Notice of Intent
Increase in Production
AG & BJ Riley
Gravel Pit Road, Nook

LEASE:25M/2009

Level 2B Activity

September 2019

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Appendix

Appendix A: Attachment 1 from EPN 9969/1

1. Introduction

AG & BJ Riley (proponent) is the tenement holder and permit holder for the Nook Quarry, located on Gravel Pit Road, Nook in Northern Tasmania. Walters Contracting Pty Ltd (WC) is the quarry operator, responsible for all operations from drilling to market distribution. All operations take place on Mining Lease 25M/2009.

The Nook Quarry has approval for 50,000m3 of rocks, ores or minerals processed per year (Environment Protection Notice 9969/1) and AG & BJ Riley are seeking approval to increase production to 125,000m3 per year. The mine plan will remain as currently undertaken, the additional material will be generated by an additional mining area down to RL260, from the current limit of RL350.

The quarry has operated successfully on site in the early 1980s, originally as a municipal council pit, then transitioned to what is referred to as AG & BJ Riley. Walters Contracting has been the quarry operator since 2012/2013 providing a range of Vic Roads specification materials to the civil industry, while remaining complaint with regulatory requirements.

The demand for the Nook Quarry products is increasing and an Increase in Production is required to continue to meet demand. The mining Lease has sufficient resource to sustain the quarry operations if the Increase in Production is approved.

2. Purpose of Notice of Intent

The purpose of the notice of intent is to:

- Initiate the approval process under the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994;
- Introduce the proponent and the project to the Board of the Environment Protection Authority (EPA);
- Provide an overview of the increase in production, operational details, location and consultation; and
- Provide sufficient information to the EPA to allow the project specific guidelines to be prepared and issued to the Proponent.

3. Background and Proponent

AG and BJ Riley of Shearwater developed the quarry from the 1980's after it was abandoned by the Kentish, Latrobe and Devonport Councils and the Department of Public Works.

Since the last approval in 2012 to increase production to the current limit of 50,000m3, the site supports up to 5 crew and 6 pieces of equipment in addition to selected sub contractors to supplement the mining effort.

The product has a strong reputation for road construction and meets the Vic Roads specification for road building. The product is also used across Tasmania in civil projects, dams, drainage, pipelines and building industry.

- The proponent for the Increase in Production is

Name: AG and BJ Riley

Mobile: 0428 140 514

Address: 110 Sheffield Road, Spreyton

Responsible Person: Alwyn Riley

Email: agshearwater@gmail.com

- The Quarry Operator details are:

Name: Walters Contracting Pty Ltd

Ph: 6362 3782

Mobile: 0418 370 646

Address: 11 East Goderich Street, Deloraine

Responsible Person: Chris Walters

- Environmental Approvals Assistance:

The NOI has been prepared for and on behalf of AG & BJ Riley by

Doug Tangney, Walters Contracting

E: doug@walterscontracting.net

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4. Ownership and Operations

A summary of the site ownership, mine operator and responsibilities is provided below

AG & BJ Riley

- Obtain and maintain mining Lease
- Obtain and maintain environmental approvals

Walters Contracting Pty Ltd

- Quarry operator including drill/blast/crush/stockpile/transport to market
- Mine planning and operations
- Maintain compliance with MRT, EPA and Kentish Council regulatory requirements
- Maintain site safety and security

The land is owned by Forestry Tasmania and Crown Land Services

5. Current Approval

The current EPA approval is Environment Protection Notice No. 9969/1 issued 27 February 2018, issued to the proponent.

6. Increase in Production

The Increase in Production is seeking to win and crush more material on site through expanded mining effort within the existing mining Lease (25M/2009). The Increase in Production (if approved) will not require a change to:

- The Mining Lease boundary
- Mining method i.e. drill/blast/crush and stockpile as currently occurs
- Types of machinery on site
- Access of Gravel Pit Road, although the internal vehicle pathways may change as the stockpile area is rearranged

- Width of Gravel Pit Road or intersection with Nook Road

If approval is granted, the Increase in Production will require:

- Additional FTE, estimated to be 3
- 1 x cone crusher, 1 x jaw crusher, 1 x screen
- 1 x articulated truck, 1 x front end loader
- Additional management and oversight by existing WC resources

6.1 Objective

The objective of the increase in production is to allow the quarry to reach full potential and meet current and known future demand for construction materials and continue to support investment in quarry infrastructure and machinery.

