

Media Release
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Sandy Point Quarry bus tour attracts local residents

Benedict Industries opened its Sandy Point Quarry to their neighbours today with local residents taking advantage of a 30 minute mini-bus tour of the site to discuss the company's development plans for the quarry.

Benedict Industries Co-Managing Director, Dana Dupere, said the Information Day was "a chance to meet more of our neighbours and answer their questions about our proposal to recycle sand and sandstone at the Quarry".

"We are proud of our neat and tidy quarry and it was great to have so many people come along to see for themselves what happens here. We wanted to put their minds at ease," Ms Dupere said.

"Discussions centred around the environmental improvements we've made at the Quarry and the ways we inform our neighbours about our day-to-day activities including blasting and transportation of material to and from the Quarry.

"We wanted to assure residents that air quality modelling at the site meets EPA criteria."

Local Federal Member, Craig Kelly MP, attended and toured the site with Ms Dupere.

Since acquiring the quarry in 2010 Benedict has installed irrigation systems to minimise dust on roads in the quarry and applied a polymer sealant to previously cleared but inactive areas of the quarry to minimise wind-generated dust.

"The Information Day provided the community with an opportunity to hear about Benedict's future development plans for the site, including our proposed Development Application to recycle sand and sandstone at the Quarry," Ms Dupere said.

"Benedict was keen to talk to local residents, hear any concerns they had, and provide answers."

The recent decision by the NSW Minister for Primary Industries, Lands and Water, the Hon Niall Blair MLC, to grant owner's consent to Benedict Industries allows the company to lodge a Development Application for proposed recycling of sand and sandstone at Sandy Point Quarry - to be assessed by the Department of Planning.

After community feedback, Benedict decided to limit materials to be processed at the Quarry. The proposed recycling activities will process mainly virgin natural excavated material such as sand and sandstone, much of which will be extracted during the construction of WestConnex and other major infrastructure projects in Sydney.

Benedict's Development Application will include the construction of a \$4M seagull intersection on Heathcote Road at the entry to the Sandy Point Quarry to minimise the impact of truck traffic entering the facility. Benedict will pay for the construction of the intersection.

Quarry truck movements are currently less than one per cent of the traffic on Heathcote Road.

"The Sandy Point Quarry has been operating successfully for over 50 years and is a valuable resource for the State," Ms Dupere said.

"Benedict has been operating in the local area since 1977 and is committed to being a responsible employer and corporate citizen."

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