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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 15 December 2024 5:37 PM  
**To:** Enquiries  
**Subject:** Opposition to the Proposed Sand Quarry at Bonnie Doon Road

Reference Number :MCUI 2024\_5682/1

[REDACTED]  
Cooya Beach  
Queensland  
[REDACTED]

15/12/24

The Chief Executive Officer  
Douglas Shire Council  
64-66 Front Street  
Mossman QLD 4873

Dear Chief Executive Officer,

Re: Opposition to the Proposed Sand Quarry at Bonnie Doon Road

I am writing as a local resident and ratepayer to formally oppose the proposed sand quarry at Bonnie Doon Road. This proposal represents a significant zoning change from rural to industrial, a decision that warrants thorough public scrutiny, transparent consultation, and a comprehensive environmental impact assessment.

Many residents, particularly those in Cooya Beach, have chosen to live in this area for its peaceful, rural environment. Introducing an industrial operation of this magnitude would not only alter the character of the area but would also pose serious environmental, social, and economic risks.

Environmental Concerns:

1. Loss of Biodiversity:

The fragile ecosystems in this region, including nearby wetlands and the beach, are particularly vulnerable to the negative impacts of sand mining. Pollution and habitat destruction could irreversibly harm local flora and fauna.

2. Erosion:

Sand extraction can exacerbate erosion, threatening both local livelihoods and the tourism industry, which heavily depends on the natural beauty of the Douglas Shire.

3. Salination of Aquifers:

Disturbance caused by sand mining could lead to the salination of aquifers, endangering freshwater supplies for residents and the environment.

#### 4. Flood Risk:

Bonnie Doon Road already floods during the wet season. A sand quarry operation could further destabilize the land, worsening flooding and impacting surrounding properties and infrastructure.

#### 5. Disruption of Natural Water Sources:

Mining activities often disrupt streams and springs, which could negatively affect the wetlands and nearby beach ecosystem.

#### Social and Health Concerns:

##### 1. Air and Noise Pollution:

Operations six days a week for a decade would generate significant dust and noise, severely impacting the well-being of Cooya Beach residents living just one kilometre away.

##### 2. Health Risks:

Quarry dust contains fine particles that can lead to respiratory issues such as asthma, bronchitis, and silicosis. These risks extend to workers and nearby communities.

##### 3. Impact on Property Values:

The presence of a sand quarry will undoubtedly reduce property values in Cooya Beach and surrounding areas, compounding the financial burden on local residents.

##### 4. Quality of Life:

The prolonged industrial operation will fundamentally change the character of the region, degrading the peaceful, rural lifestyle that drew many residents here.

#### Lack of Consultation:

It is deeply concerning that the community has not been adequately consulted on this proposal. A zoning change of this scale demands meaningful engagement with residents and stakeholders, along with the completion of a robust environmental impact study to assess the long-term consequences.

I urge the Council to reconsider this proposal and prioritize the protection of our environment, community, and local economy. Allowing such an intrusive industrial activity to proceed without comprehensive study and public support sets a dangerous precedent for our region.

Could you please inform me if I need to provide any further information to Council as part of my objection to the project.

Thank you for considering this objection. I trust the Council will act in the best interests of the community it serves.

Yours sincerely,



