

**Submission
No 220**

**INQUIRY INTO KOALA POPULATIONS AND HABITAT IN
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Mrs Jacqui Purcell

Date Received: 1 August 2019

Hi

I'm writing to you to express my concern over the proposed expansion to the Brandy Hill Quarry, predominantly it's impact on the Koala population.

The "Biodiversity Assessment" report, prepared by Biosis, states that the proposed clearing of the land (necessary to facilitate ongoing production at the site, as their current footprint is out of resources) will have "a significant impact on a national level" to the Koala population. Hanson's proposed management strategy for this, is a credit scheme (where essentially land is purchased that will definitely not be cleared). Now I'm not a Koala, but I pose to you; how are these Koalas supposed to know that instead of moving into the bushland were they want, that actually they should be moving into a special parcel of land on the other side of the hill? Biosis also state "A total of 1191 Koala species credits under the NSW BioBanking scheme would be required to offset the impacts of the Project (Biosis 2017). Koala credits will be purchased, fulfilling a Tier 1 outcome. However, the Commonwealth Government has not accredited the use of the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Fund (BCF) for retirement of credits required for MNES. Therefore the direct payment to the BCF is not considered a valid offset option for the Project".

We have personally had Koala's walking across our front yard. They're there. They're an iconic Australian species.

HUMANS are currently causing the earth's 6th mass extinction. Mass extinctions are generally caused by global catastrophic events, like ice ages or meteorites. But currently we're managing to cause it with really dumb stuff, like deforestation and climate change. Species are dying and becoming extinct at alarming rates, and we currently have over a million individual species which are threatened with extinction.

Is this quarry really worth the habitat of our precious Koala?

If I can be of any assistance to your inquiry please be in touch.

Kind regards
Jacqui Purcell