to the residents in the area.
- d) Trucks, blasting, drilling, excavating, crushing and noise pollution over **6 days from 6am to 5.30 pm is not miniscule** and a huge negative impact on our community and **Intrusion of our peace and amenity.**

On page 15 section 2.23 it states – blasting will occur once or twice a month.

- a) **Blasting** this will not be **miniscule**, especially on a calm day and in a rural environment noise travels further distances.
- b) There is no amount of buffing, even if Kara Resources tried to stop this huge noise, it would still impact on all of the local community townships.
- c) **Noise** from trucks, heavy support vehicles, plant and crushes **will be continuous** for the extended local community.
- d) What guarantee do Kara Resources give that as the quarry grows, blasting **will not** increase to weekly or even daily.

On page 15 section 2.3 it states – The blasted down raw stone will be collected by loader/dump truck and taken to processing plants for crushing and grading. There will be a requirement for a mobile plant incorporating crushing and screening plant for processing the stone and specified products. **Crushers – number of units 3 x 3000 tonne a day.**

- a) This would mean **excessive noise, dust and air pollution 6 days a week emitted from the quarry.**
- b) The Project proposes the mining of 300,000 – 500,000 tonnes of product per annum. **This is not a miniscule quarry operation.**
Section 2.3.2 states the topsoil **will be stripped off** using a loader/dozer and deposited inside the tenement boundaries.

Do they (Kara Resources) really believe this project is MINISCULE in comparison to Farming Activities and IS NOT going to cause excessive dust and noise for the local residents?

On Page 22 section 2.10 it states – there will be a requirement for Water during operations for the suppression of Dust, as the Market matures there may be a requirement for further water use.

- a) Really – from where? And what amount of water does Kara propose to need and use?
- b) Kara Resources reference to a water truck will be bought in as required to water down roads and stockpiles to suppress dust, as an admission to a dust problem and believe you me no amount of water trucks are going to fix the dust problem. We have never had to resort to Water truck use to suppress dust issues through Farming activities.
- c) Kara Resources reference to **A nearby SA Water stock pipe along Nain rd will be sourced if necessary. Please clarify if Kara Resources have had approval for this and if not where are they going to source this huge amount of water, Kara Resources will need to sustain this huge operation for the next 100 years.**
- d) We as vigneronns had to pay to buy our way in to source water through a independent water supply Company to secure our water for the future. SA Water was not an option!

Page 32 section 4.8 it states – The prevention and spread of fire will be important in this rural landscape. The likelihood of a **fire being initiated at the quarry is low** as most of the activities

are restricted to cleared and open cut mine areas. Fires are more likely to originate from surrounding roads (firebugs) lightning and **farmland activities**.

- a) Fire prevention is more than important but **crucial**.
- b) It is negligent to think the **risks of a fire originating from the quarry is low**, Kara resources are running plant for long periods of time, **this increases risk**.
- c) It is true that lightning strikes do account for the majority of fires but this is not always the case and rarely from Farming activities and fire bugs.
- d) **Fire is a real threat and a major concern to all in the community**, and mining operations are as likely to contribute to initiating a fire as any other machinery operation. (the only difference being Farmers do not use machinery on days of high fire danger, Will Kara Resources do the same?
- e) This quarry is surrounded by grain and feed crops which are very **hazardous** once a fire has started, with devastating results as we just witnessed in the Eden Valley area, the Nain Ranges are also in close proximity.
- f) **Kara Resources should take more responsibility and have a very serious Fire Hazard Plan to protect everything in the local community.**

On page 12 section 1.12 it states – The proposed quarry area is free of significant habitat. Fauna is mainly restricted to remnant vegetation (**mainly olives**). Reptiles, rabbits, foxes and birds would be present in this area.

- a) This is a very vague description of the local area, Yes maybe the proposed 55.65 Hectares.
- b) What about the bigger picture – All the Fauna and Flora are made up of a lot more than stated above that are going to be impacted by this quarry.
- c) The Majestic Nain Ranges, which we own part of border onto Keane Rd. **These ranges are hundreds of acres of Natural Flora and habitat for countless species of Fauna?** Kara Resources have mentioned the bare minimum of Fauna in the area, what about
- d) Kangaroos, Wallabies, Possums, beautiful Wedge Tail Eagles, Echidnas, Wombats, Hares, all types of Lizards – Geckos, Frilled neck Lizards, Blue Tongues, skinks, insects and lots lots more, and yes Snakes.
Such a variety of Native birds and **Yes they all breed and live in this beautiful safe and tranquil setting.**
- e) That's just the Fauna, now the Flora – (**remnant vegetation , scattered trees**)
Just the Nain Ranges are made up of local Flora, countless hectares of natural Flora and habitat for Fauna.
- f) The roadside Native vegetation includes a variety of beautiful Flora some of these are, Acacia Paradoxa, Dathonia, Eucalyptus Leucoxylin, Vittidinia, Themeda Trianda and Many more shrubs and trees.
- g) There will be potential impact from this quarry for all of the above. **All of the concerns addressed through out this letter of objection will impact our Native Flora and Fauna.**

On Page 12 section 1.14 it states- There is no Known Aboriginal, European Heritage or Geological Monuments on site.

