Environmental Assessment Report

Sand Extractive Pit and Materials Handling

Goanna Road, Tonganah

Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd, trading as Venarchie Pty Ltd

March 2019
# Environmental Assessment Report

<table>
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<th>Environmental Assessment Report</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Proponent</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Proposal</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
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<td><strong>NELMS no.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Permit Application No.</strong></td>
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## Assessment Process Milestones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 July 2018</td>
<td>Notice of Intent lodged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 August 2018</td>
<td>Guidelines Issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 October 2018</td>
<td>Permit Application submitted to Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 December 2018</td>
<td>Application received by the Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 January 2019</td>
<td>Start of public consultation period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 January 2019</td>
<td>End of public consultation period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 March 2019</td>
<td>Date draft conditions issued to proponent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 March 2019</td>
<td>Statutory period for assessment ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronyms</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board</td>
<td>Board of the Environment Protection Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>EER</td>
<td>Environmental Effects Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>DPIPWE</td>
<td>Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>EIA</td>
<td>Environmental impact assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EL</td>
<td>Environmental licence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPC Act</td>
<td><em>Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPCS</td>
<td>Environmental management and pollution control system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPBC Act</td>
<td><em>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUPA Act</td>
<td><em>Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMPS</td>
<td>Resource management and planning system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD</td>
<td>Sustainable development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHD</td>
<td>Australian Height Datum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCAB</td>
<td>Policy Conservation and Advice Branch (Natural and Cultural Heritage Division)</td>
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<tr>
<td>QCP</td>
<td>Quarry Code of Practice</td>
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Report Summary

This report provides an environmental assessment of a proposal by Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd, trading as Venarchie Pty Ltd, for an extractive pit and materials processing of sand on site at Tonganah in North East Tasmania.

It is proposed to increase the operation of the existing Goanna Road Quarry from a maximum total annual extraction of 5,000 cubic metres per annum, to extraction and onsite screening of 20,000 cubic metres per annum. The process involves stripping and excavating sand from the quarry. The raw material would then be transported to a mechanical screen on site and stockpiled, before being transported offsite.

This report has been prepared based on information provided in the Environmental Effects Report (EER). Relevant government agencies and the public were consulted and their submissions, representations and comments considered as part of the assessment.

Further details of the assessment process are presented in section 1 of this report. Section 2 describes the statutory objectives and principles underpinning the assessment. Details of the proposal are provided in section 3. Section 4 reviews the need for the proposal and considers the alternatives. Section 5 summarises the public and agency consultation process. The detailed evaluation of environmental issues is contained in section 6. Other issues are discussed in section 7. The report conclusions are contained in section 8.

Appendix 1 contains a list of commitments made by the proponent. Appendix 2 contains the environmental permit conditions for the proposal.
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1 Approval Process

A Notice of Intent in relation to the proposal was received by the Board of the Environment Protection Authority (the Board) on 6 July 2018.

The proposal is defined as two ‘level 2 activities’ under:

- Clause 5(b), schedule 2 of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPC Act), the extraction of sand or clay and producing 5000 cubic metres or more of product per year.
- Clause 6(a)(ii), schedule 2 of the EMPC Act, Crushing, Grinding or Milling: processing (by crushing, grinding, milling or separating into different sizes by sieving, air elutriation or in any other manner) of rock, ores or minerals at a rate in excess of 1000 cubic metres per year.

The Board required that information to support the proposal was provided as an Environmental Effects Report (EER) prepared in accordance with guidelines issued by the Board on 3 August 2018.

Several drafts of the EER were submitted to EPA Tasmania for review against the guidelines before it was finalised.

An application for a permit under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPA Act) in relation to the proposal was submitted to Dorset Council on 26 October 2018.

Section 25(1) of the EMPC Act required Council to refer the application to the Board for assessment under the Act. The application was received by the Board on 5 December 2018.

The EER was released for public inspection for a 17-day period commencing on 12 January 2019. An advertisement was placed in *The Examiner* and on the EPA website. The EER was also referred to relevant government agencies for comment. No representations were received.

The assessment has been undertaken by the Director, Environment Protection Authority under delegation from the Board.

2 SD Objectives and EIA Principles

The proposal must be considered by the Director in the context of the objectives of the Resource Management and Planning System of Tasmania (RMPS), and in the context of the objectives of the Environmental Management and Pollution Control System (EMPCS) (both sets of objectives are specified in Schedule 1 the EMPC Act). The functions of the Board are to administer and enforce the provisions of the Act, and in particular to use its best endeavours to further the RMPS and EMPCS objectives.

The Director must assess the proposal in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Principles defined in Section 74 of the EMPC Act.
3 The Proposal

The proponent intends to increase the operation of the existing level 1 Goanna Road Quarry from a maximum total annual production of 5,000 cubic metres per annum, with all processing offsite, to extraction and onsite screening of 20,000 cubic metres per annum. The process involves stripping and excavating sand from the quarry. The raw material will then be transported to a mechanical screen on site and stockpiled, before being transported offsite. The existing Goanna Road Quarry operation was established before the introduction of the LUPA Act, and is therefore considered to have ‘existing use rights’.

