

**From:** Phil Best <PhilBest313@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 22 November 2015 2:11 PM  
**To:** 'LordMayor'; 'Toowong Ward Office'  
**Cc:** Steven Miles - Labor for Mt Coot-tha (steven.miles@queenslandlabor.org); Rod Harding (Rod.Harding@qld.alp.org.au); Richlands.ward@bcc.qld.gov.au; 'premiers.master@premiers.qld.gov.au'; BLAKE Ross (Ross.Blake@ehp.qld.gov.au)  
**Subject:** RE: Lord Mayor's Letter - LM05627-2015 - MCQ does not have a Scientific or Medical Mandate to exceed 5mm/second  
**Attachments:** CurrentHarddriveSizesNovember2015.jpg; GoogleSearchOnIncreaseInMentalHealthIllness.jpg; AustTuneliing-DrillAndBlastTable.png; Qld EHP EcoAccess Blast Maximums.png; ANZEC-BlastVibration.png; AerialPhotoOfMtCoot-thaQuarry.jpg  
**Importance:** High

Dear Lord Mayor, (JH please forward).

Thank you for your recent letter in which you reiterated for the second time what everybody knows which is because of the very old perpetual DA, that the MCQ has a legal mandate to operate blasting which creates vibrations up to 10mm/sec, with the ability to conduct such blasts as many times as they want. As we have noted in the past is that this mandate is from a previous era, plus it contains no limit on the number of blasts which you can conduct.

When Andrew Fraser was Qld State Treasurer he met with all relevant parties on the understanding that whilst the quarry has an old legal mandate, it no longer had a scientific one.

The easy solution was for the quarry to be a "Good Citizen" and voluntarily limit its vibrations to the Queensland, Australian and International Urban blast vibration standard of 5mm/sec. The quarry manager chose this option, however with the past 3 blasts being over 5mm/sec, this responsible agreement has obviously been discarded.

My previous emails to you explained several points which detailed why the MCQ does not have a Scientific and/or Mental Health Mandate.

This email had a particular emphasis on the longer term damage to all properties in the Mt Coot-tha, Toowong and Indooroopilly blast zones.

I have attached a 2 year old aerial photo. Please take a good look at this gigantic Mt Morgan style hole in the ground, it is the result of many hundreds of strong blasts which have violently shaken residents houses. It is completely impossible to shake houses with blast levels above 5mm/sec for all these decades and not do serious damage to them.

You have chosen to completely ignore all the points which I raised and the only solution that you propose is that we contact your solicitor. We believe that this is entirely inappropriate the following reasons:

1. No Solicitor can recover the data from a large Damaged Hard Drive.
2. No Solicitor can propose a solution for the cracks and chips in a million dollar house slab because the blasting is continuing and any repair will be negated.
3. Similarly for cracks in plasterboard, other dry wall and masonry joins.
4. It does not take into account the longer term gradual damage created over decades of blasting.

Since the current MCQ DA was created, the prevalence of huge hard drives has flourished and most new computers have Terabyte sized hard drives.

The risk of critical data loss is thus incredibly higher than when AF was treasurer and unbelievably higher than when the DA was created.

Plus it is almost impossible to backup even a 1 Terabyte hard drive.

This places a much higher emphasis on the maximum blast vibration limitations as defined by professional industry bodies such as the Australian Tunnelling Society which sets the vibration limit at 5mm/sec for all electronic equipment and which MCQ regularly exceeds.

Also since then there has been a dramatic increase in Australian Mental Health illness, the ABC recently reported that an anti-depressant script is dispensed in Australia every 2 seconds.

This provides strong credibility to my claim that the effect of being inside your own home when it is hit with a strong blast will cause PTSD symptoms (particularly for children, pensioners and ordinary residents with a large mortgage). The attached documentation clearly shows that the increase in mental illness. Also the recommended common urban blast vibration level being 2mm/sec and maximum being is 5mm/sec.

Summary:

We as residents of Mt Coo-tha, Toowong and Indooroopilly urge you to contact the quarry manager and ask them to:

1. Resume their "Good Citizen" adherence to the 5mm/second for 95% rule.
2. When announcing a blast, provide estimate of the next blast vibration level (at the Mt Coot-the Road monitor).
3. Schedule another residents meeting, which we have asked for several times and been totally ignored.

They can easily do all of this and they have done it in the past - It might cost them some funds to do smaller blasts more often.

**If the council can afford to spend over half a million dollars on the Story Bridge Fairy Lights that less than 1 in a thousand rate payers will ever get to see, they can surely spend a bit to remain within the common maximum and ensure that MCQ does not damage nearby residential property.**

Yours sincerely, Philip Best.

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**From:** LordMayor [mailto:Lord.Mayor@brisbane.qld.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 5 November 2015 1:28 PM  
**To:** PhilBest313@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Lord Mayor's Letter - LM05627-2015

Dear Mr Best

Please find attached a letter from the Lord Mayor.

Regards

Lord Mayor's Administration Office | **BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL**

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