

Date & Time: Wed, 28 Feb 2024 at 11:00:35 AEDT
 Position: 55 S 525608 5319113 ($\pm 4.7\text{m}$)
 Altitude: 469m ($\pm 3.4\text{m}$)
 Datum: AUSTRALIAN GEOCENTRIC 1994 (GDA94)
 Azimuth/Bearing: 016° N16E 0284mils True ($\pm 12^\circ$)
 Elevation Angle: -06.0°
 Horizon Angle: -00.0°
 Zoom: 0.5X



Southern Midlands Council Fishes Quarry – Proposed production increase

Prepared By: Barry Williams

Date: 8 March 2024

Issue	Date	Recipient	Organisation
Revision 0	6 March 2024	Grant Finn	Southern Midlands Council
Revision 1	8 March 2024		Environment Protection Authority

1 PROPONENT DETAILS

Name	Southern Midlands Council – Works and Technical Services
Address	PO Box 21 71 High Street OATLANDS Tas 7120
Contact	Grant Finn
Mobile	0455 584 624
Email	gfinn@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au

2 PROJECT NAME

Name	Fishes Quarry – production increase
Location	The site is located approximately 5 kilometres northwest of Oatlands.
Mining lease	2042 P/M
Property ID	9057393
Title Reference	126100/8 ‘Kensington’ 110764/1 ‘Kensington’ (small portion)

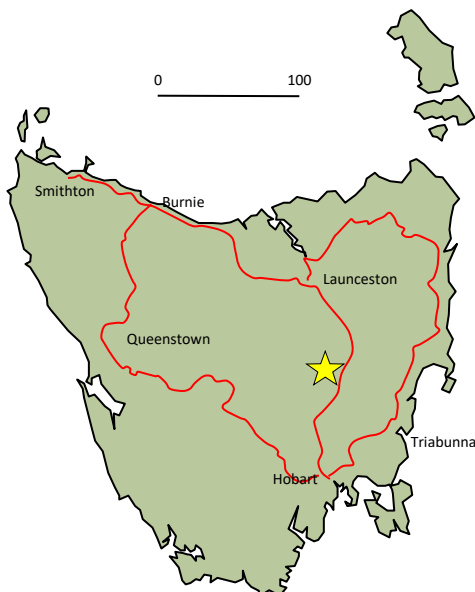
3 PROPONENT BACKGROUND

Experience	The Southern Midlands Council (Proponent) operates several quarries in the municipality. The mining lease for Fishes Quarry was granted in 1992. The product from this and other quarries is used to maintain and construct essential infrastructure within the municipality. The council operates the quarries as an alternative to purchasing the materials on the open market, realising a saving to the ratepayers of the municipality.
Tenements	The Proponent operates four other quarry sites within the municipality: 1881P/M, 1977P/M, 2063P/M, 2085P/M

4 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY

Proposal	Southern Midlands Council won a Commonwealth grant to substantially upgrade Interlaken Road. The upgrade includes realignment, pavement upgrade and replacement. Fishs Quarry is situated on Interlaken Road, has product ideally suited to reconstruction works on that road but has a restrictive production limit imposed by the Permit Conditions – Environmental (PCE) 9020. The Proponent is seeking to increase the production limit on Fishs Quarry to facilitate the supply of materials to the Interlaken Road upgrade project and other Council maintained roads in the vicinity of the site.
Permitting	Fishs Quarry is current permitted via Council Permit DA 2014/124 as a level 2 activity operating under Permit Conditions Environmental (PCE) 9020. The quarry currently has an annual production limit of 15,000 cubic metres.
Type of operation	Fishs Quarry extracts and processes predominantly weathered and fresh dolerite rock. The weathered rock is ripped and crushed and screened to produce gravel road construction and surfacing materials. The fresh dolerite is extracted using drill and blast techniques and is also processed using mobile crushers and screens to provide gravel and aggregates. The Proponent is not seeking to change extraction and processing activities at Fishs Quarry.
Production	The proponent is seeking to increase production to 35,000 cubic metres per annum.
Equipment	Rock drill, excavator, wheel loader, mobile crusher, mobile screener, various off-road and on-road truck and trailer combinations. No permanent infrastructure will be established on site.

