

# Boral Quarries Stockton

Providing the foundation for the Hunter and Port Stephens community

October 2019

**Boral's Stockton Quarry, located at the end of Coxs Lane, Fullerton Cove, is one of our organisation's major sources of 'fine sand' in NSW. The material produced at the quarry every day is used for the ongoing growth and development of our region.**

## Connect with Boral Stockton

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Hours: 6.15am-5pm Mon-Fri  
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## SSD to be lodged this month

*During the past 18 months, Boral has been working to inform residents and interested locals around our Stockton Quarry about plans we have to continue the site's operations toward the middle of the century.*

These plans involve the establishment of **dredging operations** within an area of the quarry which formed the original sand 'pit' between **1996** and **2007-08**.

A dredge is a boat floated within a **pond** to **vacuum** sand from below the water's surface before it is taken to a plant for **washing** and **processing**.



Dredging has been identified as the preferred option given the area in which the useable fine sand resource has been identified sits only about **150 centimetres** above the natural water table under the site.

The original extractive activities also mean a **greatly reduced risk** of there being any significant **environmental** or **Aboriginal heritage** items still within the proposed pondage area.

Although previously quarried for around 11 years, the proposed area for the dredge pond is still thought to hold as much as **nine million tonnes** of sand.

It was not extracted during original operations due to its proximity to the **water table** – economics and improved processes have now made the dredging option far more viable.



Establishing the dredging operations will require us to compile and lodge an application with the **NSW Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment (DPIE)** under the provisions of **State Significant Development (SSD)**.

Following completion of the extensive range of **studies** required to support an SSD, we're now in a position to submit the application by the **end of October**.

Once this has been done, DPIE will review the application to ensure all of the mandatory components have been included before placing the application on **public exhibition**.



More information? [www.boral.com.au/stockton](http://www.boral.com.au/stockton).

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It's during this period anyone with an interest in the proposal can express their views, with comments taken into account by DPIE in making their final decision. We won't know the dates for the exhibition period until **after** the application has been lodged.

The application documents will also be accessible for viewing via the **DPIE Major Projects website** at [www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects](http://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects). Once we're aware they've been published, we'll also establish a link to the page from our **Stockton Quarry website** – [www.boral.com.au/stockton](http://www.boral.com.au/stockton).

You don't have to wait until the application has been lodged to have your say, however. If you have any comments or questions, we'd very much welcome them – simply send an email to [feedback@boral.com.au](mailto:feedback@boral.com.au), or you can call our Planning team on **9033 4401**.



## Parallel production...

*While our application to start dredging within the quarry landholding is being assessed, our existing operations will continue as they have since first opening in 1996.*

The quarry currently **harvests** sand blown into our land on the back side of the **Stockton Beach dune system**, with our **property boundary** jutting out a small distance into the dunes.



If you pass our site on the beach side, you'll see this boundary **clearly marked** by a series of **signs and poles** with a **rope line**. A reminder our property is

both **private land** and an **active site**, so unauthorised access is **not permitted**.

Each day **excavators** simply load the sand into **truck-and-dogs** for delivery to customers. Our existing **planning approval** allows up to **500 000 tonnes** of this sand to be transported each year.

The SSD application will also seek to allow the quarrying of **500 000 tonnes** of sand each year via that method. However, it is **not** our intent to produce the combined potential one million tonnes a year from the site if the SSD is approved.

Rather, we've nominated **only 750 000 tonnes per year** will be shifted from site in the period between the **approval of the SSD**, and the **lapsing of our consent** for harvesting dune sand in **2028**.

Operating this way will ensure a continued reliable supply of sand to the building and construction industry, while allowing us to carefully manage any potential effects from increased activity.

## Shifting the sands...

*From the comments we've gathered from our neighbours, a lot of local people aren't even aware that our Stockton Quarry is actually nearby! Those who do know our site, however, might wonder where the sand goes once the trucks leave our front gate.*

'**Fine sand**' is an increasingly difficult resource to find. This is mainly due to the **economic** and **environmental** factors associated with finding new sources and establishing operations.

The problem is sand is a **core ingredient** of materials we rely upon virtually every day such as **concrete** and **asphalt**. Sand from Stockton is therefore critical to the building and construction needs of the Hunter.

Much of the quarry's sand is delivered to **Boral Concrete** and **Asphalt** plants around the region. Our concrete sites can be found in an area bounded by **Gateshead, Muswellbrook** and **Kooragang**, while our asphalt plants are sited at **Carrington** and **Taree**.

This means projects supported by our Concrete and Asphalt businesses use Stockton sand. **Major** and **local roads** offer one example, as are the large scale developments around the central parts of **Newcastle**.

It's therefore very likely our neighbours make use of infrastructure which has been created using materials from the quarry each and every day.



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