

Dear YRA Members,

How quickly the year rolls on and as the 2010 winter chill starts to bite in the mornings, it is timely to send out another newsletter to provide update on some of the issues that YRA is keen to see resolved. There are some actions that YOU can assist and those will be highlighted in this communication. We urge you to give these matters due consideration as your help will assist those trying to solve issues in the area.

STANMORE ROAD

On the 30th of March 2010, the YRA Stanmore Road Information Officer sent an email to Donna Gates, Councillor Division 1 GCCC asking the GCCC to communicate to the Yatala community residents on the developments and draft designs of Stanmore Rd upgrade – Stage 3. He asked if she could connect him with the GCCC technical services people involved, so he can obtain the latest information and communicate this through the residents' channels. The reason for this request is that there has to be plans for Stage 3 in the final stage of design, as the outcome of those plans will affect industrial developments that border Stanmore Road. Some of those developments are close to dates for the Planning & Environment Court hearings set down for 2010.

To date there no Stanmore Road Upgrade - Stage 3 plans have been provided to YRA giving reason for concern, as this stage of the road upgrade which affects Yatala residents most and it would seem reasonable that residents are able to have a voice on the final draft before the finalised plan. Donna has indicated to the YRA Stanmore Road Information Officer that she will be in a position to respond to him once the plans are released from the GCCC Planning Department.

DARLINGTON PARK

As stated in the last YRA newsletter, YRA understands that the Darlington Park development application is still in the mediation stage but is now much closer to the date for the Planning and Environment Court. The Yatala residents who are co-respondents to development application are not in a position to communicate the outcomes of the mediation sessions due to legal restraints; however they have indicated that all parties and their experts are endeavouring to find an appropriate outcome for the development of this parcel of land. Of concern is still the type of Industries allowed in the areas called Precinct 1 and Precinct 2, but there is no doubt that the GCCC and the owners of the land are aware of the issues of unhealthy emissions, due to current odour complaints in Yatala currently being investigated by GCCC and DERM. It is hoped that all concerned developing Darlington Park do everything possible not to increase this existing & worrying issue of odour in Yatala.

YRA will be advised when the P & E Court date is set and will communicate that to you all.

ODOURS

The odour problems in the current industrial area are ongoing and on March 10th the Gold Coast Sun newspaper also reported on the matter. See below:

GOLD COAST SUN, Wednesday, March 10, 2010 (P) - Page 5

Someone stop the stink

Odour has locals mad

By LAURA NELSON

A FOUL stench at Yatala has triggered an environmental investigation and angry calls for urgent intervention.

Cavell Dorman, president of the Yatala Residents Alliance, said locals were upset about a 'strong, very unpleasant' odour which smelt like sewage.

"It's not just residents who are complaining - some businesses at Yatala are not happy either," she said.

"Obviously, there has been a change in the dynamics of the area and this foul smell needs to be properly investigated."

Mrs Dorman said Enkelman Drive, Patterson Road and Pagan Road were all affected.

Albert MP Margaret Keech said she was working closely with residents and state environmental authorities to investigate the source of the odour.

"Over the past few months, (environmental officers) have been carrying out odour assessments on my request and these have confirmed there is an odour in the area," she said.

"(They) will continue to monitor the situation over the next month and I have been advised that identifying the source of the odour in the Yatala area is a priority."

Area councillor Donna Gates said she had visited a number of possible sites of the odour and had requested action from the Gold Coast City Council.

"Officers carried out an investigation and found a couple of sites where there was a terrible stench," she said.

"This was having a detrimental impact on businesses in the area and I understand that on one occasion, workers from Uniline had to be sent home because they became ill from a strong odour in the area."

Cr Gates said a slight smell was detected from a waste water pump station near the Yatala Pic Shop, which was rectified.

However, the stench fell within the jurisdiction of state environmental authorities and she was satisfied both Mrs Keech and Coomera MP Michael Crandon would ensure the matter would be thoroughly investigated and remedied.

Mr Crandon vowed to make sure authorities acted to stop the stink.



Bruce Atkinson, Frederick Gnodde, Cavell Dorman, Roslyn Burgess and Jacob Mohar say something is on the nose at Yatala.