The main characteristics of the proposal are summarised in Table 1. A detailed description of the proposal is provided in Part B, Section 1 of the EER.

Table 1: Summary of the proposal’s main characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Extraction and screening of a maximum of 20,000 cubic metres of sand per annum.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location and planning context</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Goanna Road, North Scottsdale (PID 339588, CT 147345/1), as shown in Figure 1. Location Map</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land zoning</td>
<td>Rural Resource</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land tenure</td>
<td>Crown Land managed by DPIPWE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining lease</td>
<td>21M/1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lease area</td>
<td>9 hectares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bond</td>
<td>Currently $15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Use</td>
<td>Sand extractive pit (not currently a level 2 under Schedule 2 of the EMPC Act), previously held for future potential production forest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topography</td>
<td>The site has an elevation of 180 m AHD, and the mining lease encompasses a low hill with a maximum elevation of 150 m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geology</td>
<td>Dominantly non-marine sequences of gravel, sand, silt and regolith (Vicary, 2009 – 2010)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soils</td>
<td>Predominantly thin light grey sandy loam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrology</td>
<td>The closest watercourse is approximately 250 m from the mining lease boundary to the north of the site, and flows into the Great Forester River.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Values</td>
<td>Vegetation over the mining lease area and surrounding land is mapped by TasVeg 3.0 as (DSC) Eucalyptus amygdalina - Eucalyptus obliqua damp sclerophyll forest and (WOB) Eucalyptus obliqua forest with broad-leaf shrubs. These forest communities are not listed as threatened under the Nature Conservation Act 2002 or the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. A known wedge-tailed eagle nest (number 155) is located approximately 4 kilometres to the southeast, close to Kamona Valley Road, and another (number 158) is located 4.3 kilometres to the east on Kamona Ridge. The lease supports habitat that may be suitable for marsupial carnivores.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A known wedge-tailed eagle nest (number 155) is located approximately 4 kilometres to the southeast, close to Kamona Valley Road, and another (number 158) is located 4.3 kilometres to the east on Kamona Ridge. The lease supports habitat that may be suitable for marsupial carnivores.
### Local region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Climate</th>
<th>Annual rainfall is approximately 972.3 per annum. The wind direction is predominantly westerly (am) and north westerly (pm).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surrounding land zoning, tenure and uses</th>
<th>The site and surrounding land are zoned Rural Resource. Land surrounding the site is mainly future potential production forest, and is both privately owned and managed by Sustainable Timber Tasmania. The nearest residences are on farms accessed from Jensens Road, both with a separation distance of 1.9km from the site.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species of conservation significance</th>
<th>No threatened flora or fauna species have been recorded within 500 metres of the quarry site.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Proposed infrastructure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major equipment</th>
<th>During operations, a loader to manage stockpiles and load trucks, a mechanical screen to produce stockpiles of clean sand, and an excavator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other infrastructure</th>
<th>None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Inputs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water</th>
<th>On-site sediment pond</th>
</tr>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Energy</th>
<th>Diesel for machinery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Other raw materials</th>
<th>None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Wastes and emissions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liquid</th>
<th>Stormwater runoff from extraction and stockpile areas.</th>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Atmospheric</th>
<th>Dust from sand extraction, handling and screening and loading of product.</th>
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</thead>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Solid</th>
<th>General refuse including food scraps, paper and packaging.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Controlled wastes</th>
<th>Waste engine oil; contaminated soil.</th>
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</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noise</th>
<th>Screening equipment and excavator on site, and vehicles on site and going to and from the site.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greenhouse gases</th>
<th>Emissions from increased traffic and operating machinery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Construction and operations

|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating hours (ongoing)</th>
<th>0700 to 1900 hours Monday to Friday</th>
<th>0800 to 1700 hours Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays</th>
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</thead>
</table>

### Other key characteristics
Figure 1. Location Map (Figure 1 of the EER)
Figure 2 Site Plan (Section 2 of the EER)
4 Need for the Proposal and Alternatives

According to Section 4 of the EER, increasing the total annual production of the Goanna Road Quarry to 20 000 cubic metres and introducing screening on site will allow the current operation to meet future demand for sand. It will also ensure that only marketable product is carted off site, and potential rehabilitation materials are retained on site. Currently all excavated material, including vegetative matter and roots, is transported off site. Once the product has been screened, the remaining material must be carted back to the site to allow for rehabilitation activities. Introducing screening onsite will eliminate the need to transport material twice.

5 Public and Agency Consultation

No public representations were received.