6.2 Location

The Increase in Production will occur within the existing Mining Lease 25M/2009 (See Figures 1 and 2) and described below:

- Off Gravel Pit Road, Nook
- PID: 3394404 (Forestry Tasmania), 2211522 (Crown Land Services)

6.3 Processing Limit

The proposed processing limit is 125,000 m^3 an increase from the current limit of 50,000 m^3.

It is proposed to gradually increase the processing limit, aligned with market demand and investment in additional equipment and skilled resources.

6.4 Timing

Operations will be ramped up following approval and commissioning of new equipment.

Figure 1: General Location of 25M/2009

Figure 2: Local Location of 25M/2009 and adjacent quarries

7. Project Description

7.1 Mining Plan

The proposed Increase in Production will utilise the same mining plan a previously approved, where the floor of the quarry is mined to maintain the existing bush landscape as a rim around the workings. The quarry is not visible from the surrounding land scape under this mine plan - see cross section schematic in Figure 3.

The rim will act as a visual and noise barrier for operations, to avoid noise transmission to sensitive land uses located to the south.

The existing approval allows for the mining effort to reach RL350 (Attachment 1 of EPN 9969/1 and included in Appendix A). It is proposed for the Increase in Production to mine down to RL260 (Figure 4). The crushing equipment can be located anywhere within this area, however is likely to start on the north west corner of the "Extent of current approval EPN 9961/1". This may change as the approval progresses or as different types of materials are required.

The quarry plan will also extract material to north of the access road, between the "South Area" (Attachment 1 in EPN 9969/1) and the Mining Lease boundary – referred to as "Future Stockpile Area" in Figure 4. This will provide additional stockpile area, new location for administrative office, covered maintenance bay and potential realignment of the Haulage Road to suit truck and trailers.