This odour issue has reached an even more concerning level on the 21st of April when Ambulances / Fire Brigade and Police were called to Kirsty Court to attend to a number of people affected by a very distressing odour. That same odour was experienced again on the 7th of May between 12.00 noon and 4.00pm when it drove people from their homes to escape the smell. The GCCC and DERM are trying very hard to locate the source of these odours and have included information from these organisations below so you can see just how concerned both are to address these issues.

DERM

From: Daniella Teixeira [<mailto:daniella.teixeira@derm.qld.gov.au>]

Sent: Thursday, 13 May 2010 9:19 AM

To: Cavell Dorman; Division1

Cc: GATES Donna; Albert Electorate Office; Nathan Landon

Subject: RE: Odour Enterprise Place

Hi Cavell,

It would be greatly appreciated if you could please remind residents to complete the odour log forms when they identify an odour. I understand the scale of the issue and my colleagues and I are working hard at resolving the issue with those sites licensed by DERM. However, it really is important for the residents to be vocal with us, and this certainly involves completing odour log forms. As I have mentioned previously, it is often difficult for us to attend the area whenever an offensive odour is present and thus having an odour log form from those who were affected by the odour is really helpful. Needless to say, many times we have rapidly responded to an odour complaint, only for it to have passed by the time we arrive there (as it takes up upwards of half an hour to reach Yatala from our office). Even if we come out, having it documented by those affected by it certainly helps us to determine where it was coming from at the point. It seems that the residents have stopped filling out the forms in recent times as I haven't received any for a while. If this is due to the odour not being present very often, it is also very important that we are informed of this. This can serve as an indicator for the effectiveness of new strategies employed by the companies who are emitting the odours.

The odour issue in Yatala and Staplyton is not a simple one. There are many industries in the area which are potentially emitting offensive odours and thus any information that residents in the area have is beneficial to our investigation.

Myself and my colleagues will be in Yatala today to conduct another site inspection and, if necessary, undertake some odour assessments in the area. I will keep you informed of the progress.

Kind regards,

Daniella Teixeira

Environmental Officer

Environmental Services

South East Region (Gold Coast)

Department of Environment and Resource Management

THE DERM FORM IS ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER – PLEASE KEEP IT AND FILL IT OUT EACH TIME YOU HAVE AN ODOUR ISSUE. THEN SEND IT DIRECTLY TO DERM ON THE EMAIL ADDRESS STATED ABOVE. You can help!

Additional information from DERM:

DERM has been actively pursuing the investigation since November 2009. We have received a significant amount of odour complaints for the Yatala and Staplyton areas. We have since undertaken site inspections of all DERM-regulated sites in Yatala and Staplyton which have been alleged as causing an odour nuisance. Where matters are outside of our jurisdiction (ie sites conducting activities which don't require DERM permits), we have referred the matter to Council. We are continuing to work with the operators of the companies which we feel are still causing an odour nuisance.

If you experience an offensive odour, please immediately contact myself on the details below or Nathan Landon on 5583 2145 or nathan.landon@derm.qld.gov.au

It is important that we are able to get out there while the odour is still present. This helps us to determine what sort of odour is affecting the different areas in Yatala/Staplyton and hopefully determine the source of each of these. Needless to say, there are multiple sites emitting nuisance odours in the area.

GCCC

From: GATES Donna [<mailto:DGATES@goldcoast.qld.gov.au>]

Sent: Wednesday, 12 May 2010 5:08 PM

To: 'Cavell Dorman'

MISSION STATEMENT: "A Community voice surrounding topics which impact the lifestyle, health and environment of residents residing near major commercial and industrial developments in the Yatala Enterprise Area"

Cc: Division1
Subject: RE: Odour

Dear Cavell

Perhaps you can provide some names and addresses of residents who would be prepared to participate by keeping a diary of when the odour occurs. I have asked the same of AVCA and as a way to move forward in identifying the source. I have advised Environmental Health Officers that I would like to pursue this course of action if a number of residents are willing to become involved.

regards
Donna.

Donna Gates
Councillor Division 1

Gold Coast City Council
Ph: 07 5581 6301 Fax: 07 5581 6801 Mobile: 0424 778999
PO Box 5042 Gold Coast Mail Centre Qld 9729
<http://www.goldcoastcity.com.au>

Again – you can help. Please email YRA (yra@yatala.info) if you are prepared to assist by keeping a diary for the GCCC. The GCCC may well have a different diary reporting system to DERM.