The EER was referred to a number of government agencies/bodies with an interest in the proposal. Submissions were received from the following:

- Mineral Resources Tasmania (Department of State Growth)

The following Divisions/areas of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment also provided advice on the EER:

- Regulator, EPA Tasmania
- Noise Specialist, EPA Tasmania
- Water Specialist, EPA Tasmania
- Policy Conservation and Advice Branch (Natural and Cultural Heritage Division)
6 Evaluation of Environmental Issues

EPA Tasmania has evaluated environmental issues considered relevant to the proposal. Details of this evaluation, along with the permit conditions required by the Director, are discussed below:

The following issues are discussed:
1. Natural Values and Weeds and Diseases
2. Surface Water and Aquatic Environment
3. Air Emissions
4. Noise Emissions
5. Waste and Hazardous Substances
6. Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

General conditions

The following general conditions will be imposed on the activity:

- Q1 Regulatory limits
- G1 Access to and awareness of conditions and associated documents
- G2 Incident response
- G3 No changes without approval
- G4 Change of responsibility
- G5 Change of ownership
- G6 Complaints register
- G7 Quarry Code of Practice
## Issue 1: Natural Values and Weeds and Diseases

### Description of potential impacts

Inappropriate location of extractive industries can lead to disturbance of natural values, with potential negative effects on threatened communities. An area of native vegetation (1.4 ha) will be progressively removed as part of future quarrying operations. No plant or animal species listed under federal or state legislation was detected in a flora and fauna survey and assessment of the site, and no native vegetation types appearing on the lease are listed as threatened ecological communities under federal or state legislation. The mining lease area supports habitat that may be suitable for marsupial carnivores, such as the Tasmanian devil, however the Natural Values Atlas has no records of threatened flora or fauna within 500m of the site.

The operations have the potential to spread weeds or diseases onto the site, including *Phytophthora cinnamomi*. No plant species listed as declared weeds were detected on the mining lease area, and no evidence of plant diseases were detected.

### Management measures proposed in EER

- **Commitment 1.** Clearing will be undertaken progressively, ensuring the minimum area of native vegetation to facilitate sand extraction operations is disturbed.
- **Commitment 2.** Implement a Weed and Hygiene Management Plan in accordance with the *Weed and Hygiene Management Guidelines* (DPIPWE (b), 2015).

### Public and agency comment

The Policy and Conservation Advice Branch (PCAB), DPIPWE, provided comment but raised no concerns related to flora or fauna species under the Tasmanian Threatened Species Protection Act 1995 (TSPA) or the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBCA) on the development proposal for the site. There were no concerns regarding impacts on the Scottsdale burrowing crayfish, *Engaeus spinicaudatus*, as the ecological survey for the current EER did not observe any suitable habitat within the extraction pit or within 500 metres of the mining lease. PCAB were also satisfied that the quarry activity is unlikely to cause significant impacts to Tasmanian devils that may be foraging in the area, as the increase in production was unlikely to lead to an increase in traffic of greater than 10 percent overall. They also stated quarry operating hours will restrict traffic to daytime for the majority of the year, and the narrow gravel road leading from the quarry to the larger Arnon Road should keep traffic speeds low, reducing the likelihood of increased road kill in the vicinity of the quarry.

No *P. cinnamomi* or weeds under the Tasmanian *Weed Management Act 1999* were observed within the mining lease area. However, the plant communities in the lease and surrounding areas are susceptible to *P. cinnamomi*. PCAB supports the recommendation to implement a Weed and Hygiene Management Plan in accordance with the *Weed and Hygiene Management Guidelines* (DPIPWE (b), 2015).

### Evaluation

Due to the lack of threatened species records, threatened vegetation communities, and suitable *E. spinicaudatus* habitat on or near the site, the proposal is considered unlikely to result in any significant impact on threatened fauna or flora species or vegetation communities. The standard operating hours of the quarry and access are considered sufficient to reduce the likelihood of increased road kill in the vicinity of the quarry. The operating hours imposed under **condition N1** are consistent with those proposed in the EER.

Implementation of Commitment 2 from the EER is considered appropriate to minimise the introduction and spread of weeds and soil-borne diseases, such as *P. cinnamomi*, and a Weed and Disease Management Plan will be required under **condition OP1**.
## Conclusion

The proponent will be required to comply with the following conditions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NI</td>
<td>Operating Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP I</td>
<td>Weed and disease management plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description of potential impacts

High rainfall events have the potential to cause erosion of exposed areas in quarries and extractive pits, leading to pollution from sediment and other water borne contaminants, such as oil. Water leaving quarry premises should be treated to minimise sedimentation and turbidity.

Runoff from the Goanna Road Quarry and the access road will drain to the watercourse closest to the site, approximately 250 metres from the mining lease boundary. This watercourse flows into the Great Forester River which flows through farm land downstream, potentially providing water for stock/irrigation. Expansion of the excavation operations will result in forest clearing, and runoff from disturbed areas can cause discolouration in watercourses.

Management measures proposed in EER

Commitment 3. A sediment trap will be constructed with a capacity of 18 cubic metres to retain stormwater runoff on site (Figure 2)

Public and agency comment

The water specialist commented that the water related risks associated with the proposed intensification of activity appear to be very low and would be confined to sediment losses from the activity. It was observed that the location of the pit at the top of a low hill would limit the volume of stormwater collected by the pit. It was also noted that it would be unlikely for any sediment to reach the nearest defined water course, as any water flow from the site would be over naturally vegetated highly permeable sands. The water specialist supported the management measures proposed in commitment 3 in the EER to reduce the likelihood of sediments leaving the site, and suggested the use of a condition limiting suspended solids in run-off to provide regulatory powers in the unlikely event of sediment losses from the site. A monitoring regime was not considered necessary.

