



Boral Dunnstown Quarry expansion project information

Boral's Dunnstown Quarry is one of the company's most significant regional operations in Victoria and provides aggregates to customers around Ballarat, the Melbourne metropolitan area, and the central and western regions of Victoria.

The site, which employs 45 people and supports additional local contractors, produces a high-grade basalt aggregate suitable for road and rail line construction and the manufacture of asphalt and concrete.

Materials from Dunnstown have been included in a range of public and private infrastructure projects, most notably the Western Highway bypass of Ballarat, the Regional Fast Rail upgrade between Ballarat and Melbourne, the Waubra Windfarm project, and the Ballarat West Employment Zone.

Is the Dunnstown Quarry expanding?

Current reserves in Boral's existing quarry footprint are expected to be exhausted by 2027. To ensure continued supply of quarry resources, Boral has applied to government authorities to seek approval to extend our Dunnstown Quarry's extraction boundaries.

The planned extension will take place to the east of our current extraction area and to the south. These areas exist on our tenement (WA82) and are part of the land we own and manage.

The approval process, known as a work plan variation (WPV), is required when a change in work is required that has not been approved under an existing work plan. The work plan must be approved under the *Mineral Resources Sustainable Development Act 1990* by government authorities before any planned expansion activity can begin. The work plan cannot be approved without Boral first obtaining a planning permit from the Victorian Government.

What does the expansion involve?

The proposed expansion of the quarry footprint includes:

- A southern extension to the quarry pit of 24.3ha and an eastern extension of 11.2 ha.
- Permission to extend and seal Hewittsons Road to connect with Ditchfield Road in the south.
- Rehabilitation of the existing extraction pit and the surrounding area within WA82. Rehabilitation will be undertaken by progressively partial backfilling and reprofiling the extraction pit with overburden and topsoil stored onsite.

The staging plans for the quarry's expansion can be found on pages 5-9 of this document.

Project timeline

- January 2025: Work plan variation submitted to Earth Resources Regulation
- February 2025: Earth Resources Regulation endorsement of the work plan
- June 2025: Planning permit submitted to the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP)
- July 2025: Public notification of project

Pending DTP's approval

- December 2025: Construct alternative load access – Hewittsons Road
- February 2026: Finalise discontinuance of Howard's Road
- February 2027: Eastern expansion, which contains approximately 5 years of resource extraction
- Mid 2032: Southern expansion, which contains approximately 14 years of resource extraction





What is the WPV application and approval process?

Before Boral is permitted to work in the proposed expanded areas:

- A work plan must be submitted to Earth Resources Regulation (ERR) within the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action and statutorily endorsed under the MRSD Act
- Following ERR's endorsement, a planning permit must be issued by the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (PE Act)
- After a planning permit is issued, the final work plan must be approved by ERR and the work authority boundary revised.

Boral received work plan variation endorsement from ERR in February 2025 and lodged the planning permit application with DTP in June. The next stage of the process is public notification. The Dunnstown work program is at step 4 in the diagram below.

Community engagement will continue throughout the approval process and will include:

- Newsletters
- · Website updates
- Community drop in sessions
- Engagement via the Dunnstown Quarry Community Reference Group



Figure 1:Extractive industry approval process

How will Boral manage impacts on neighbours?

Boral takes seriously its responsibility to minimise the impacts of quarry operations on our neighbours and community.

As part of the development of our WPV, Boral identified social and environmental impacts that need to be managed. Technical experts assessed these impacts and identified ways to reduce them as much as practicable. Based on the results of the assessments, management plans that include risk mitigation and monitoring measures were created that will guide us in our expansion activities.

Noise

The noise impact assessment accompanying the WPV demonstrates that the expanded quarry's noise emissions are predicted to comply with the EPA's environmental reference standard and relevant guidelines at all noise-sensitive receptors.

The initial stripping of topsoil and construction of bunds are anticipated to result in a temporary slight increase by 3 to 6 dBA of operational noise experienced at the closest sensitive receptors; however, the duration of these works will be limited.





Boral has recently undertaken several upgrades to the plant and equipment to attenuate noise sources at the site as far as reasonably practicable. These include:

- Upgrades to the existing bunding around the permitter of the site (increased height and landscaping).
- The relocation of the primary processing plant to a fixed location in the centre of the site.
- The installation of acoustic curtains to the secondary processing plant.
- The construction of an acoustic bund and the installation of shipping containers to create an acoustic shield to the south of the secondary crusher.
- The installation of broadband reversing and movement alarms on all mobile plant.
- The introduction of late model rigid haul trucks with equipped with noise reduction exhausts.

The above infrastructure upgrades are expected to reduce noise levels experienced at neighbouring properties.

Traffic and roads

No change to current traffic volumes is anticipated as part of the WPV.

The site generates an average of 299 vehicle movements per weekday, of which 82% are heavy vehicles. Approximately 80% of heavy vehicle movements are bound for Ballarat via the Western Freeway, with the remaining movements generally bound for Geelong.

All heavy vehicle movements to the quarry will occur along the driveway leading south from Dunnstown-Yendon Road.

Boral is seeking to extend and seal Hewitson's Road to connect with Ditchfield Road in the south. This new road link will provide an alternative access route to Howards Road that will result in a more direct and efficient route when travelling from north to south.

Howards Rd will be realigned as its current alignment runs through Boral's extraction area.

Dust

The air quality impact assessment accompanying the WPV demonstrates that the proposed expansion maintains a minimum of 500m buffer from the edges of the expanded quarry pit to the closest sensitive receptors, with some well in excess of 500m. This is in accordance with the 500m suggested separation distances for quarry operations with blasting, as contained within the EPA Victoria's Separation Distance Guideline (publ. 1949, Aug 2024).

In addition, modelling demonstrates that the construction or operation of the expanded quarry is not predicted to cause exceedances of the 24-hour air pollution assessment criteria (APAC) at any sensitive receptors. Whilst some short-term increases to air emissions are expected during the construction phase, they will be within EPA's limits.

Flora and fauna

The extension of the quarry pit will occur predominantly within land already highly modified for agricultural use.

The proposal has been designed to minimise the removal of native vegetation, with only 0.019 hectares of plains grassy wetland (EVC 125) proposed for removal. This impact has been assessed as minor and will be offset through the purchase of general habitat units in accordance with DEECA's Guidelines for the Removal, Destruction or Lopping of Native Vegetation (2017).

Rehabilitation

A rehabilitation plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the MRSD Act and is included as an appendix to the work plan. The rehabilitation of the extraction pit and the surrounding area within WA82 would be staged and will involve progressively filling the extraction pit with overburden and topsoil stored onsite as the quarry have been progressively developed.





Removal of plant, equipment other ancillary structures would occur concurrently with earthworks to reprofile the final landform. The nominated post quarrying land use is to return the land to agricultural use with a central waterbody. This is consistent with the land zoning for the site and Moorabool Shire Council's draft rural land use strategy (RLUS) which seeks to promote more sustainable, diverse, resilient and productive agricultural industry within the shire.

Figure 2 below shows the final stage rehabilitation plan for the quarry.

Blasting

We regularly conduct drilling and blast activities to support operations in the quarry. Blasting is conducted by a licensed firer and is monitored for air blast overpressure and ground vibration to ensure compliance with government guidelines.

How can I find out more?

It's important to Boral to provide up-to-date information to our nearest neighbours and community about operations that may affect them.

We are holding drop in sessions in Navigators to provide more information in person and answer questions our community may have.

Venue: Navigators Community Centre Dates: 30 and 31 July, 4pm-7pm each day



Figure 2: Final stage rehabilitation framework plan