This odour problem is a HUGE issue and has been identified as going back many years without much action and it appears a lot of this is related to the previous “Albert Valley Council” from what we are hearing from many concerned!

The GCCC and the State Government have identified the Yatala Enterprise Area as INDUSTRIAL however everyone in GCCC and the State Gov including DERM have a commitment to ensure the area is **SAFE** for those working / going to school / driving the roads / living in the area. At this stage YRA concerns are extremely valid and must be addressed before any other industrial developments are agreed to in the area.

STANMORE MOTOCROSS

On the 18th of March you received an email from YRA showing an email from Donna Gates advising the outcome of the GCCC’s committee decision on Stanmore Motocross. The information below gives finalisation to this matter:

From: Division1 [<mailto:Division1@goldcoast.qld.gov.au>]
Sent: Monday, 22 March 2010 3:45 PM
To: 'Cavell Dorman'
Subject: Stanmore Park closure

Dear Cavell

The Committee Recommendation as put forward re the closure of Stanmore Park on 30 April 2011 was endorsed today by Full Council.

Regards
Donna

HOLCIM AUSTRALIA PTY LTD

On the 12th of April, YRA forwarded to you a copy of the information received from Ray Duggan on behalf of Holcim Australia Pty Ltd – copied again below.

From: Cavell Dorman
Sent: Monday, 12 April 2010 4:33 PM
To: yra@yatala.info
Subject: FW: Proposed Holcim (formerly Readymix) Concrete Plant at Luscombe Quarry

Dear All,

Further to our previous correspondence, below is the reply from Holcim Quarry's consultant – Duggan and Hede Pty Ltd.

The application for the Concrete Batching Plant at the Holcim Quarry is now open for public comment so you all have an opportunity to comment individually on this matter.

All the best,

Cavell Dorman and Gai Drake

From: Ray Duggan [<mailto:R.Duggan@dhenv.com.au>]
Sent: Sunday, 11 April 2010 8:22 AM
To: 'Cavell Dorman'
Cc: 'GATES Donna'; 'Division1'; 'Albert Electorate Office'; yra@yatala.info
Subject: RE: Proposed Holcim (formerly Readymix) Concrete Plant at Luscombe Quarry

Cavell and Gai

Please find below our response to your recent emails:

Operating Hours / Noise

There is no proposal to extend operating hours for quarry trucks or the quarry operations. A detailed noise assessment including modelling for trucks in Stanmore Road is included as Appendix 4 of the application. This concluded: Noise from heavy vehicle movement along the proposed Stanmore Road haul route is expected to result in only marginal increases (< 2 dB) in existing noise levels in the area.

Traffic

It is proposed that 10 concrete agitator trucks will be based at this facility, however this will vary depending on demand from possibly 5 to 15.

Air Quality

A detailed air quality report, including modelling based on real data from similar batch plants, is included as Appendix 4 of the application. This concluded the proposed plant and attenuation measures will comply with statutory criteria for PM10, PM2.5 and total suspended particulates.

Land Dedication

Holcim considered Council and DERM's request for dedication of areas as Open Space however considers those requests unreasonable at this time, given:

- The location of the proposed concrete batching plant was specifically chosen in consultation with Council, as an area within which it was considered appropriate for the plant to be located – on land intended to be utilised for industrial purposes - with due and proper consideration of the site's environmental values and constraints.
- This proposal is to develop a small area within Lot 5 for the concrete batching plant (approximately 1.5 ha of a 26 ha site).
- Clearing will therefore be restricted to an 'island' of non-remnant regrowth vegetation, as identified in ecological assessments as having limited environmental values and in consideration of Council's planning scheme provisions which identify the site as being 'committed to development'.
- Council's request for land dedication would have, however, involved dedication of some 20ha of land, which was in excess of 45% of the landholdings with frontage to Peachey Road (being Lot 5 on RP 815163 and Lot 7 on RP815163). This is considered unreasonable and not warranted by the scale of the proposed development.