- a) Yes, on site, what about **Nain** only 1.2 kms away and yes there are **German Heritage** places here. **The Nain Lutheran Church built in 1856 and cemetery, and the former Zum Schmalen Weg Lutheran Church and School and Cemetery built**

in 1861.

- b) These old buildings could be affected dramatically by damage caused through, blasts, dust, and impacts of visual amenity. Also the continuous use of Nain Rd by trucks and heavy vehicles on a daily bases.
- c) Not to mention Greenock 4.1 kms east, Daveyston 3.1 kms south, and Freeling 6.5 kms west of the proposed site.
- d) All of these Townships have European Heritage places from the 1800s, with hotels, Post Offices, Railway Stations too name but a few, and also private residence which are Heritage listed.

On Page 34 section 5.1 it states – This business venture and Investment will make a **huge social contribution to the district** by incorporating other small and large business growth. **This long term project** will provide new opportunities for employment and growth in this **Rural** area.

- a) **Like What? Please explain.** - and Thank You at least Kara Resources acknowledges **Our Rural Farming Community !** and that's how we would like it to stay for us and our future generations. Do they Kara Resources mean the royalties – **Oh Yes** the only ones benefiting there would be the State Government, not the local community.

On Page 15 section 2.5.1 it states - The workforce will consist of **contractors** and **Kara Resources employees** during operations, normally 4-5 persons will be on site when active.

- a) **This statement has just completely contradicted the previous statement.** Suggesting any local businesses will prosper and employ more people is absurd, Kara Resources already have there workforce and contractors. As stated on Page 8 of the report.
- b) Can Kara Resources Please explain how they envision their prosperity to **Benefit** the local community.
- c) There is a good chance that there will be business losses not gains directly related back to this quarry.

On Page 16 section 2.4 it states – The rehabilitation of the landscape will require **basic methods**. The land will be restored to the Land Holder in a **similar condition** as was in place **prior to mining a cleared paddock**.

- a) Okay in 90 odd years when your left with a huge crater/s – 48 metres deep and goodness knows how wide and how many.
- b) **How do Kara Resources plan to do this rehabilitation and guarantee its success? similar condition can mean a lot of things.**
- c) Most Open/ Pit mines/quarries are just that a big layered hole **that is never reinstated**.
- d) Kara Resources state the reshaping of the land surface will be undertaken at various stages during the term of the Lease.

When on Page 19 section 2.6 it states – **stockpiles of product** will be located north of the site in the short term as the quarry develops and then **relocated to the pit floor**. And on Page 16 – it states **Final Rehabilitation will be undertaken when all the winnable material is extracted** and the final floor level is established.

- a) This seems a bit contradictory, there does not seem to be a full proof plan – who is **responsible for overseeing the rehabilitation and what are the consequences if the site is left abandoned.**
- b) Kara Resources have stated – that at any stage if the operations are abandoned or cannot perform the Final Rehabilitation an application will be lodged under section 63 Mining Act for funding through the EARF.
- c) Is this Kara Resources way of not taking **full responsibility** for the rehabilitation of the quarry site? Kara Resources need to be fully responsible for the role of rehabilitation to complete recovery of this farming land. **Kara Resources need to provide a detailed Environmental Management Plan.**

Other Environmental Factors as stated in 5.3 - Availability of a local materials source will reduce Transport costs and thus also reduce the carbon footprint of the Industry.

- a) Please clarify what is meant by **Local** as on Page 15 2.2.3 it states Truck loads will vary and will be based on sales for Private, State, and Local Government. This is any ones guess where the product will go, but definitely out.
- b) **How can Kara Resources claim reduced transport costs and thus reductions in the Carbon Footprint of the Industry.**
- c) Kara Resources closest quarry is in McLaren Vale and if Kara Resources were genuine about **reductions, logic** would say why not closer to home and Adelaide.
- d) There are many Dolomite deposits in the outer suburbs of Adelaide.
- e) **How are Kara Resources going to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and offset carbon?** Please Explain.
- f) **Are Kara Resources running their Trucks on Biofuels, Plant and Equipment on Solar?**
- g) **Or maybe they will be planting hundreds of trees!**

Have Kara Resources an Emissions Reduction Plan that will be monitored and regulated by an Independent Body, ie, Australian Government Clean Energy Regulator.

In closing this is the **beautiful Barossa Valley – which is protected under the Barossa Valley Character Preservation bill.** Very strict standards have been enforced to protect this beautiful World Renown Heritage area.

We do not need an open pit mine here to ruin it!

We would Question how a lease could be granted to a mining company namely Kara Resources Pty Ltd to extract Dolomite from an OPEN/PIT MINE/QUARRY, in this PROTECTED AREA?

Yours Sincerely.

Peter and Kathi Werner.

