



MEDIA RELEASE

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Boral looks to continue local century-old mining tradition

Work is underway to secure a State Significant Development (SSD) planning approval for the continued operation of the Boral Marulan South Limestone operations, in line with legislative changes.

The operations, with origins dating as far back as 1871, produce around three million tonnes of limestone annually. The majority of this material is incorporated into cement manufacturing at Boral's Berrima Cement Works, supplier of around 60 percent of the overall need for cement in NSW and the ACT.

Until now, the limestone site has relied upon 'continuing use rights' and a range of other approvals for its day-to-day operation. However, as a result of amendments to both mining and planning laws in the last 10 years, an SSD approval is now the appropriate pathway.

Marulan South Limestone Mine Manager, Les Longhurst, said Boral had already commenced the task of gathering the wide variety of information needed for the SSD application, which would seek to extend the operations into the future.

"As it has for much of the past century, Marulan South Limestone plays a key role in the growth and development of NSW and the ACT. The resource is there to continue this role and Boral is committed to obtaining the necessary approval to secure the site's future," Mr Longhurst said.

"We have had experts looking at things such as air quality, water management, flora and fauna, heritage, transport and a range of other relevant topics. The information we have gathered will help shape the eventual SSD application we'll submit to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment."

Apart from the 30-year continuation, Boral's proposal will seek approval to mine up to 3.5 million tonnes of limestone per year, with an associated broadening and deepening of the existing mine pit.

The application will also outline plans for the transfer of the resulting 'overburden' into the 'south pit' of the mine, which is to be filled and rehabilitated. In addition, new overburden emplacements will be proposed for the west and north-west of the limestone operations and for the neighbouring Boral Peppertree Quarry.

Negotiations with Goulburn Mulwaree Council in respect of upgrade measures and ongoing maintenance levies for the repair and maintenance of Marulan South Road are planned for inclusion in the application. Also included is the re-routing of the road near Boral's operations to allow for the new overburden emplacements.

In a separate application foreshadowed by Boral, Departmental approval will be sought for some minor changes at the Peppertree Quarry, needed to enhance the new quarry's production rate in the face of increased demand from the building and construction market.

These changes include permission for an additional six hours of 'in pit' activities per day at the 24-hour operation, establishing an additional overburden emplacement area, and confirmation of a combined annual 600 000 tonnes of material from both sites being moved along Marulan South Road.

"The two applications and the detail required in order to submit them is reflective of the importance of the Marulan South Limestone and Peppertree Quarry sites," Mr Longhurst said.

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“This importance is not only from Boral’s perspective. As a major local employer and long-standing contributor to the local community, the Marulan region will also gain from an approval which allows us to carry on the century-old tradition established at Marulan South.”

Further information on Boral’s proposal, the Marulan South Limestone operations and the Peppertree Quarry can be found at www.boral.com.au/marulan.

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