MISSION STATEMENT: "A Community voice surrounding topics which impact the lifestyle, health and environment of residents residing near major commercial and industrial developments in the Yatala Enterprise Area"

- Any significant flora and fauna elements outside of the area proposed for clearing and development of the plant would remain subject to existing State and Local Laws with regard to management and would not be adversely impacted on by the proposed development of the plant.
- Holcim are however willing to meet those reasonable expectations of Council, DERM and the community regarding the balance of the site (Lot 5), with regard to its management and/or future planning within these areas.

We also note Council's agreement (i.e. its letter dated 10 September 2008 to Treasure & Associates and included as Appendix I of the Information Response dated 15 March 2010) should therefore reasonably negate the ecological value for dedication of land for the 100m wide corridor - where no provision for connectivity is intended to be made to the north. This is supported by a Review of Ecological Values assessment undertaken (Appendix J of the Information Response dated 15 March 2010), with vegetation within the proposed 100m corridor now considered unlikely to function as a corridor. Rather, this vegetation will represent an ecological cul-de-sac.

Koalas

I have forwarded your email concerning the koala death to Holcim management and have been advised that employees and subcontractors of the quarry have been instructed to be very careful driving along any of the roads in the vicinity of Peachey Road between Pascoe Road roundabout and Stanmore Road.

Ray Duggan |

Duggan & Hede Pty Ltd | Professional Engineers, Planners, Environmental Consultants
1 Lewis Street, Clayfield, Queensland 4011, Australia (PO Box 496, Clayfield QLD 4011)
T: [+61] (7) 3357 3666 | F: [+61] (7) 3857 6233 | M: 0412 783 442 | E: r.duggan@dhenv.com.au |

From: Cavell Dorman

Sent: Wednesday, 31 March 2010 2:27 PM

To: 'Ray Duggan'

Cc: 'GATES Donna'; 'Division1'; 'Albert Electorate Office'; yra@yatala.info

Subject: FW: Proposed Holcim (formerly ReadyMix) Concrete Plant at Luscombe Quarry

Dear Mr Duggan,

Further to our email below acknowledging receipt of your email of the 17th of March 2010, YRA members have the following questions and concerns over the proposed Holcim Concrete Plant at the Quarry on Peachey Road.

The issues are as follows:

* From the community information sheet dated March 2010, it is noted and suspected that the Quarry owners will want to extend operating hours outside the current operating hours permissible for Quarry trucks. This could result in noisy trucks disrupting the residents close to Stanmore Road from their sleep at night and the early hours of the morning, this would be totally unacceptable. This matter does not seem to be addressed in any of the documents that are on the file and is therefore raised with you now as being something that needs clarification. The additional cement trucks will make the already long am/pm traffic queues even longer.

* YRA would like to know how many Concrete Trucks will be based at the plant to service the business proposed by the Quarry owners. There are already issues on Stanmore Road for the residents of Yatala and adding many more truck movements per day is not something that is welcomed. Stage 3 of Stanmore Road upgrade must now take into consideration this matter as whatever direction these trucks will take will see them move onto Stanmore Road so the owners of the Quarry and the GCCC must address this issue.

* The location of the proposed concrete batching plant from the maps provided and from reference to the UBD is approximately 500-600 meters from residents living in Pascoe Road and Venor Drive. Despite the reassurance in the fact sheet that the modern plant and equipment will incorporate a dust collection system, it makes us uncomfortable about such a plant being so close to residents who are already affected by dust from the quarries. One only has to Google "Silicosis" to see dozens of articles on this disease associated among other things with quarry and cement dust. Additionally Google "[what are the causes of silicosis? | eHow.com](#)". YRA therefore voices our concern to the Quarry and the GCCC about this proximity and if it is allowed, insist on constant monitoring of dust in nearby residential areas by an independent body. While Pascoe Road and Venor Drive residents may have the bulk of the issue, there is no doubt that other changes to topography in the area (proposed development of Darlington Park, etc.) has the potential to cause dust drift on certain wind directions to the residents of Yatala and those working in the area.

