

## REPRESENTATIONS

NO.	COMMENTS
1	<p>I live at XXX, Isle of Barra, I live in the 2nd house down from the existing quarry and I would like to record my total objection to the proposed extension.</p> <p>I note the quarry may double in size both northward and westward down into Grean. The existing quarry is situated at the very top of the hill overlooking all of Grean and Lower Grean. This area has been substantially developed over recent years with the last 6 houses being occupied less than 6 months ago. I believe a further 6 homes are being considered.</p> <p>There is no wind protection on the Northbay side of the quarry and as the proposals will effectively lower the quarry height by a substantial amount, the existing protection given by the hillside on the west would disappear completely exposing the whole of Grean to wind driven dust, dirt and quarry noise. This situation could hardly be worse for the local population.</p> <p>Listed below are some of main concerns:</p> <p>1) Health Hazard Due to the high and exposed position of the quarry, dust, particularly silica dust is a serious health hazard. Over undetermined time, the inhalation of this fine and almost undetectable dust can lead to silicosis and irritate many other respiratory illness such as asthma. This is a medical fact.</p> <p>2) Flooding There is already an ongoing issue with flooding in wet weather which has been reported many times to the council and original quarry owners with zero response.</p> <p>The site drawings show little detail of antiflood measures or prepared catchments. Bearing in mind the major changes in our weather patterns due to climate change, flooding could prove a major issue in the future.</p> <p>3) Environment Sadly this proposal will prove totally disastrous for the area as presently we enjoy an abundance of wildlife such as otters, deer, corncrake, sea eagles, migratory birds and the puss moth butterfly (which is almost unknown in the hebrides).</p> <p>4) Traffic Hazard Should the quarry double in size then the volume of heavy lorry and heavy machinery traffic will increase accordingly.</p> <p>There are 2 housing developments within half a mile of the quarry. These are situated close to the road and toddlers and young children are regularly seen playing close to the road with bicycles and prams.</p> <p>Add into the mix the nightmare situation from April to October of campervans and cyclists, mostly driven with very inexperienced drivers and riders all on single track roads and likely for their first time.</p> <p>5) Blasting This is a seriously alarming and frightening occurrence which is not notified to us in any way despite living only 340m from the existing quarry. Following the blasts, if the prevailing wind is in the East, our washing, windows and cars are covered in a fine dust and aggregate. I have contacted Health and Safety Executive and other agencies for guidance on this.</p>

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	<p>I hope my genuine concerns will be considered carefully when reaching your final decision. I feel this is a foolhardy situation which could lead to a multitude of unsolvable problems in the future and quite honestly feel some alternative must be found.</p>
2	<p>I wish to raise an objection to the extension of the above quarry.</p> <p>I reside at XXX and do not want the quarry to extend any further west as it is already within 100 meters of the township boundaries.</p>
3	<p>I would like to raise an objection to the above planning application for the following reasons.</p> <p>The expansion of the quarry in the direction proposed in the plan would have a detrimental effect on our property as we are located close to the quarry in Upper Grean. At present the quarry is not visible from the properties in the village; however, it appears this would no longer be the case if the new plans were to be approved. Expanding the quarry as proposed would open the hill above the properties, resulting in an increase in noise pollution in addition to changing the hillside skyline.</p> <p>I would like to stress that we do not object to the expansion of quarry and would welcome amended plans where the village residents were not directly affected. I am happy to be contacted to discuss the matter further if required.</p>
4	<p>I am writing to object to the extension of the Cleat &amp; Lower Grean quarry. I am a concerned islander (currently residing on the mainland with the hope to move home soon). The current quarry is an eyesore &amp; extremely unattractive especially to locals as well as to tourists who visit the island. I am also concerned about the increased traffic this extension will create as the road next to the quarry is very busy a great deal of the time.</p>
5	<p>I strongly object to the extension of the Cleat and Lower Grean quarry for several reasons.</p> <p>The quarry is situated only 340m from my parents house and this is a home that I will inherit and live in in the future and equally pass on to my children.</p> <p>Although I am aware of the need of a quarry on the island, I am sure there are ways in which the quarry can be extended without being so intrusive to the landscape and the villagers of Grean.</p> <p>The quarry is already an eyesore and is run in a questionable manner. When blasting occurs in the quarry, there is never any warning for the residents closest to the quarry. Until recently there was an elderly lady, dying in her own home and being terrified when there were unreported blasts.</p> <p>My own parents are elderly and have had to suffer this. Extending the quarry will only worsen this and what quality of life does that give to them?</p> <p>As a respiratory nurse, I have extensive knowledge of silicosis which is caused by crystalline silica dust, the is a chronic disease of the airways. Crystalline silica is found in the stone they are quarrying. Have any health and safety studies been done at this specific quarry to investigate the risk to the villagers? I would be very interested to read if possible? The effects of silicosis are ghastly and degenerative, it causes shortness of breath, coughing, exhaustion and can lead to a premature death. This cannot be ignored.</p> <p>The view of the landscape will change by extending this quarry in the direction they propose. This will change the weather patterns for the villagers as they gain a lot of shelter from the hill they propose to dig out and I assume you will appreciate that on the western isles, the weather can be</p>

