## Community Update





## SUTHERLAND SHIRE COUNCILV BENEDICT INDUSTRIES: ALL CHARGES DISMISSED Court rules quarry bund wall legal; built to stop vandalism and improve safety

As a family owned and operated business, Benedict Industries - operator of Sandy Point Quarry - knows the importance of keeping Sandy Point community updated about developments at the quarry.

Recently, the NSW Land and Environment Court dismissed all charges brought by Sutherland Shire Council against Benedict in respect of the alleged unlawful construction of a bund wall around the perimeter of Lot 2 and alleged unlawful clearing of vegetation. In dismissing those charges, the Court made a series of important findings which included:

- The bund wall was not built in order to dispose of waste;
- The Court inferred, based on the presumption of regularity, that development consent has been granted for quarrying on Lot 2; and
- The removal of trees and vegetation was ancillary to the construction of the bund

In making those findings, the Judge found, amongst other things, "without any doubt whatsoever, that Benedict constructed the bund for the purpose of securing the quarry from trespass, theft, vandalism and to ensure basic site security and safety, in addition to other purposes related to the quarrying use of the land - including water management".

The judge also found that the material used to build the wall was not waste, and that "the material from Benedict Recycling, was not an unwanted by-product of any process at all. It was a wanted resource material". The bund wall benefits both the community and Benedict. The Court's decision means we can now develop a plan to better utilise the entire site.



## **Operational Update**

Since our last community update in September 2016, we have been improving Sandy Point Quarry. Over the past few months we have completed the following upgrades:

- construction of the weighbridge with integrated wheel wash;
- installation of office and amenities buildings;
- resurfacing of the entrance road;
- installation of the sand washing plant; and
- construction of additional storage ponds.

With these improvements completed and further works to enhance the site well underway, we are proud to announce that Sandy Point Quarry is officially re-opened. Thanks to our team, we expect to be fully-operational very soon.





Working closely with community members over the past few months has proved very valuable, particularly during our blasting activities. A technical expert from the shot blast company recently met with the Sandy Point Progress Association (SPPA) to explain the finer details of blast design and monitoring (air blast over pressure and ground vibration). Whilst blast monitoring results are continually within the prescribed Environment Protection Licence limits, active collaboration with the Quarry and SPPA means blast design parameters are being tailored to minimise any potential impacts on the local community.

Our next blast is scheduled for March 2017. We will advise the SPPA and the Community of the exact date and a red flag will be posted outside the Community Centre seven days prior to the blast being conducted.

Benedict Industries looks forward to continuing our good relationship with the Sandy Point Community.



Benedict Industries - family owned & operated



Caring for our environment - erosion control, Sandringham



A proposal for the future -George's Cove Marina, Moorebank



A great example of rehabilitation - Heron Park, Chipping Norton