** In the information request processed 14/11/2008, it is noted and agreed with many of the points relating to protection of waterways, buffers, effluent disposal, erosion and sediment control, parks and recreational services where a request was made to dedicate a certain amount of land for open space.*

** In the response to information request processed 18/3/2010, it is noted from Documents part 1 to Part 17 that the applicant seems to comply, however the applicant does not appear to be prepared to dedicate land for open space as requested. It is felt that everything possible should be done to protect the flora and fauna in the region. In support of this view the flora and fauna in the area is well covered in the concurrency agency response processed 09/01/2009 PDF (336kb) where Koala, frogs and macadamia trees are mentioned along with the fact that the area is a state significant terrestrial corridor connecting Darlington range from Springbrook National Park. It must be said that Peachey Road or any other road in these instances should not be used as an excuse for not providing corridors for wildlife.*

We note that your Public Notification of the Development Application will be advertised in April. No doubt that notice will be placed in a very visible location near the entrance to Holcim Quarry on Peachey Road. The answers to YRA queries will be circulated to all our members and that may assist them with their evaluation of the proposed Holcim Quarry Concrete Plant and any subsequent individual response.

Yours truly,

From: Cavell Dorman
Sent: Thursday, 18 March 2010 10:50 AM
To: 'Ray Duggan'
Cc: 'GATES Donna'; 'Division1'; 'Albert Electorate Office'; 'yra@yatala.info'
Subject: RE: Proposed Holcim (formerly Readymix) Concrete Plant at Luscombe Quarry

Dear Mr. Duggan,

We acknowledge receipt of your email and its attached file. Once an evaluation has been made, YRA will respond accordingly on any concerns our residents and members may raise in relation to your application and attachment.

Yours truly,

Cavell Dorman and Gai Drake
For and on behalf of:

From: Ray Duggan [<mailto:R.Duggan@dhenv.com.au>]
Sent: Wednesday, 17 March 2010 9:05 AM
To: Cavell Dorman
Subject: Proposed Holcim (formerly Readymix) Concrete Plant at Luscombe Quarry

Cavill and Gai

We have been given you names by Cr Donna Gates.

We are acting for Holcim in relation to a DA for a concrete plant at their existing quarry at Peachey Road Luscombe. This will be advertised after Easter.

Attached is a brief overview of the above. This also provides a link to Gold Coast City Council's web site which contains full details of the application.

Please call/email if you have any queries – we would also be pleased to meet with you at a convenient time.

Ray Duggan |
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NEWSLETTER

Issue 7 - May 2010

PO Box 355
Ormeau Qld 4208

Email: yra@yatala.info

AS A FOLLOW UP TO THE ABOVE COMMUNICATIONS YOU ALL RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING EMAIL:

From: Cavell Dorman
Sent: Friday, 16 April 2010 11:09 AM
To: 'yra@yatala.info'; 'Progress Association'
Cc: 'GATES Donna'; 'Albert Electorate Office'
Subject: Holcim Quarry / Batching Plant

Dear All,

As you are aware there is an application in for a Concrete Batching Plant at the Holcim Quarry in Peachey Road.

YRA has strong contacts with the Ormeau Progress Association and they have provided a copy of the correspondence they have received from Holcim that is very relevant to the issues of the area. We have permission to send a copy of this letter to all YRA members for their consideration.

YRA would like to thank OPA for their attention to the environmental issues and in particular a big thanks for Peter Lehmann for his time now and in the future in working through this issue with Holcim. Further information will be forwarded when it comes to hand.

Best regards,

Cavell Dorman & Gai Drake

MISSION STATEMENT: "A Community voice surrounding topics which impact the lifestyle, health and environment of residents residing near major commercial and industrial developments in the Yatala Enterprise Area"



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Thursday 8 April, 2010

Mr Peter Lehmann
Vice Chairman
Ormeau Progress Association
11 Dalglish Rd
Ormeau Hills QLD 4208

Dear Mr Lehmann

Please accept this correspondence as a letter of intent from Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd.

The Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd Beenleigh Concrete Batching Plant Development Application (Application number: MCU2800820) for Lot 5 RP815163, Peachey Road Luscombe, is due to commence statutory Public Notification on Friday 9 April 2010.

The minimum period for which the Development Application must be Publicly Notified is 30 business days.

Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd (Holcim) shall formally extend the Development Application Public Notification period to sixty (60) business days.