Evaluation

The water related risks associated with the proposal are considered to be low, and proposed onsite management of surface water is generally consistent with the acceptable standards of the Quarry Code of Practice (EPA Tasmania, May 2017) (QCP) in regard to drainage and erosion control.

Limiting the surface water quantity to be managed is an important consideration and will require maintenance of appropriately located perimeter drains or bunds. This will be required by condition SW1.

Conditions SW2 and SW3 will be also be imposed to require maintenance of suitably sized sediment ponds to contain 1 in 20 year rainfall events, and implementation of other measures as needed to ensure polluted stormwater is not discharged. These conditions are expected to limit the potential for suspended solids run-off, consistent with the request of the water specialist. While the proposed sediment pond is small, due to the highly permeable soils at the site, it is expected to be sufficient to retain stormwater runoff that has not already been absorbed into the ground or travelled into surrounding vegetation.

The application of these conditions in conjunction with existing site measures is considered adequate to minimise the discharge of sediment or other pollutants in stormwater from the site, and therefore limit the likelihood of impacts to aquatic species offsite.

Conclusion

The proponent will be required to comply with the following standard conditions:

SW1 Perimeter drains or bunds
**SW2** Stormwater

**SW3** Design and maintenance of settling ponds
### Issue 3: Air Emissions

#### Description of potential impacts
Sand extraction, handling, screening, and loading operations have the potential to generate dust emissions, which can be a nuisance to neighbours and should not be visible crossing the boundary of the premises. The site is surrounded by native forest and the nearest residences are located 1.9 km from the boundary.

#### Management measures proposed in EER
Commitment 4. Dust suppression will be deployed to prevent visible dust from crossing the mining lease boundary.

#### Public and agency comment
None

#### Evaluation
The potential for environmental nuisance or harm from dust emissions is low. The site is remote from residences and is surrounded by native forest, which will reduce wind speed at ground level, which will in turn reduce the likelihood of dust carried off the site. However, consistent with the QCP, dust emissions should be managed on-site. To ensure this, it is necessary to impose **condition A1**, requiring covering of vehicles transporting excavated materials and **condition A2**, containment of dust to prevent it causing a nuisance, both consistent with commitment 4 in the EER.

#### Conclusion
The proponent will be required to comply with the following conditions:
- **A1** Covering of vehicles
- **A2** Control of dust emissions
**Issue 4: Noise Emissions**

**Description of potential impacts**

Noise emissions from the activity have the potential to cause nuisance to neighbouring properties if not appropriately mitigated or managed. During operation, noise will be generated by mobile equipment, including a loader, excavator and mechanical screen. The nearest sensitive receivers (residences) are 1.9 km from the site.

**Management measures proposed in EER**

No specific management measures for noise are proposed in the EER. Operational hours of the quarry are intended to be from 0700 to 1900 hours Monday to Friday, and 0800 to 1700 hours Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

**Public and agency comment**

The noise specialist indicated that noise generated from the activity was unlikely to create a nuisance.

**Evaluation**

The proposed operating hours are outside those recommended by the QCP, which are 0700 to 1900 hours on weekdays and 0800 to 1600 hours on Saturdays, the intention being to avoid unreasonable noise impacts where neighbours may be affected by quarry activity or vehicle movements. However, the noise specialist indicated that due to the separation distance from the nearest residences, it is unlikely that noise generated from the operation will cause nuisance. To minimise any potential impacts from noise caused by quarry activity and associated vehicle movement off the site, the proponent will be required to comply with the operating hours stipulated in condition N1, which are consistent with the proposed hours in the EER.

**Conclusion**

The proponent will be required to comply with the following conditions:

**N1 Operating hours**
**Issue 5: Solid Waste and Environmentally Hazardous Substances**

**Description of potential impacts**

The accumulation of rubbish, waste oil or other waste materials, and spills of any oil or fuel have the potential to result in contamination of soil and water if not adequately contained. The Goanna Road Quarry will not require any permanent storage of hazardous substances. Fuel for mobile equipment will be contained in vehicle mounted tanks. Operation of the extractive pit also has the potential to produce small amounts of waste such as litter.

**Management measures proposed in EER**

Commitment 5. A hydrocarbon spill kit will be kept in the Proponent’s utility ready for immediate deployment in the event of a hydrocarbon spill to ground.

Commitment 6. Packaging and litter brought onto the site during operations will be disposed of off the site at the end of each operations day.

