

From: Phil Best <PhilBest313@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 August 2016 1:40 PM
To: LORDMAYOR@brisbane.qld.gov.au
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Subject: Appointment for a meeting with the Residents regarding the Mt Coot-tha Quarry (MCQ)
Attachments: 3rdAugustBlastExceedsStateMaximum.png; 3rdAugustBlastNoiseExceedsMaximumAllowedBy45Decibels.png; BlastAndBuildingVibrationNoiseOnSameTimeAxis.png; NTiAudioXL2SoundMetreOnTripod.png; MCQ-LegacyDA-ScheduleF-(NoiseAndVibration).PDF; AustTuneliing-DrillAndBlastTable.png; BlastingVibrationsFromQuarryNorthFaceToBestResidence.png; Report on Last Wednesday Mt Coot-tha Quarry On-Site Meeting with EHP, BCC, Heilig and the Residents 13th July 2016; Report on Last Wednesday Mt Coot-tha Quarry On-Site Meeting with EHP, BCC, Heilig and the Residents 13th July 2016
Importance: High

Dear Lord Mayor,

The EHP Compliance Manager has advised that they are currently doing all they can do to restrain the quarry blasting and noise and that we should confer directly with yourself.
Hence we ask that you please book a time for some delegates from the 80 homes that are affected by the Mt Coot-tha Quarry (MCQ) to meet with you.

Our Goal: The Brisbane Lord Mayor should fully understand the effect that MCQ is having on the residents and their homes, as well as to the Iconic Stuartholme Historic Buildings.

Our Belief: MCQ was scheduled to close in 2000 to make way for profitable tourist ventures. The then Lord Mayor (Soorley) extended its life until 2015 to ensure that there was sufficient asphalt gravel to build the ICB.

Quarry Operations: MCQ continues to ignore the state maximum, 5mm (95%) & 10mm (5%) and runs according to their legacy DA which allows them to blast as strong as they like on every 10th blast.

Our Situation:

- The quarry has obviously not closed and is continuing to blast in excess of 10mm/second as it has done so for several decades.
- Many of the residents fear for the stability of their own homes.
- When questioned by the residents, MCQ management states: 1. They cannot control the strength of their blasts and 2. They are allowed to blast as strong as they want on every 10th blast.

Property Valuations and Damage:

- The Real Estate Report we have obtained says that property values of the 80 homes in the MCQ blast vibration target area are depressed by between 50% and 30% because of the continued blasting at levels above the state maximum, plus the unrestrictive legacy DA conditions that MCQ management constantly relies upon.
- We estimate that the total loss of value for the 80 homes, due to continued blasting and existing property damage, is around \$40 million.
- The current strength and ability of homes (in the MCQ Target Area) to withstand strong blast vibrations, is far inferior to those built when LM Soorley extended the MCQ life.
- MCQ Target Area damage to private property is common. We have documented our own damage which you and your JLTA lawyers choose to complete ignore.

On the 3rd August:

- MCQ let rip a huge blast which shocked everyone who was at home. The Blast Vibration was measured at 10.4mm/second.
- Inside my own home I recorded the sound that the blast made using a NATA certified and calibrated decibel recording & logging metre.
- As the metre was running during the blast, it logged that the building continued to vibrate for up to one minute after the blast vibrations had ceased.
- The cracks in our slab (which are totally ignored by your JLTA Lawyers) continue to get longer and wider.
- On that day the Computer Hard Drives and TV Recorders in the 80 homes would have survived only if they were not doing a write process at the time.
- Also on that day the vibrations recorded at Stuartholme pre-WW2 buildings would have been almost double what the Australian Tunnelling Society defines as the maximum for Australian Historic Buildings.

Previous Meetings:

- The residents have recently had two meetings with the EHP Minister and Local State Member (SM), his EHP staff and the Mines Inspector, firstly at his office and secondly at the Mt Coot-tha Road blast monitor to witness a blast.
- The residents last had a meeting with the Council Quarry in 2013. We have asked for a second meeting several times since then but are always ignored.

Email Attachments:

- I have attached the 3rd August sound recording for your attention. It is consistent with the typical seismic building response where the building resonance often exceeds the actual seismic vibrations (It is the seismic induced resonance which causes the destruction). The maximum amount noise that the quarry is allowed to generate is 5 decibels above ambient and the only exception to that is for the actual 2 second overpressure blast wave.
- This decibel log is repeatable and is typical of what is happening to all the buildings in the MCQ target zone.
- As can be clearly seen by the sound recording, the quarry is operating illegally and certainly well outside the definitions of Zero Harm and Best Practice.
- The concepts of Zero Harm and Best Practice which you appear committed to, has obviously never applied to the MCQ target zone residents.

Meeting Date:

We would be grateful if you could book an evening meeting between yourself and the MCQ Target Area Residents in mid-September.

- Our preferred location is the Botanic Gardens Meeting Room.
- Please advise the proposed meeting date asap.

Yours sincerely, Philip Best (Mt. Coot-tha Residents Group Member).

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