

Kholo Creek Quarry Haulage Route

This is a Department of State Development project to identify a suitable haulage route for the proposed Kholo Creek Quarry adjacent to Brisbane Forest Park north east of Lake Manchester Road. The Kholo Creek hardrock resource has, for many years, been recognised as regionally significant and economically important to the future development of SE Queensland. In particular, the resource will service the future hardrock product needs of Ipswich, Western Brisbane and South Esk.

The Kholo Creek Hardrock Resource Advisory Panel was established in 1996 to assist in the identification and resolution of issues relating to the resource. The advisory panel is chaired by the Department of State Development and comprises within its membership representatives from special interest groups in the local community, the quarry industry, local government and Queensland government agencies.

In 1998 the Qld Government, on the recommendation of the Advisory Panel and in recognition of the findings of studies which examined the likely future demand for Kholo Creek hardrock and economic viability of Kholo Creek resource as against possible alternatives, announced publicly that:

- It gave in principle support for the development of the Kholo Creek hardrock resource; and
- Product transport should only be via a dedicated transport corridor running from the resource area south-west to the Warrego Highway.

Parsons Brinckerhoff (Australia) Limited (PB), formerly PPK Environment & Infrastructure Pty Ltd, has recently completed a Road Transport Planning Study in relation to the Kholo Creek hardrock resource.

PB identified Route 20 + Route 4 on the map (Option H in the report) as the preferred road haulage route. In identifying Option H as the preferred route, PB noted that the future utilisation of this route will have:

- Least impact on the ecology/biodiversity of the area;
- Least severance and property impact on existing and future communities;
- Least noise impact on existing and future communities; and
- Least visual impact on existing and future communities.

Taken as a whole, PB concluded that Option H will have the least impact on the overall character and amenity of the area.

Submissions from the community were called in April 2003 and a recommendation by the Advisory Panel to the Queensland Government will be based on the outcomes of the PB study, previous work undertaken in respect to the Kholo Creek resource and community views.

Should you wish to view the abovementioned report or obtain further information about this matter you can contact either the State Member for Ipswich West, Don Livingstone, MP on telephone 3813 0074 or the Department of State Development on 3234 0950. There is also a website at <http://www.sdi.qld.gov.au>