## Mt Coot-tha Quarry (MCQ) - Fact Sheet - March 2020 - Version-3 March 2020

Whilst the BCC tries to prevent external people from obtaining any true facts, this information is true:

- 1. In 2002, Labor Lord Mayor Soorley extended the MCQ closure by 30 years (till 2032).
  - No community consultation was done and no public announcement was made.
- 2. The Mt Coot-tha Local Residents (MCLR) were "Excluded" by Lord Mayor Quirk, but continue to work as Mt Coot-tha Quarry (MCQ) Whistle Blowers. They simply want to get on with their lives like ordinary people.
  - Since then the Qld Human Rights law, requires all complaints to be handled fairly (no exclusions).
- 3. The Mt Coot-tha Protection Alliance Inc (MCPA) is <u>a protection organisation which opposed LM Quirk's</u> Financially Unviable Zipline, (departing Mt Coot-tha Lookout going down into the popular Botanical Gardens).
- 4. Undaunted by the LM Quirk Exclusion, the MCLR knew in their hearts that "Tourism Blasting" was wrong.
- 5. The MCLR then <u>used Qld Globe to estimate the MCQ mined hole volume</u> at <u>13 Million Cubic Metres</u>, with an extracted mass of 40 Million Tonnes, thus requiring 8 Million urban truck movements.
  - This hole is similar to adding Roma St to Southbank Parklands and then blasting to 100metres deep.
- 6. Mt Coot-tha produces road gravel, which is both inexpensive and abundant.
  - MCLR followed MCQ quarry trucks delivering to asphalt factories south of Ipswich.
  - MCLR contacted several southside quarries, who are all available to replace Mt Coot-tha road gravel.
- 7. The MCLR proceeded to define BCC Mt Coot-tha economic management as a Major Financial Disaster:
  - The MCLR has calculated the (2032) rehab cost (debt) as \$500 Million, which greatly exceeds the value of all gravel mined since 2002. (This equals 18% of the entire BCC annual budget).
  - The MCLR have also <u>defined the lost benefit (2002-2032) as \$5.5 BILLION</u>, as documented by other rehabilitated quarries, such as the <u>Eden Cornwall Case Study</u> and <u>Canada Annual Gardens-BC Revenue</u>.
  - Adding the rehab debt to the missed benefit, equates to \$6 BILLION with associated lost employment.
  - This represents double (200%) the entire BCC annual budget, and half (50%) of the 2019 Qld Budget.
  - This is clearly a Scandalous BCC Gross Economic Mismanagement of the Highest Possible Order.
- 8. The MCLR proved beyond doubt, that MCQ grossly misrepresented their blast vibration footprint by 300% plus the MCQ still use non-standard monitoring practices, which are well-known to provide faulty data.
  - The MCQ Blasting License allows almost <u>all blasts to exceed the State Maximum</u>, <u>plus on every 10<sup>th</sup> blast</u> there is no defined maximum. *Even though there is zero separation to the closest homes*.
  - The MCQ refused the MCLR request to do permanent monitoring on private homes and property.
  - The MCLR were thus forced to do their own monitoring and found that the blast vibration and noise exceeded the allowed MCQ maximums to exceed their (already very strong) limit by more than 200%.
  - This was ignored by the Qld Labor Government. *However, the MCLR were later advised that the company organisation who receives much of the MCQ gravel, is a major & regular Qld Labor financial donor.*
  - The <u>BCC</u> staff physically attempted to stop the video blast recording by placing themselves or <u>their hats</u> over the camera lens. However, despite this <u>several MCLR videos were created</u> indicating dangerous <u>Silica Dust Clouds</u>, especially for the <u>10% of Australians and the valued tourists</u>, who are Asthmatics.
- 9. The BCC has advised that no MCQ Rehabilitation documents or emails exist on their computer system.
  - International Council on Mining & Metals Mine Closure Toolkit clearly shows the large additional costs caused by not starting the rehabilitation planning process, several years before quarry closure.
  - Whilst the MCQ rehabilitation is mentioned in <u>the BCC planning schemes</u> and <u>neighbourhood plans</u>, the BCC ignores and does not comply with this.
- 10. The MCQ has never monitored their blasting silica dust. Silica dust is endemic to the entire MCQ area.
  - The MCLR collected silica dust samples from adjacent public road & gutters.
  - No silica blast-dust <u>health danger warnings</u> are ever posted in the <u>Gardens</u>, <u>Residential or Scenic areas</u>.
- 11. The MCLR have seen, photographed and published the total removal of mature-growth trees.
  - These <u>Scenic Drive trees</u> would have been very valuable for any rehabilitation process, but were recently totally removed, to be ready for more blasting.
- 12. The information provided by the MCQ Manager to the ABC 612 Radio, includes <u>many statements which are definitely and obviously untrue.</u> (Such as all MCQ Blasts only lasting for 0.6 seconds).
- 13. The BCC has approved substantial residential development in the adjacent areas.
  - The unfortunate intending residents believed the earlier MCQ 2015 closure date public announcements.
  - When the blasting stops, these local residents can finally repair their home blast vibration damage.
  - Download Rehab Spreadsheet

Philip Best - MCLR Engineer & Chairperson. www.facebook.com/SaveMountCoottha www.SaveMtCoot-tha.org