Figure 3: Schematic Cross Section of Current and Future Quarry Operations

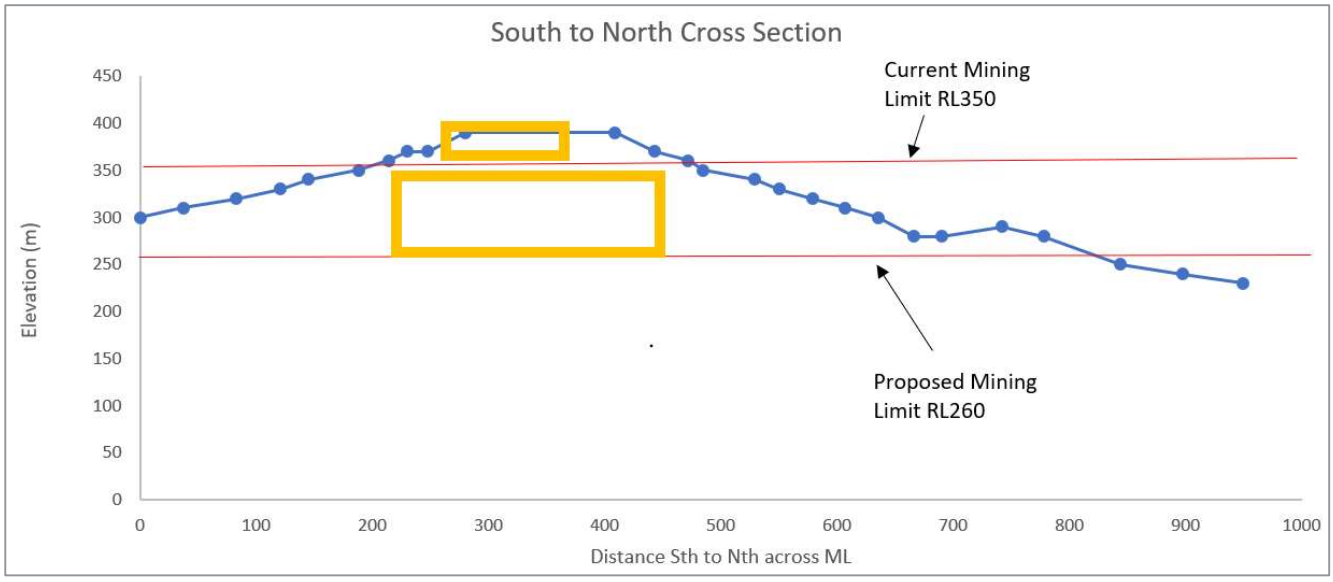
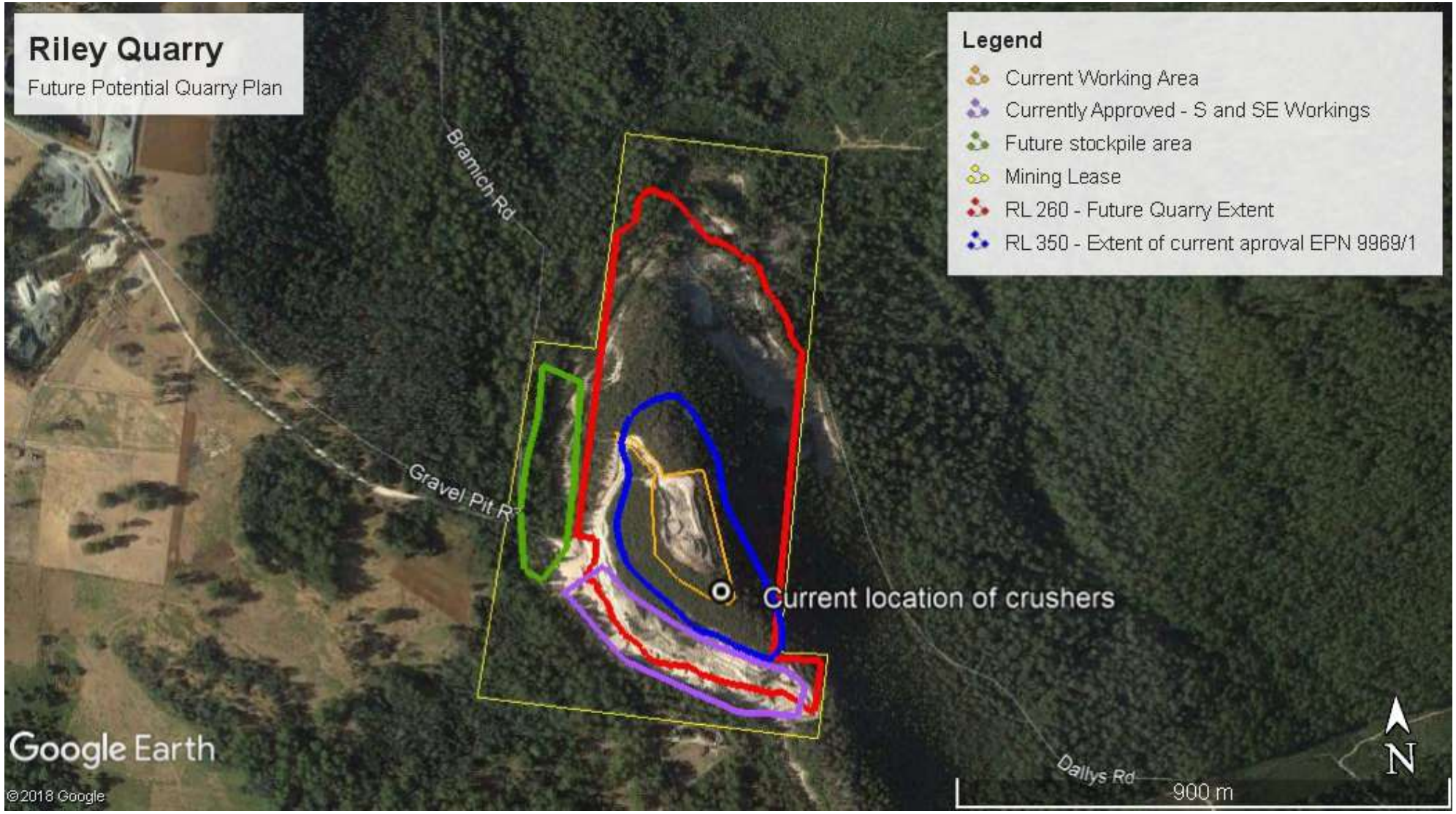
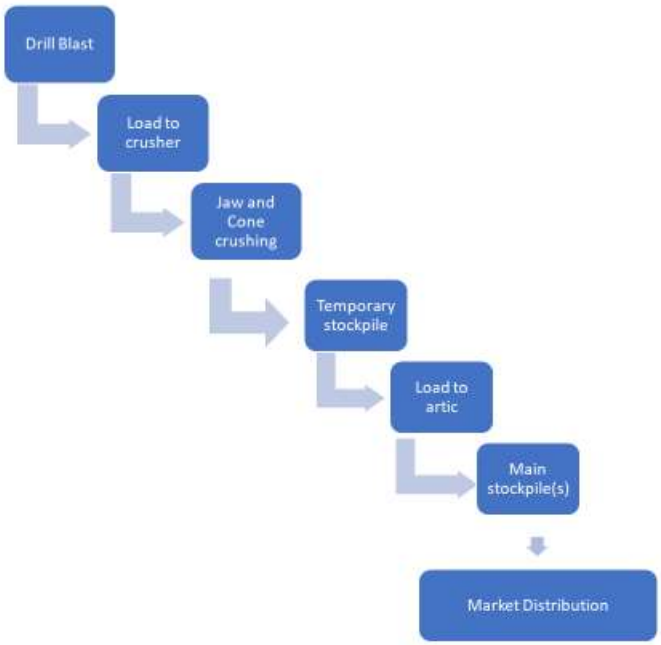


