



April 5,2023

Attn: Alastair Jewell and Susi B.Solly

Tasman Council, New Zealand

Reference: C& J Industries Proposed Gravel Extraction Impacts of Road Safety PDF 07B

Reply: Haydon Taylor's Analysis of Road Safety, unfortunately only addresses the proposed access at 493 Motueka River West Bank Road. It fails to address the reality of constant industrial truck traffic usage of the road. We live on West Bank Road and know first hand the present use and what the critical safety issues are. Fully loaded trucks, will only exacerbate the already dangerous situation that pedestrians, dog walkers, kids on bikes, horseback riders, along with the large popular influx of E-Bikes, motorcycles, and group bikers face everyday on the West Bank Road.

The following is our opinion and assessment of the horrific impact that could occur if C&J Ind. Are granted Council consent. It is our hope that these Safety Issues be taken into serious consideration.

At Present...West Bank Rd. is a narrow winding antiquated country road, that has had minimum improvements over the years. There are many blind corners from Brooklyn, to Alexander Bluff Bridge(and beyond ). Proper lane provisions for pedestrians, bikers, etc, are non-existent...baling up into the weeds is the only choice when a large loaded truck is barrelling toward one, down the slim line of asphalt. Fortunately, at present big truck traffic consists of Solley's, Fontera, and logging trucks, along with the farming trucks and tractors. On a daily basis there are approximately 6-10 heavy industrial trucks per 24 hour period, with many of these traveling at night or early morning. C&J's estimate of 30 trips a day, unfortunately, needs to be reconsidered, unless they actually do bring fill material at the same time as they take out gravel. Again, this is possibly 60 trucks per day, from 7am to 5pm, loading, dumping and traveling on a dangerous country road. Extreme pressure placed on the existing road, along with nerve wracking constant noise, would totally affect the local residents on many levels, including healthy issues , such as, nervous exhaustion from living in the direct impact area of industrial activity. It should be noted, that since Covid-19 the use of the West Bank Road for foot traffic, bikers etc has increased and these patterns continue.

The advent of the Great Taste Bike Trail along the West Bank Road has put it on may bikers maps, and they use it knowing that this trail has been set especially for them. We remember when the Trail was completed and advertised for the benefit of the hospitality establishment the bikers visit. Will this all go to rubbish? Additionally, another consideration is the increasing popularity of camper vans, which are being manufactured in larger sizes. The camper van traffic has exponentially increased on West Bank, and are often driven by individuals who have little or no experience of driving on the left hand side of the road. A fatal example of this, happened 6-8 years ago on the West Bank Road, at the intersection of the Shaggery Road, when a motorcyclist and a caravan collided, with the motorcyclist dying. The driver of the caravan was driving on the wrong side of the road.

2.)

Summation:

In our opinion, we view this as an opportunity for the Tasman Council to step forward and totally deny this consent requested by C&J Industries, turning in favour of the citizens who love this valley and its calm beauty. We honestly ask, Why, Why should all of the folks who live in this part of the Motueka River Valley be subjugated by a large corporation, who dig into the fertile earth for gravel=money? Please do not turn a blind eye to us.

Our peace and tranquillity, homes and peaceful lifestyles that have been developed here should not be taken lightly. Many of us have worked years to have such a wonderful place to live and thrive. Our health, and the onslaught of heavy industry with all its noise, ugly dig site, for 8 hours a day in close range occurring this narrow valley will affect everyone. Our home and land values will definitely be lowered. Who would want to buy here if C&J have their consent...perhaps individuals who are blind and deaf.

Additionally, the very real threat to our water source being contaminated is on the list of big concerns. The proposed gravel extraction site is in a notorious flood zone. Is it that the Council is not aware of the fact that the Motueka River seriously floods, this flooding has become more prevalent in recent years due to climate change. We are seeing more extreme cyclones and rainfalls occurring. This fact coupled with gravel extraction within a literal stones throw of the wells, could in reality ruin our water supply swiftly and completely. No one can stop the destructive forces of nature, not all the pre conditions set on consent, not all the promises put forth by C&J, or any person in their right mind for that matter. Nature always has the last word. Who will make us whole and preserve our water, if this sort of disaster occurs?

We also, would like to address the future of this irreplaceable valley. If consent is given, the destruction of this part of the Mot. Valley will only open the door for future consent. Precedent, can be relied upon by those who have no concern for others, their life style or the environment. We realize that the Council has to consider the application from C&J, because it falls under the RMA from 1993, which is sadly outdated and is now in the process of being updated. We look forward to the revised RMA implementation, hoping for more protection from this type of application for consent.

What real value does this gravel extraction bring to the people of the impact area? There is actually no shortage of gravel in the area. Could it be that C&J had not gotten their affairs in order, are now desperate for gravel and have decided to take advantage of a rural area and populace living in paradise, through Council consent? All the conditions in the world can be placed on C&J and it would not mitigate the bottom line affect, the destruction of this area. We do not trust C&J to monitor themselves. Their environmental track record at other sites is dismal, as evidence has been presented to the Council. There is an old saying, one can put lipstick and a silk shift on a pig , however, at the end of the day, it is still a pig.

3.)

We appreciate the work and consideration that the Council has expended. There are many issues to be considered. It is on record that 113 submissions were against this consent and 33 were for it. The ratio is approximately 4 against to every 1 submission for the consent. 4 to 1, that's obviously an overwhelming majority. It is certainly within the realm of possibility that this consent could be denied and with the blessings of we people here in the Motueka River Valley. We say, deny consent. let C&J appeal, if they wish.

Thank you well and truly for allowing us to have our say.

Most Sincerely,

David and Susan Kellogg

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