5 PROJECT LOCATION



Fishs Quarry is located approximately 5 kilometres northwest of Oatlands or approximately 5.5 kilometres along Interlaken Road from the intersection with Midlands Highway.

Fishs Quarry fronts directly onto Interlaken Road through an approved road junction.

Interlaken Road is a Council maintained road.

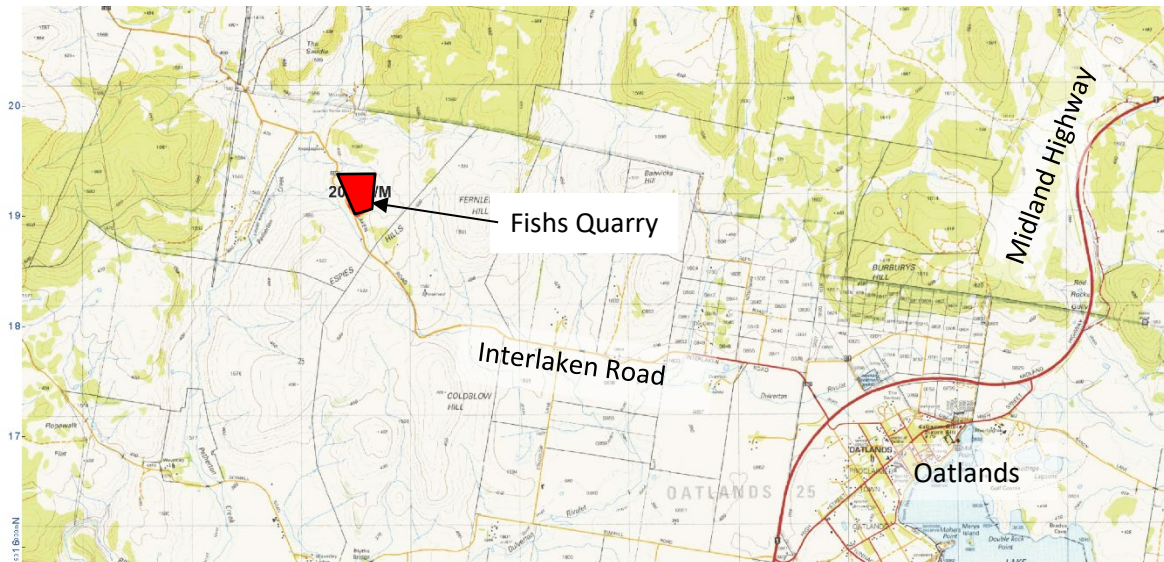


FIGURE 1: FISHS QUARRY - LOCATION MAP

6 STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

The proposal to increase production at Fishes Quarry will be the subject of a Development Application (DA) to be lodged with Southern Midlands Council acting as the Planning Authority and an application for a new environmental permit from the Environment Protection Authority.

Environment Protection Authority will receive this notice of intent (NOI), from which a class of assessment and project specific guidelines will be determined and issued to guide the production of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) detailing the environmental implications of the proposal.

The Southern Midlands Council will receive a Development Application which will be assessed following public advertising of the DA plus the EIS. Additionally, a notice declaring the application will be posted on the land and neighbours directly adjoining the property will be notified by written communication.

Any feedback from interested stakeholders will be taken into consideration by the EPA and Council in the determination to issue a permit or otherwise.

7 PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Topography	Fishes Quarry is situated on the western basal slope of Espies Hills. The quarry floor is currently at elevation 470 metres AHD ¹ . The top of the upper face is around elevation 495 metres.
Geology	Fishes Quarry was previously the subject of a geological assessment which found the site consists of a horizontal dolerite sill intruded into bedded sandstone. The dolerite is the source rock and more highly weathered (red gravel) is found on the northern side and increasingly fresh dolerite (blue stone) is found at depth. The overlying sandstone is overburden.