**Public and agency comment**

None

**Evaluation**

The proposed management measures are adequate to ensure that waste is collected from the site and appropriately disposed of to limit the potential for environmental impacts. No conditions are considered necessary in relation to solid wastes. Information on the waste management hierarchy is provided in the Information Section of the environmental conditions. No hazardous substances are proposed to be stored on site overnight, limiting the potential for environmental harm. There is the potential for use, storage and maintenance of vehicles to release substances that may cause environmental nuisance or harm if not appropriately mitigated or managed. **Conditions H1 and H2** will be imposed to ensure the risks associated with any environmental hazardous materials used or stored on site are minimised. **Condition H3** is imposed to ensure that in the event of the release of an environmentally hazardous material, it is managed to prevent and minimise discharge to the environment.

**Conclusion**

H1 Handling of hazardous materials – mobile

H2 Storage and handling of hazardous materials

H3 Spill kit
Issue 6: Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

Description of potential impacts
Quarrying activities have the potential to cause ongoing environmental impacts after cessation. Rehabilitation of sites is required to ensure long term stability of the site, provide native flora and fauna habitat, and minimise the potential for establishment of invasive flora species and diseases.

Management measures proposed in EER
Progressive rehabilitation will occur as stripping of the expanded extraction area proceeds. Specified steps include:

- The worked-out area will be ripped and re-contoured to resemble a natural surface.
- Timber will be removed from the expansion area, retaining limb wood and foliage.
- The vegetation and topsoil will be stripped off the expansion area and temporarily stockpiled in low windrows.
- The overburden will be stripped and placed on the prepared worked-out area.
- Stripping and broken up vegetation will be placed over the overburden and left rough.

If the operation becomes uneconomic or there is no longer a market for the material the Proponent will close and decommission the quarry. Specified steps include:

- All equipment will be demobilised and gravel surfaces will be ripped to facilitate infiltration.
- The floor and face will be made stable and re-contoured to resemble a natural landform.
- Overburden will be spread over the new surface, and site-won topsoil spread over the overburden.
- Vegetative cover will be achieved by natural recruitment from the surrounding native forest and woodlands.
- The sediment traps will remain in place but will be cleaned out and the silt will be used in the rehabilitation works. The sediment traps will continue to provide detention to runoff during the revegetation phase until the traps are full of sediment, at which time disturbed surfaces will be stabilised with a cover of natural recruitment vegetation.

Public and agency comment
None

Evaluation
Progressive rehabilitation may not always be feasible due to the constrained site, however rehabilitation should be implemented where sections of the quarry are genuinely worked out or disused. To ensure appropriate treatment of surface soil and implementation of progressive rehabilitation, permitting a maximum open area of 3.0 hectares, conditions DC1 and DC2 are required, respectively. Condition DC3 requires care and maintenance of the site during temporary suspension of the activity, and rehabilitation if activity is suspected for 2 years or more. Condition DC4 requires notification of the Director if permanent cessation of the activity becomes likely. Condition DC5 requires the proponent to prepare a decommissioning and rehabilitation plan on permanent cessation, in accordance with any guidelines provided by the Director. Condition DC6 requires that rehabilitation be undertaken in accordance with the relevant provisions of the QCP.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conclusion</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DC1</strong> Stockpiling of surface soil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DC2</strong> Progressive rehabilitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DC3</strong> Temporary suspension of activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DC4</strong> Notification of cessation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DC5</strong> DRP requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DC6</strong> Rehabilitation on cessation</td>
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8 Report Conclusions

This assessment has been based on the information provided by the proponent, Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd trading as Venarchie, in the permit application and the case for assessment (the EER).

This report incorporates specialist advice provided by EPA Tasmania scientific specialists and regulatory staff, other Divisions of DPIPWE and other government agencies.

It is concluded that:

1. the RMPS and EMPCS objectives have been duly and properly pursued in the assessment of the proposal;
2. the assessment of the proposed activity has been undertaken in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Principles; and
3. the proposed activity is capable of being managed in an environmentally acceptable manner such that it is unlikely that the objectives of the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994 (the RMPS and EMPCS objectives) would be compromised, provided that the Permit Conditions - Environmental No. PCE 9944 appended to this report are imposed and duly complied with.

9 Report Approval

Environmental Assessment Report and conclusions, including environmental conditions, adopted:

Wes Ford
DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY
Acting under delegation from the Board of the Environment Protection Authority

Date: 12th March 2019
10 References

Barry Williams; *Goanna Road Quarry - Development Environmental Effects Report* (dated 17/12/2018), Integrated land management & planning, Lindisfarne, Tasmania, prepared for Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd, trading as Vernachie Pty Ltd.

