

HOLSWORTHY

Dana's grit to succeed

Quarry's expansion to reuse materials in a bid to save them from going to landfill



Benedict Industries co-managing director Dana Dupere at the quarry. Picture: Robert Pozo

Stacy Thomas

BENEDICT Industries plans to mesh its quarry and recycling works to reuse material that would normally end up in landfill.

The company owns Sandy Point Quarry at Holsworthy, as well as nine other sites, and plans to blend the imported excavation sand and sandstone with the raw material on site.

Co-managing director Dana Dupere said they had listened to the public after originally submitting a more extensive recycling plan, narrowing it to just sand and sandstone.

Mrs Dupere said combining its quarry process with recycled materials fused well and was a great way to reuse products.

"We're going to lodge a development application to recycle sand and sandstone ... and blend it with raw materials on site," she said.

"We initially lodged an application for a broader recycling facility. We've since listened to the community and modified it.

"There are not many opportunities to recycle in the current Sydney basin. Blending with our products means we can produce more specific aggregates."

It means they'll be able to source excavation materials from tunnels and projects like the WestConnex.

Mrs Dupere said the Sandy Point Quarry was well positioned to the M5 and

M7, reducing time spent on the road by trucks.

"With our 50 years of expertise in quarries and 15 years of recycling, we're putting two skills together that will benefit the community," she said.

The development application will take up to 12 months to be approved and includes the installation of a \$4 million seagull intersection on Heathcote Rd at the entry to the Sandy Point Quarry to minimise the impact of truck traffic entering the facility.

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Benedict Industries has already invested \$5 million on the site with plans to invest a further \$1 million in infrastructure and \$2 million in mobile plant.

The company started 50 years ago with Mrs Dupere's parents Ronald Benedict Smith and Margaret Smith (pictured below) and one office staff member.

Today they employ more than 150 staff, have 10 sites and have evolved from trucks to quarries to landfills to recycling, with three generations of the family involved.

Sandy Point Quarry is opening its doors to the public on Sunday, May 1 from 10am to 1pm.