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	<p>incredibly challenging.</p> <p>The increased noise, dust and disruption would be very unfair for the tenants on their crofts. They have all worked family crofts for decades and this will change so much for them. Not only that but something as ugly, noisy and dusty will devalue their properties, so even if they choose to move from the area, they will not get a true reflection of the value of their property</p> <p>What happens if when quarrying they hit a water table? The quarry sits at the top of hill and all the residents live below this, if flooding occurs, this will not be addressed by the quarry owners, again local residents suffer.</p> <p>There are so many other factors to consider such as wildlife, traffic and further disruption of the aesthetic of the island.</p> <p>Has the ownership of the land been discussed, as I believe this is on township land and is not owner by the contractors? The Crofting Commission's key recommendations for planning includes "the development does not have a detrimental impact on the area of land available for agricultural activity and therefore on the agricultural viability of the croft" cited from <a href="http://www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk">www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk</a></p> <p>I would beg that you do not allow this proposed extension to be passed. John MacLennan Contractors could extend In the opposite direction, into the hill and further towards Northbay and this could mitigate several of theses concerns.</p> <p>The current proposed plans will completely alter the quality of life for the people of Grean.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to read my objection.</p>
6	<p>As a home owner and living very close to Cleat and lower Grean quarry, I strongly object to its extension.</p> <p>Living only 340m from its entrance, I already suffer flooding down the road and in towards my property. Dust is a problem and a health hazard, I am asthmatic and this aggravates this condition. Noise is already an existing problem and the quarry was working until 10pm frequently throughout the summer.</p> <p>There have been several fires already in the quarry, in recent times this has led to burning of the heather within a close proximity of my house and oil tank.</p> <p>I was never informed when blasting was taking place, this put me in a state of fear in my own home. As an animal lover, I feel for all animals and birds, especially protected species such as the otter and the corncrake and the impact the noise and disruption of the quarry has on their survival.</p> <p>As you can see I already find the quarry disruptive and it has a stressful impact on my life and that of the local environment so again I state that I strongly object to an extension as this will worsen the current situation.</p>
7	<p>My grandparents reside at 2 Grean, Isle of Barra, the second house down from the current quarry. I vehemently oppose the proposed extension for several critical reasons, .....xxx....</p> <p>Heightened Health Risks:</p> <p>The elevated position of the quarry poses a significant health hazard due to airborne dust, especially silica dust. Prolonged exposure can lead to severe respiratory issues, such as silicosis and</p>

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	<p>aggravation of conditions like asthma. This is an undeniable medical concern.</p> <p><b>Flooding Challenges:</b> Existing concerns about flooding during wet weather have been repeatedly reported with no response. The proposed plans lack sufficient detail on anti-flood measures, and given the changing weather patterns due to climate change, flooding could become a major future problem.</p> <p><b>Environmental Catastrophe:</b> The proposed extension would be disastrous for the local environment, currently home to a diverse range of wildlife, including otters, deer, corncrake, sea eagles, migratory birds, and the rare puss moth butterfly. Preserving this habitat is crucial.</p> <p><b>Traffic Safety Hazards:</b> Doubling the quarry's size would lead to a proportional increase in heavy traffic, posing a hazard to the nearby housing developments. With toddlers and young children often playing close to the road, coupled with the influx of campervans and cyclists during certain months, the potential for accidents is alarming.</p> <p><b>Unnotified Blasting Impact:</b> The lack of notifications regarding blasting poses a serious concern. With my grandparents living a mere 340 meters from the existing quarry, the aftermath of blasts, when the wind is in the East, results in their property being covered in fine dust and aggregate. They have sought guidance from relevant authorities, including the Health and Safety Executive, without satisfactory responses.</p> <p>I implore you to carefully consider these genuine concerns in your decision-making process. The proposed extension seems ill-advised, risking a multitude of problems in the future. It is imperative to explore alternative solutions that prioritize the well-being of the community and the environment.</p>
8	<p>I am writing to raise concerns regarding the expansion and development of the Quarry situated in Grean on the Isle of Barra. I have listed below a number of points I would like your response.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What will be the operating times 'Start and end' plus days each week? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please include notification periods listing times of blasting and utilisation of explosives?</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. How will noise and dust pollution be monitored for environmental impact on both those living near by and the surrounding land and fauna?</li> <li>3. I appreciate elevation plans are standard practise. However, not everyone can read these with the level of understanding needed. As such, I request the area is pinned out on the earth area with visible tape so the layperson can see where the intended development is planned.</li> </ol>