¹ AHD – Australian Height Datum metres above sea level

Vegetation	The quarry site is set in the side of an improved pasture paddock. An area of remnant grassland and standing trees mapped by TasVeg 4.0 as <i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> grassy forest (DVG) has been cleared as part of the previously approved quarry development plan.
Hydrology	<p>A watercourse is mapped as running through the quarry footprint and is classified as having a Conservation Management Priority Immediate of moderate (M) by the Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystem Values (CFEV²) project. The watercourse is interrupted by a farm dam above the quarry. When discharge occurs from the dam the water is diverted away from the top face into the rehabilitation area on the southern side in a diversion drain.</p> <p>The spillway to the sediment trap downslope of the quarry floor re-establishes the watercourse on the mining lease western boundary.</p>

8 ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES

Natural Values	Clearing related to this proposal and in addition to that already approved will be confined to the improved pasture area north of the existing quarry footprint. This area is mapped by Tas Veg 4.0 as Agricultural Land (FAG).
Hydrological	The current quarry plan for Fishes Quarry prescribes redirection for the watercourse which has been interrupted by a farm dam and the quarry footprint. This arrangement will not change to facilitate this proposal.
Greenhouse gas emissions	Utilising heavy construction materials from Fishes Quarry which is adjacent to the project site will save a significant amount of GHG emissions that would have been generated carting materials from other more remote sources.
Health	<p>Fishes Quarry is partly a hard rock quarry employing drill and blast techniques to liberate rock before engaging mechanical crushers and screens to process the rock into aggregates and gravels. These activities have the potential to generate dust emissions, which can be injurious to the health of workers on the site.</p> <p>Drilling blasting and crushing generate noise emissions which can affect sensitive receptors. Fishes Quarry is remote from sensitive receptors. The closest being 490 Interlaken Road which substantially screened from the quarry operation by Espies Hills and 657 Interlaken Road which is over a kilometre distant.</p>
Economic	The capacity for Southern Midlands Council to supply heavy construction materials to this project will make the grant money go further resulting in a better outcome for the ratepayers of the municipality and anyone who chooses to use Interlaken Road.

² CFEV – Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystem Values project which is a nationwide audit of freshwater ecosystems.

Social	Any construction materials won from the Fishes Quarry will offset product imported from other sites which will remove heavy vehicle movements on regional and local roads. This will bring a road safety benefit and reduces wear and tear on roads maintained by the Southern Midlands Council and State Road Authority.
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9 EXPERT SURVEYS AND STUDIES

No new expert studies will be required due to the very limited change to the currently permitted operation under this proposal.

10 PROPOSAL TIME LINE

EIS and DA	Advertising	EPA assessment	CHC assessment	Issue Permit
Apr '24	May '24	June '24	July '24	July '24

1 STATUS UNDER *ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 1999* (EPBC ACT)

The minor nature of this proposed change means it is highly unlikely to impact a Matter of National Environmental Significance or to Commonwealth land.

2 EPBC ACT REFERRAL

The proposal will not be referred to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

3 SECTION 45 EPBC ACT REQUIREMENT

The Tasmanian EPA will not need to undertake its assessment under the Bilateral Agreement, section 45 of *EPBC Act 1999*.

4 STATUS UNDER LUPA ACT

- a) Southern Midlands Council will require a Development Application for the proposed increase in production at Fishes Quarry.
- b) A single development permit will be required to change the production limit for Fishes Quarry.
- c) An application for a permit under LUPA Act Division 2, Section 51 will be made to the Southern Midlands Council (Planning Authority).
- d) Fishes Quarry is deemed within the use class Extractive Industry in the Tasmanian Planning Scheme (TPS). The site resides within the area classified as Agriculture Zone under the TPS.

Extractive Industry is a ‘discretionary’ activity within the Agriculture Zone meaning that the planning authority has the discretion to issue a permit. No re-zoning is required.

- e) The existing activity is a fully permitted level 2 Activity. This proposal is an intensification of that activity.
- f) The Planning Authority has determined that the proposal is a substantial intensification under the LUPA Act Section 12 (7) and is hence subject to a development application.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL LICENCE

This application is not for an Environmental Licence with reference to the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*.