The extended period will provide Holcim and the Ormeau, Upper Ormeau and Luscombe communities with additional time in which to come to mutually acceptable agreements pertaining to Holcim's long-term commitments to its social and environmental responsibilities.

This 60 business days also extends the period in which stakeholders can lodge submissions on the Development Application.

The extended Public Notification period will commence on Friday 9 April 2010 and close on Thursday 8 July 2010.

Holcim proposes the following:

1. Holcim shall engage James Warren & Associates Pty Ltd or such an independent environmental consultant that is mutually acceptable to Holcim and the Ormeau Progress Association Executive Committee by Friday 23 April 2010 to prepare an *Environmental Management Plan* for the freehold land termed the 'Southern Lands' by Holcim. Holcim's Southern Lands include:
 - a. Lot 5 on RP15911
 - b. Lot 1 on RP15910
 - c. Lot 1 on RP207372
 - d. Lot 2 on RP207372

- e. Lot 71 on RP865173
 - f. Lot 88 on RP865173
 - g. Lot 2 on RP174510
2. The *Environmental Management Plan* will incorporate recommendations and actions for the elimination of illegal off-road vehicle access and rehabilitation of environmentally damaged areas on Holcim's Southern Lands.
 3. The independent environmental consultant will also be commissioned by Holcim to prepare an introductory *Environmental Management Action Plan* before 30 business days of the Public Notification period have passed (subject to the time commitments of the independent consultant). This document is expected to make broad recommendations about the remediation and rehabilitation of Holcim land that has been damaged by illegal off-road vehicle access.
 4. The *Environmental Management Action Plan* will be presented by Holcim to the Ormeau Progress Association Executive for comment. If, at 30 business days, the Ormeau Progress Association Executive is not satisfied with the *Environmental Management Action Plan*, and if agreement cannot be reached between the Executive and Holcim as to changes that would make the document mutually acceptable, Holcim will withdraw the Beenleigh Concrete Batching Plant Development Application from the Gold Coast City Council.
 5. The Ridge Road leading from Vennor Drive to Cliff Barron's Road will not be blocked or closed. Holcim will continue to erect physical obstructions at entry points to its land where illegal off-road vehicle trespass is occurring.
 - NOTE:** Holcim commenced the construction of physical barriers to illegal vehicle access to the Holcim land from the Vennor Drive / Kirk Outlook access track on Thursday 8 April 2010
 6. Holcim will, in the week beginning 12 April 2010, erect signage at entry points to its land where illegal off-road vehicle trespass is occurring, warning that action will be taken against trespassers.
 7. By the end of Friday 9 April 2010 Holcim will have commenced providing warnings to relevant websites about its intention to report off-road vehicle trespass on land that it owns.
 - NOTE:** The assistance of the community in identifying websites that should be targeted by Holcim would be appreciated. Holcim will implement its own 'key word' searches and other procedures to identify websites that should be issued with warnings.
 8. As of 9.00am on Saturday 10 April 2010, Holcim will have a security guard patrolling, at appropriate times, the entry points at which illegal off-road vehicle access is occurring on its land. The security company has been briefed and has completed a site inspection.
 - NOTE:** As per your suggestion, we can provide a telephone number [of the patrolling security guard] to residents of The Plateau, Kirk Outlook and any other nearby areas you recommend. Residents will be invited to call the telephone number when they identify that an off-road vehicle(s) is

trespassing on Holcim lands. We wish to emphasise that residents' participation in this initiative is voluntary and that Holcim takes responsibility for managing its own landholdings.

9. Holcim will commence the preparation of a draft Heads of Agreement with the Ormeau Progress Association and its affiliates, which sets out the terms of its commitment to the recommendations and actions of the Environmental Management Plan.
10. Holcim will convene a Community Advisory Panel that will become the ongoing forum through which the company will communicate with the community about its progress on the implementation of remedial and improvement actions on the Southern Lands.
11. Holcim will hold the inaugural meeting of the Community Advisory Panel by the end of June 2010.
12. Holcim would appreciate the opportunity to continue its direct communication with you as its adjacent neighbour and as a nominated community liaison contact.
13. Holcim will provide Cr Donna Gates, Ms Margaret Keech and Mr Brett Raguse with this correspondence and inform them about ongoing consultation and progress with the environmental strategy.