11 Appendices

Appendix 1  Table of proponent commitments

Appendix 2  Permit conditions
### Appendix I – Table of proponent commitments

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<td>1</td>
<td>Clearing will be undertaken progressively ensuring the minimum area of native vegetation to facilitate sand extraction operations is disturbed.</td>
<td>At all times</td>
</tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Implement a Weed and Hygiene Management Plan in accordance with the Weed and Hygiene management Guidelines (DPIPWE (b), 2015)</td>
<td>On issue of a permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The sediment trap will be expanded to capacity of 18 cubic metres to retain stormwater runoff on site</td>
<td>On issue of a permit</td>
</tr>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Dust suppression will be deployed to prevent visible dust from crossing the mining lease boundary.</td>
<td>At all times</td>
</tr>
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<td>5</td>
<td>A hydrocarbon spill kit will be kept in the Proponent’s utility ready for immediate deployment in the event of a hydrocarbon spill to ground.</td>
<td>At all times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Packaging and litter brought onto the site during operations will be disposed of off site at the end of each operations day.</td>
<td>At all times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>If items or sites suspected to have Aboriginal heritage value is exposed by the works an Unanticipated Discovery Plan will be implemented.</td>
<td>At any time</td>
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Appendix 2 – Permit conditions – Environmental
PERMIT PART B
PERMIT CONDITIONS - ENVIRONMENTAL No. 9944

Issued under the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994

Activity: The operation of a quarry (ACTIVITY TYPE: Crushing, grinding, milling or separating into different sizes (rocks, ores or minerals))
GOANNA ROAD QUARRY, TASMAN HIGHWAY
TONGANAH TAS 7260

The above activity has been assessed as a level 2 activity under the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994.

Acting under Section 25(5)(a)(i) of the EMPCA, the Board of the Environment Protection Authority has required that this Permit Part B be included in any Permit granted under the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 with respect to the above activity.

Municipality: DORSET
Permit Application Reference: PLA/2018/123
EPA file reference: 249834

Date conditions approved: 12th March 2019

Signed:

DELEGATE FOR THE BOARD OF THE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY
DEFINITIONS

Unless the contrary appears, words and expressions used in this Permit Part B have the meaning given to them in Schedule 1 of this Permit and in the EMPCA. If there is any inconsistency between a definition in the EMPCA and a definition in this Permit Part B, the EMPCA prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

The person responsible for the activity must comply with the conditions contained in Schedule 2 of this Permit Part B.

INFORMATION

Attention is drawn to Schedule 3, which contains important additional information.
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## Attachments

Attachment 1: The Land (modified: 26/02/2019 10:02)................................. 1 page
Schedule 1: Definitions

In this Permit Part B:-

20,000 cubic metres is considered to be equivalent to 28,000 tonnes

Activity means any environmentally relevant activity (as defined in Section 3 of EMPCA) to which this document relates, and includes more than one such activity.

Director means the Director, Environment Protection Authority holding office under Section 18 of EMPCA and includes a person authorised in writing by the Director to exercise a power or function on the Director's behalf.

DRP means Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan.


Environmental Harm and Material Environmental Harm and Serious Environmental Harm each have the meanings ascribed to them in Section 5 of EMPCA.

Environmental Nuisance and Pollutant each have the meanings ascribed to them in Section 3 of EMPCA.

Environmentally Hazardous Material means any substance or mixture of substances of a nature or held in quantities which present a reasonably foreseeable risk of causing serious or material environmental harm if released to the environment and includes fuels, oils, waste and chemicals but excludes sewage.

Person Responsible is any person who is or was responsible for the environmentally relevant activity to which this document relates and includes the officers, employees, contractors, joint venture partners and agents of that person, and includes a body corporate.

Quarry Code of Practice means the document of this title published by the Environment Protection Authority in May 2017, and includes any subsequent versions of this document.

The Land means the land on which the activity to which this document relates may be carried out, and includes: buildings and other structures permanently fixed to the land, any part of the land covered with water, and any water covering the land. The Land falls within the area defined by:

1. Mining lease 21M/1990 within Certificate of Title 147345/1; and
2. as further delineated at Attachment 1

Washdown Guidelines means the document titled Weed and Disease Planning and Hygiene Guidelines - Preventing the spread of weeds and diseases in Tasmania, by the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, dated March 2015, and any amendment to or substitution of this document.
Schedule 2: Conditions

**Maximum Quantities**

**Q1  Regulatory limits**

1. The activity must not exceed the following limits:
   1.1 20,000 cubic metres per year of rocks, ores or minerals processed.
   1.2 20,000 cubic metres per year of sand or clay extracted.

**General**

**G1  Access to and awareness of conditions and associated documents**

A copy of these conditions and any associated documents referred to in these conditions must be held in a location that is known to and accessible to the person responsible for the activity. The person responsible for the activity must ensure that all persons who are responsible for undertaking work on The Land, including contractors and sub-contractors, are familiar with these conditions to the extent relevant to their work.

**G2  Incident response**

If an incident causing or threatening environmental nuisance, serious environmental harm or material environmental harm from pollution occurs in the course of the activity, then the person responsible for the activity must immediately take all reasonable and practicable action to minimise any adverse environmental effects from the incident.

**G3  No changes without approval**

1. The following changes, if they may cause or increase the emission of a pollutant which may cause material or serious environmental harm or environmental nuisance, must only take place in relation to the activity if such changes have been approved in writing by the EPA Board following its assessment of an application for a permit under the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, or approved in writing by the Director:
   1.1 a change to a process used in the course of carrying out the activity; or
   1.2 the construction, installation, alteration or removal of any structure or equipment used in the course of carrying out the activity; or
   1.3 a change in the quantity or characteristics of materials used in the course of carrying out the activity.