Figure 4: Mine Plan



A process schematic of the mine effort is provided below and drill/blast activity can occur in parallel with crushing/stockpiling. At times, some blast rock may need to resized to fit in the jaw crusher or to suit a specific application.



7.2 Products

The typical products produced at the Nook Quarry include:

- Class 1 – 4 road materials
- Pebbles to drainage materials
- Gabion rock
- Armour rock
- Range of aggregates

7.3 Infrastructure and Equipment

The typical infrastructure and equipment to be used on site if approval is granted would be (note quantities include existing equipment):

- 2 x Wheel Loaders e.g. 966H or 950K
- 2 x Jaw and Cone crushers, with screens
- 2 x 25t articulated trucks
- 4 x 20t excavators (2 x breaker attachments)
- Site office, toilet, covered maintenance bay

7.4 Transport/Traffic

The internal movement of material from the crushers to the stockpiles varies significantly depending on production requirements, but these are wholly contained in the Lease and would not be noticeable outside the Lease.

External traffic movements can also vary depending on the construction industry work load and market demand. Based on recent experience at the quarry, 60 movements would represent a busy day, with the average movements approximately 30, based on a review of 2018/2019 FY data. A movement could be from a small 6t truck up to a semi tipper. No public sales are undertaken at the quarry.

All quarry traffic uses Gravel Pit Road to enter/exit the quarry and the intersection with Nook Road (1.5km single trip). Gravel Pit Road is approximately 8 m wide with slight undulations and is also used by Boral for their quarry. A call sign protocol is used on Gravel Pit Road. The road allows for truck and trailer to safely pass each other.

Nook Road is a Kentish Council maintained road and provides commuter access between Sheffield and Acacia Hills and is primarily servicing significant volumes of through traffic in addition to rural property access.

The Nook Road – Gravel Pit Road intersection is a sealed intersection with a signed 80 km speed limit, with sight distance 175m to the north and 185m to the south. This is deemed adequate for large trucks to safely merge from Gravel Pit Road.

Once inside the quarry, all traffic follows signage which has been designed to provide adequate turning area for the larger trucks, loading area and no traffic pathway cross over. The exit is adjacent to the entry and provides suitable visibility to approaching traffic on Gravel Pit Road.

7.5 Hours of Operation

The proposed hours of operation are as per the existing EPN 9969/1, Condition N1

Extraction/Crushing/Screening:

- 0700-1700 – Monday to Friday
- 0800-1600 – Saturday

Loading and Transport:

- 0600-1900 – Monday to Friday
- 0800-1600 – Saturdays

No works on Statewide Public Holidays

8. Current Site Details

8.1 Layout

The current site layout is illustrated in Figure 4.

8.2 Access

Access is provided off Gravel Pit Road. Product is transported from the current working area (nom RL360) to the stockpile area (nom RL320) via a gravel Haul Road. Only the articulated truck and light vehicles can use the Haul Road as the gradient does not suit trucks and trailers.