Holcim is committing to these undertakings on the understanding that:

1. The Ormeau Progress Association and its affiliates will place on hold their proposed publicity and lobbying campaign against Holcim during the concrete batching plant Development Application Public Notification period.
2. Holcim will endeavour to develop a positive working relationship with the community, such that the Ormeau Progress Association and its affiliates will not feel it necessary to proceed with its campaign.
3. The Ormeau Progress Association and its affiliates commit in good faith to working with Holcim to address the concerns which members have identified and documented.

Mr Lehmann, thank you for accepting this letter of intent on behalf of the Ormeau Progress Association. Holcim looks forward to working with the community to achieve sustainable, mutually acceptable social and environmental outcomes.

Yours sincerely



Peter Wakeham
General Manager Brisbane Gold Coast Aggregates

FURTHER UPDATE:

YRA understands that Holcim is now even more concerned over the actions of those gaining illegal access to its land. Two security guards have been patrolling the Holcim Southern Lands and are reported as stopping up to 36 x 4 wheel drives per day. While this is a marked improvement over the previous period it must now be noted that “rebels” are targeting the security guards. Holcim management are very concerned over this matter and have now sought legal recourse by having the security guards hand out legal letters stating that any unauthorised person accessing Holcim land are trespassing as well as causing environmental harm. Both matters have serious consequences and attract huge fines. Unregistered bike riders are also causing massive concern and are hard to catch. The QLD Police have been briefed and Holcim continues its liaison with them on this matter.

Lastly, it is now known that firearms are being used in the area as a very large feral pig was shot and its remains dragged to an internal road. Its tusks were removed as a trophy but the body left to rot on the road. From wildlife monitoring systems, the Qld Gov and GCCC know that these and other feral animals are in the Darlington Ranges and the relevant authorities take the actions needed to eradicate these animals. Therefore there is no doubt that this animal was shot in its environs by persons unknown to anyone responsible for the use of the land. It is understood that Holcim and the authorities are very concerned over this matter and they will take every action possible to eradicate this unauthorised gun related activity in the area.

As a final note on the Concrete Batching Plant application – YRA will NOT be making a submission to this application on behalf of YRA Members. It is felt that the information asked originally by YRA will give Holcim management and the GCCC a feel for the concerns of the residents of Yatala. The biggest problem is obviously the added traffic in the area and there is no doubt at all that GCCC are well aware of this issue. Added traffic will only compound the many reports of windscreen damage to cars in the area from stones flying up from Quarry Trucks travelling along Peachey and Stanmore Roads.

YRA did ask Donna Gates for some information on the actual style of Batching Plant as she indicated that there was one in another part of Division 1 – see email reply below.

From: GATES Donna [<mailto:DGATES@goldcoast.qld.gov.au>]

Sent: Tuesday, 4 May 2010 5:02 PM

To: 'Cavell Dorman'

Subject: RE: Holcim Concrete Batching Plant

It's Hymix - 1 Ellis Way Upper Coomera (near intersection of Old Coach Road and Coomera Springs Boulevard) Cavell. It has been there for as long as I have been the representative (2007) and I have never received a complaint.

best regards

Donna.

Donna Gates
Councillor Division 1

Gold Coast City Council

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<http://www.goldcoastcity.com.au>

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It is now over to you as INDIVIDUALS to put in your own submission on this application by no later than the end of the first week of June 2010.

WILDLIFE IN THE AREA

You are all aware that a Koala was killed on Peachey Road just before Easter. This has prompted YRA **to seek your help**. If you see any wildlife – alive or dead – please take a photo (digital is best) of the animal as close up as possible, as well as the surrounding area with a key identifier ie: street sign, fence, unique tree, etc. This will be an invaluable resource for identifying the wildlife as well as for use by the organisations that have an interest in the care and protection of these native animals, birds and amphibians. You can email your images to YRA (yra@yatala.info) and we will forward them on to the relevant authorities for you.

SUMMARY

As you can see it has been a very busy few months and while you have been informed by email as matters occur, highlighting them again in this newsletter prompts us all to think again on the issues of the area. YRA is asking for your help in lots of ways in this newsletter – we do hope that you respond, as you will help make Yatala a safer place to live, work and attend school.