**G4  Change of responsibility**

If the person responsible for the activity intends to cease to be responsible for the activity, that person must notify the Director in writing of the full particulars of any person succeeding him or her as the person responsible for the activity, before such cessation.

**G5  Change of ownership**

If the owner of The Land upon which the activity is carried out changes or is to change, then, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 30 days after becoming aware of the change or intended change in the ownership of The Land, the person responsible must notify the Director in writing of the change or intended change of ownership.
G6 Complaints register

1 A public complaints register must be maintained. The public complaints register must, as a minimum, record the following detail in relation to each complaint received in which it is alleged that environmental harm (including an environmental nuisance) has been caused by the activity:

1.1 the date and time at which the complaint was received;
1.2 contact details for the complainant (where provided);
1.3 the subject matter of the complaint;
1.4 any investigations undertaken with regard to the complaint; and
1.5 the manner in which the complaint was resolved, including any mitigation measures implemented.

2 Complaint records must be maintained for a period of at least 3 years.

G7 Quarry Code of Practice

Unless otherwise required by these conditions or required in writing by the Director, the activity (or activities) undertaken on The Land must comply with the Acceptable Standards provisions of the Quarry Code of Practice.

Atmospheric

A1 Covering of vehicles

Vehicles carrying loads containing material which may blow or spill must be equipped with effective control measures to prevent the escape of the materials from the vehicles when they leave The Land or travel on public roads. Effective control measures may include tarpaulins or load dampening.

A2 Control of dust emissions

Dust emissions from The Land must be controlled to the extent necessary to prevent environmental nuisance beyond the boundary of The Land.

Decommissioning And Rehabilitation

DC1 Progressive rehabilitation

Worked out or disused sections of The Land must be rehabilitated concurrently with extractive activities on other sections of The Land. Progressive rehabilitation must be carried out in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Quarry Code of Practice, unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director. The maximum disturbed area of land which may remain, at any time, without rehabilitation is three (3) hectares.

DC2 Stockpiling of surface soil

Prior to commencement of extractive activities on any portion of The Land, surface soils must be removed in that portion of The Land to be disturbed by the conduct of the activity and stockpiled for later use in rehabilitation of The Land. Topsoil must be kept separate from other overburden and protected from erosion or other disturbance.

DC3 Temporary suspension of activity

1 Within 30 days of becoming aware of any event or decision which is likely to give rise to the temporary suspension of the activity, the person responsible for the activity must notify the Director in writing of that event or decision. The notice must specify the date upon which the activity is expected to suspend or has suspended.

2 During temporary suspension of the activity:
2.1 The Land must be managed and monitored by the person responsible for the activity to ensure that emissions from The Land do not cause serious environmental harm, material environmental harm or environmental nuisance; and

2.2 If required by the Director, a Care and Maintenance Plan for the activity must be submitted, by a date specified in writing by the Director, for approval. The person responsible must implement the approved Care and Maintenance Plan, as may be amended from time to time with written approval of the Director.

3 Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, if the activity on The Land has substantially ceased for 2 years or more, rehabilitation of The Land must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of these conditions as if the activity has permanently ceased.

**DC4 Notification of cessation**

Within 30 days of becoming aware of any event or decision which is likely to give rise to the permanent cessation of the activity, the person responsible for the activity must notify the Director in writing of that event or decision. The notice must specify the date upon which the activity is expected to cease or has ceased.

**DC5 DRP requirements**

Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, a Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan (DRP) for the activity must be submitted for approval to the Director within 30 days of the Director being notified of the planned cessation of the activity or by a date specified in writing by the Director. The DRP must be prepared in accordance with any guidelines provided by the Director.

**DC6 Rehabilitation following cessation**

1 Following permanent cessation of the activity, and unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, The Land must be rehabilitated including:

   1.1 stabilisation of any land surfaces that may be subject to erosion;
   1.2 removal or mitigation of all environmental hazards or land contamination, that might pose an on-going risk of causing environmental harm; and
   1.3 decommissioning of any equipment that has not been removed.

2 Where a Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan (DRP) has been approved by the Director, decommissioning and rehabilitation must be carried out in accordance with that plan, as may be amended from time to time with written approval of the Director.

**Hazardous Substances**

**H1 Handling of hazardous materials - mobile**

1 Where mobile containment of environmentally hazardous materials is utilised for the fuelling or servicing of mobile or fixed plant on The Land, all reasonable measures must be implemented to prevent unauthorised discharge, emission or deposition of pollutants:

   1.1 to soils within the boundary of The Land in a manner that is likely to cause serious or material environmental harm;
   1.2 to groundwater;
   1.3 to waterways; or
   1.4 beyond the boundary of The Land.

2 Reasonable measures may include spill kits, spill trays/bunds or absorbent pads, and automatic cut-offs on any pumping equipment.
H2  Storage and handling of hazardous materials

1  Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director, environmentally hazardous materials held on The Land must be:
   1.1 stored within impervious bunded areas, spill trays or other containment systems; and
   1.2 managed to prevent unauthorised discharge, emission or deposition of pollutants:
      1.2.1 to soils within the boundary of The Land in a manner that is likely to cause serious or material environmental harm;
      1.2.2 to groundwater;
      1.2.3 to waterways; or
      1.2.4 beyond the boundary of The Land.