8.3 Zoning

The site is zoned Rural Resource under the *Kentish Interim Planning Scheme 2013.*

8.4 Environmental

Flora/Fauna

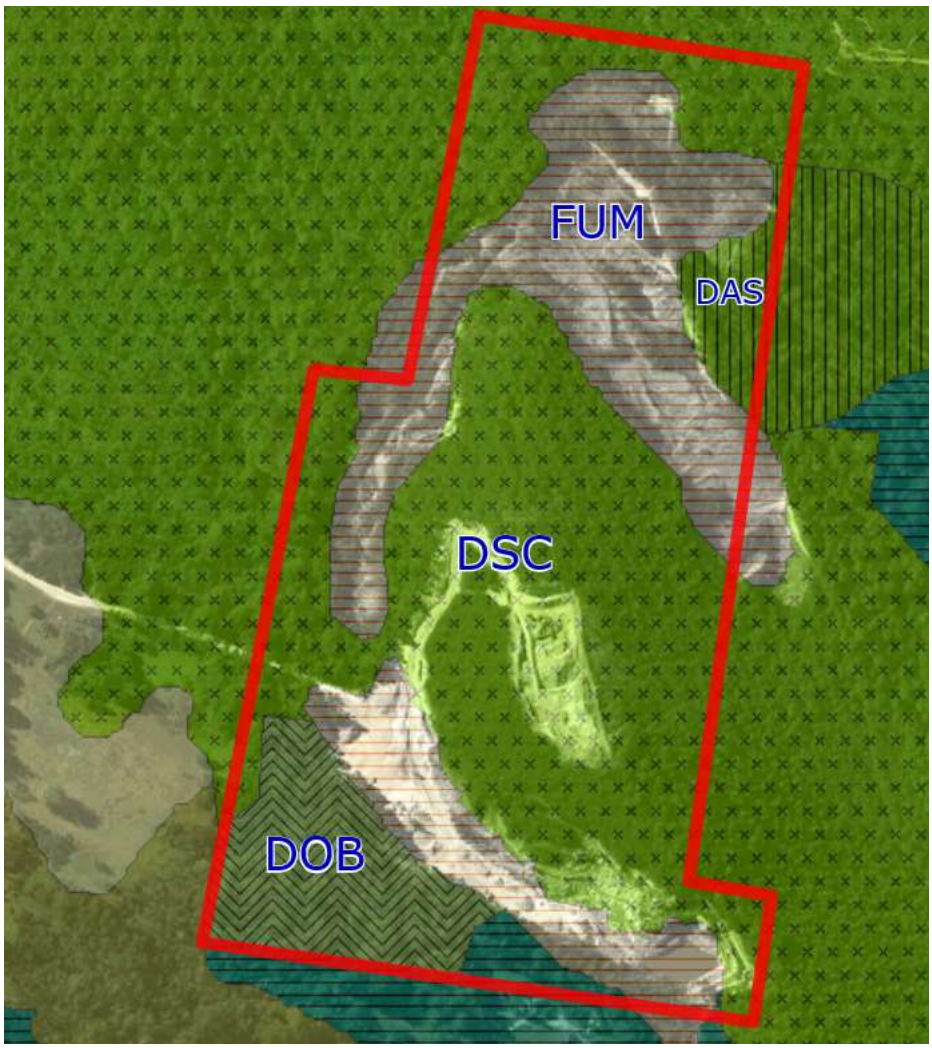
The ML has been extensively modified since the 1980's while it has been a quarry. It is unlikely to support any fauna of significance due to the consistent heavy machinery movements and crushing. No fauna was identified in the 2012 approval process. The ML will still provide a transient pathway for migrating fauna with the bush land retained using the wider Bonney's Tier environment.

The ML is dominated by following Flora, as illustrated in Figure 5

- FUM – Extra Urban Misc – focused in the worked out areas of the quarry
- DSC - Eucalyptus amygdalina - Eucalyptus obliqua damp sclerophyll forest – dominating the main core of the Lease and the intended future mining areas, including the currently approved mining area to RL350
- DOB - Eucalyptus obliqua dry forest – located to the south west – outside the working areas
- DAS - Eucalyptus amygdalina forest and woodland on sandstone – northern extent of the Lease outside the working areas.

Only DAS is listed under Schedule 3A of the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* as a threatened vegetation community. It is outside the future working areas based on the proposed mine plan to quarry the floor and maintain the vegetation cover as a rim around the active working area. This strategy will protect DAS from the workings

Figure 5: Flora distribution on the ML (Source www.thelist.tas.gov.au)



Heritage

The historical workings at the site have likely disturbed heritage values to the extent they are not recoverable and no known heritage values are known by the Tenement holder since their involvement in the site from the 1980s.

