

Council is continuing to spend your money and give you only one side of the story

The ratepayer funded Mitchell Shire Council campaign against our proposed quarry continues, despite the future of the North Central Quarry now resting with the Minister for Planning. This is important information for everyone interested in jobs, choice, opportunity, and council wastage. Previously we explained some misconceptions.

Fact 1: This site is not new - it was identified 1857, earmarked 1996, drilled extensively (including neighbouring properties) 2005-2014, mapped 2009 and work plan endorsed 2015.

Fact 2: Quarries have always preceded development – as once houses are built then the community's resource is lost forever. It's a temporary land use, the land gets multiple lives.

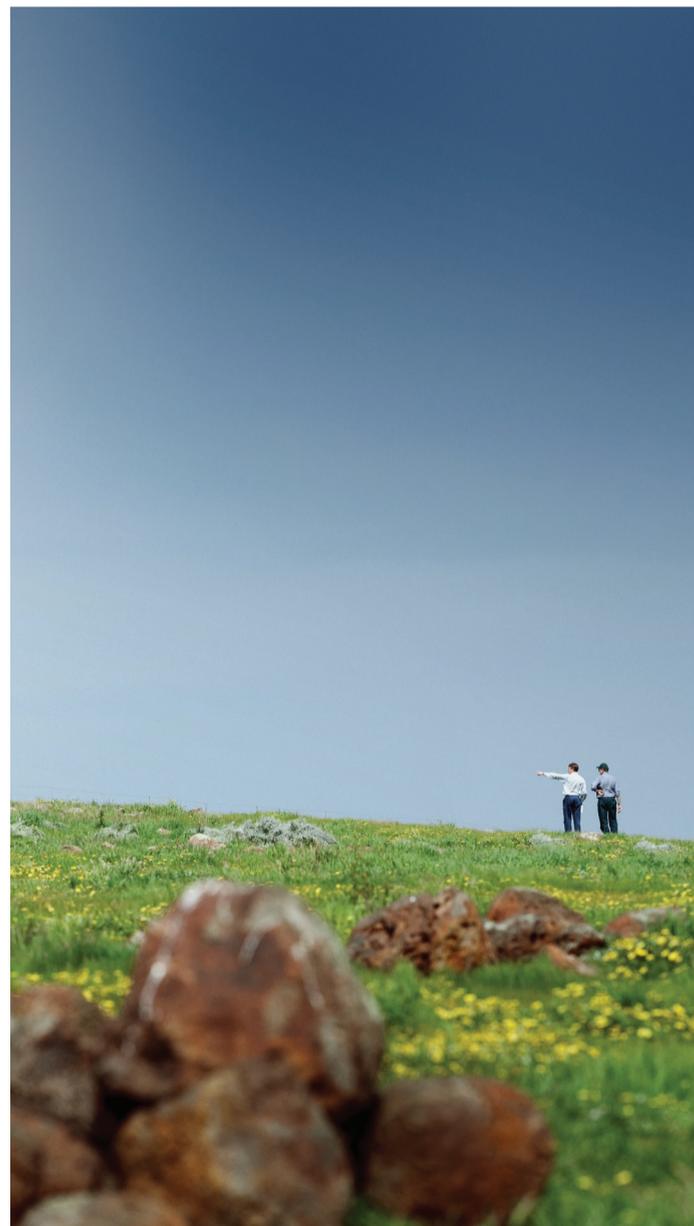
Fact 3: Freedom of Information requests lodged seeking expenditure on our quarry proposal.

In trying to understand Council's motivations, as well as echoing community concerns regarding expenditure of ratepayer funds, we've made two *Freedom of Information* requests.

These requests have not yet provided a complete picture of this expenditure supporting their divisive campaign against the quarry and jobs. We look forward to a full and accurate supply of information from Council, which we plan to make available to the community.



Diamond Core Drilling Program (hole 1) at our proposed North Central Quarry | Photo 2006



One of many consultative meetings held at the proposed North Central Quarry site | Photo 2011

Fact 4: Our North Central Quarry proposal has not been rejected twice.

The claim that this proposal has been rejected twice is simply not true.

At our first Planning Permit application, the Mitchell Shire Council could not reach a decision, resulting in a split vote that triggered a second council meeting, at which the application was refused.

Council went a step further on our second application, in that it failed to even make a decision, forcing Conundrum to take action and go to VCAT.

DETAILED TIMELINE:

- **March 2016:** Shire Councillors voted **AGAINST** issuing a Notice of Refusal to our first application due a split vote - deferring their decision to a future council meeting.
- **April 2016:** Councillors issued a Notice of Refusal to grant a Planning Permit on the **grounds that it was premature to the Beveridge North West PSP.**
- **June 2016:** We filed an *Application for Review* with VCAT given there was no indication on PSP resolution.
- **February 2017:** Government announced the PSP would be resolved within next two years. We withdrew our application to VCAT, in good faith the resolution would occur.
- **October 2019:** Following two years of no action, we submitted a second application for the North Central Quarry.
- **October 2020:** Councillors failed to make a decision during the statutory time period, forcing us to take the matter to VCAT. This application only had five objectors.
- **15 February 2021:** Councillors only resolved their position when ordered to by VCAT and stated at a Council Meeting that **IF** able to decide on the proposal, they would've refused to grant a Planning Permit. **But the decision got out of their hands, meaning this permit application was never rejected by Council.**
- **24 February 2021:** The Minister for Planning called in PLP268/19 from VCAT so it could be considered alongside Beveridge North West PSP.
- **May 2022:** Beveridge North West PSP Ministerial Advisory Committee sat to provide recommendations to the Minister to make decision on our Planning Permit.

Further FACTS about this planned quarry...

If you are interested in a copy of our book '*Delivering Choice & Opportunity – North Central Quarry Overview*' or information, please contact us on 03 5782 3401 or northcentralquarry@conholdings.com.au



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