H3  Spill kits

Spill kits appropriate for the types and volumes of materials handled on The Land must be kept in appropriate locations to assist with the containment of spilt environmentally hazardous materials.

Noise Control

N1  Operating hours

Unless otherwise approved by the Director, activities associated with the extraction of rock, gravel, sand, clay or minerals, and loading of product, and screening/crushing must not be undertaken outside the hours of 0700 hours to 1900 hours on weekdays, 0800 hours to 1700 hours on Saturdays and 0800 hours to 1700 hours on Sundays and public holidays.

Operations

OP1  Weed and disease management plan

1  Within three (3) months of the date on which these conditions take effect, or by a date otherwise specified in writing by the Director, a Weed & Disease Management Plan must be submitted to the Director for approval. This requirement will be deemed to be satisfied only when the Director indicates in writing that the submitted document adequately addresses the requirements of this condition to his or her satisfaction.

2  The plan must be consistent with the Washdown Guidelines, or any subsequent revisions of that document.

3  The person responsible must implement and act in accordance with the approved plan.

4  In the event that the Director, by notice in writing to the person responsible, either approves a minor variation to the approved plan or approves a new plan in substitution for the plan originally approved, the person responsible must implement and act in accordance with the varied plan or the new plan, as the case may be.
Stormwater Management

SW1 Perimeter drains or bunds
1 Perimeter cut-off drains, or bunds, must be constructed at strategic locations on The Land to prevent surface run-off from entering the area used or disturbed in carrying out the activity. All reasonable measures must be implemented to ensure that sediment transported along these drains, or bunds, remains on The Land. Such measures may include provision of strategically located sediment fences, appropriately sized and maintained sediment settling ponds, vegetated swales, detention basins and other measures designed and operated in accordance with the principles of Water Sensitive Urban Design.
2 Drains, or bunds, must have sufficient capacity to contain run-off that could reasonably be expected to arise during a 1 in 20 year rainfall event. Maintenance activities must be undertaken regularly to ensure that this capacity does not diminish.

SW2 Stormwater
1 Polluted stormwater that will be discharged from The Land must be collected and treated prior to discharge to the extent necessary to prevent serious or material environmental harm, or environmental nuisance.
2 Notwithstanding the above, all stormwater that is discharged from The Land must not carry pollutants such as sediment, oil and grease in quantities or concentrations that are likely to degrade the visual quality of any receiving waters outside the Land.
3 All reasonable measures must be implemented to ensure that solids entrained in stormwater are retained on The Land. Such measures may include appropriately sized and maintained sediment settling ponds or detention basins.

SW3 Design and maintenance of settling ponds
1 Sediment settling ponds must be designed and maintained in accordance with the following requirements:
   1.1 ponds must be designed to successfully mitigate reasonably foreseeable sediment loss which would result from a 1 in 20 year storm event;
   1.2 discharge from ponds must occur via a stable spillway that is not subject to erosion;
   1.3 all pond walls must be stable and treated with topsoil and vegetated or otherwise treated in such a manner as to prevent erosion; and
   1.4 sediment settling ponds must be periodically cleaned out to ensure that the pond design capacity is maintained. Sediment removed during this cleaning must be securely deposited such that sediment will not be transported off The Land by surface run-off.
Schedule 3: Information

Legal Obligations

LO1 EMPCA
The activity must be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994 and Regulations thereunder. The conditions of this document must not be construed as an exemption from any of those requirements.

LO2 Storage and handling of dangerous goods, explosives and dangerous substances

1 The storage, handling and transport of dangerous goods, explosives and dangerous substances must comply with the requirements of relevant State Acts and any regulations thereunder, including:
   1.1 Work Health and Safety Act 2012 and subordinate regulations;
   1.2 Explosives Act 2012 and subordinate regulations; and
   1.3 Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Act 2010 and subordinate regulations.

Other Information

OI1 Waste management hierarchy
1 Wastes should be managed in accordance with the following hierarchy of waste management:
   1.1 waste should be minimised, that is, the generation of waste must be reduced to the maximum extent that is reasonable and practicable, having regard to best practice environmental management;
   1.2 waste should be re-used or recycled to the maximum extent that is practicable; and
   1.3 waste that cannot be re-used or recycled must be disposed of at a waste depot site or treatment facility that has been approved in writing by the relevant planning authority or the Director to receive such waste, or otherwise in a manner approved in writing by the Director.

OI2 Notification of incidents under section 32 of EMPCA
Where a person is required by section 32 of EMPCA to notify the Director of the release of a pollutant, the Director can be notified by telephoning 1800 005 171 (a 24-hour emergency telephone number).
Attachment 1: The Land

Figure A1 Certificate of Title 147345/1

Figure A2 Mining lease 21M/1990