

## GOLD COAST QUARRY NEWSLETTER



Community Information Session,  
28 November 2010

Welcome to the first edition of the Boral Gold Coast Quarry Newsletter, to keep the community informed of the proposed project as it progresses through the Queensland Government's Environmental Impact Assessment process.

### THE PROJECT

Boral proposes to develop an extractive industry operation close to the Pacific Highway on a greenfield site near Reedy Creek, on the Gold Coast. On 19 December 2010, the Queensland Government (QG) declared the Gold Coast Quarry a Significant Project under the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971, requiring an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The proposed quarry is situated on the only Key Resource Area (KRA) south of Nerang and represents the final opportunity to secure a long term and cost effective supply of extractive materials for the southern Gold Coast region. If approved, the development will contribute substantially to the local and state economies through quarry-related expenditure, infrastructure investment and ongoing employment. The development will provide the opportunity for 390 jobs in the Gold Coast region.

The proposed quarry is necessary to deliver critical infrastructure projects across the region and to meet a demonstrated economic need for extractive materials that continues to be generated by strong urban growth. The Gold Coast Quarry is necessary to compensate for the scheduled winding down of Boral's West Burleigh Quarry, which has sufficient reserves for only a further 8.5 to 11 years of production.

### DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

As a Significant Project, the proposal will be subject to an EIS, to be prepared by Boral and to be assessed by the Department of State Development against Terms of Reference (ToR) set by the Coordinator General.

The draft ToR, which outline the issues to be considered in the EIS, were released on 19 February 2011 by the QG for public comment. This process is the responsibility of the QG, through the Coordinator General.

Boral encourages any interested parties to make a submission in writing to the Coordinator General by the closing date. To view the draft ToR or for details on how to make a submission, please visit [www.dip.qld.gov.au/goldcoastquarry](http://www.dip.qld.gov.au/goldcoastquarry)

### GOLD COAST CITY COUNCIL

There have been a number of questions raised about Gold Coast City Council's role in the approval process of the quarry.

The declaration of the project by the QG as a Significant Project requires Boral to prepare a comprehensive EIS as the first step in the approvals process.

The Coordinator General's role is then to carry out the first assessment of the EIS and either recommend that Council approve the development with particular conditions, or direct that Council refuse the application. The Coordinator General can only recommend (not direct) that Council approve the application. If the Coordinator General recommends the project for approval, Boral will then need to make a separate development application to the Gold Coast City Council, which will decide if the project proceeds.



Vanda Grabowski  
and Isaac the koala

## CHANGING PERCEPTIONS

Boral is committed to being an industry leader in managing environmental, community and sustainability issues within its business. The company has long-term partnerships with communities across Queensland, including at Boral's Petrie Quarry, north of Brisbane:

*"Prior to my contact with Boral my perception of quarry activities was not a positive one. As an environmentalist my concerns were for the destruction of bushland habitat and the wildlife in it. Quarries appeared to destroy the environment with no thought for anything other than the profit margin.*

*Then I visited the Boral Petrie site. Efforts to conserve and recycle water were clearly evident, and it was evident that significant habitat enhancement work had been undertaken over a long period of time to provide a thick vegetated buffer around most of the site, providing connectivity for koalas.*

*Boral made cages for our koala rescuers, in which sick and injured animals were carried to medical care. A bonus for me was the construction of an open wired outdoor enclosure under my patio where I could house my furry charges. The labour and materials for both jobs were supplied free of charge by Boral.*

*Boral created Koala Fodder Plantations at two of their quarry sites, Petrie and Narangba. This provides local carers with feed for orphans they raise to sub-adulthood. Excess koala food from the plantation supplies the Australian Wildlife Hospital and the Australia Zoo. Another benefit is that 'leaf' is not being taken from the bush ensuring our wild koalas don't lose out by having their food trees harvested.*

*My perceptions about Boral's quarry business and its employees have changed considerably and I look forward to an ongoing positive relationship with all the team at Boral."*

**Vanda Grabowski**  
Secretary and Education Officer  
Koala Action Pine Rivers Inc.

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION

Boral held a Community Information Session (CIS) on Sunday 28 November 2010 from 12.30 – 4.30 pm at the Reedy Creek Seventh Day Adventist Church Hall. The session informed the local community of the details of the proposed quarry and residents had the opportunity to present their views directly to project team members and through feedback forms. 158 community members registered at the CIS out of approximately 240 attendees, with the majority of registrations being from Tallebudgera Valley, Reedy Creek and Burleigh Heads.

At the CIS, through media releases and letters to residents, Boral provided a number of options for community members to comment on the project through a toll-free 1800 number, a downloadable feedback form and project email and postal addresses.

62 Feedback Forms have been received to date. Key issues include:

- Property values – some residents were concerned that the value of their properties would depreciate
- Blasting – nearby residents to the quarry feared the walls of their homes may be damaged due to vibration
- Traffic – increased traffic on Old Coach Road was an issue of concern for some locals
- Pollution – residents were concerned that dust and noise pollution would be generated from the quarry site
- Environment / Lifestyle – residents want the bushland at the site to remain for reasons relating to flora and fauna preservation and visual amenity.

All of these issues have been logged on a database and are recorded in the Community Information Session Report, which is available on the project website. In response to issues raised at the CIS, Boral has updated the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the project website ([www.boral.com.au/goldcoastquarry](http://www.boral.com.au/goldcoastquarry)).

Updates on the progress of the EIS will be communicated to those residents who have requested to be provided with further information.

## THE NEXT STAGE

Once the Coordinator General has received feedback on the draft ToR, Boral will be issued with the final ToR which will be used to undertake the EIS. In order to gauge the potential environmental, social and economic impacts, engineers and scientists will be on site conducting field investigations throughout 2011. The EIS is targeted for public release during the first half of 2012 and public notices will advise people where and when they can access EIS copies and how submissions can be made.

### Gold Coast Quarry project team contact

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