Surface Waters

There are no natural surface waters on Lease, with the nearest known water body being a drainage line refereed to as "Coal Creek"[1] on the south west corner of the Lease. It drains a forested catchment with varied inputs.

Surface water on the Lease is directed to a constructed storage pond in the south east corner at RL305 via table drains. Rainfall on the upper level (RL350 – RL363) generally drains into the quarry floor and does not reach the table drains on the Haul Road. Hauk Road runoff is directed to the storage pond.

Surface water at the storage area settles into the northern corner and drains into the floor.

In the 2012 approval process, the storage pond was investigated and deemed to be suitable for the mining effort. Surface water control is crucial to the mining effort to keep the roads accessible by heavy machinery.

Groundwater

There is no historical or future groundwater take or discharge on the Lease.

The quarry contractor received permission in 2017 to install a groundwater bore on Gravel Pit Road, approximately 280m west of the quarry entrance. Using solar power, groundwater is pumped to the stockpiles and extraction/crushing area for dust control.

This has proven to be an effective dust control method across the operations.

9. Consultation

A summary of consultation to date is provided in Table 1. Only targeted consultation has been undertaken to date, consistent with the proposed change to operations, which will be largely unnoticed by the surrounding community.

Table 1: Consultation to date

Consultation Party	Method	Topic of Discussion	Outcome
Tenement Holder	Face to face	Mine plan, limit of production, RL of future mining effort	WC to proceed with approval process, including DA, for and on behalf of AG & BJ Riley.
Surrounding landowners	Face to face	Increase in production	This is planned and updates will be provided in later documentation.
Kentish Council	Phone	If a DA is required	Council confirmed a DA would be required.

The advertising period will likely provide adequate time for other members of the public to discuss the proposal and make a representation if they feel necessary.

[1] This is also referred to as Ray Creek, however Coal Creek is nominated on www.thelist.tas.gov.au

10. Surveys and Investigations

The following surveys and investigations are likely to be undertaken to be later included in the EER:

- Operational noise will be reviewed in light of existing limits and future workings/mine method
- Blast pressure will be investigated against existing limits
- Community consultation with residences within 1 km of quarry

The following surveys or investigations will not be undertaken:

- Flora and Fauna due to the previous investigations and conclusions in 2012 accepted by the EPA. Ongoing quarry activities and no change in environmental conditions indicates no new species of significance is likely to populate the area
- Surface water due to the negligible interaction between site activities and local water ways. The existing pond will suffice for future mining operations when combined with pit management to contain all surface waters
- Groundwater - due to the absence of interaction with groundwater through existing operations
- Dust – operational water control prevents any dust emissions beyond the jaw of the crusher
- Heritage – due to the historical workings likely to destroy any heritage values and the mining method to retain the rim avoids disturbance to natural ground.

11. Key Issues

11.1 Social

The key social issue is likely to be perceived operational noise from drilling and blasting and the perceived impact on the surrounding rural residential areas. The Proponent has not been notified to date of any noise complaints from Council, EPA or directly to the quarry staff.

The recent 6 month trial of loading trucks from 0600 (instead of 0700) did not attract any complaints and indicates the quarry operations can successfully continue.

The quarry staff notify approximately 17 neighbouring properties 48 hours before a blast, in accordance with our EPN requirements. At this time, it provides an opportunity for residents to express any concerns – however no concerns have been raised.

The future quarry plan of quarrying the floor and leaving a natural rim around the workings provides a solid barrier to noise transmission, which is the most effective method to control noise penetration outside the working area.

Quarry effort in the last 4 months has been focused on the crown, where noise transmission is the high risk due to negligible natural protection. No known complaints have been received.

Recent observations on site concluded noise from the drilling rig was not detected at a distance of 50m and at a distance of 20m from the crusher.

11.2 Environmental

The key environmental issues are going to be:

- Dust control in hot, dry and windy weather
- Noise control
- Rehabilitation of worked out areas

12. Timetable

The proposed approval and construction timetable is provided below

Stage	Timeframe
Notice of Intent	September 2019
Environmental Effects Report	September2019 – February 2019
Submit Approval Documentation	February 2019
Increase in Operations	Ongoing from approval.

13. EPBC Referral

The proposal is unlikely to require approval under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1994 and no referral will be made under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1994.

Appendix A
Attachment 1 from EPN 9961/1