Outlook

Oparure Quarry South West Pit

From Spellbound Admin and Operations <admin@glowworm.co.nz>
Date Tue 10/11/2026 4:55 PM
To Substantive <substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz>

Tena Kotu Katoa,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal.
We operate a Glowworm Cave Ecotour just north of Graymont's Oparure quarry, [redacted] where we access a relatively small cave with a superb display of bioluminescence from the New Zealand Glowworm. We also have a business relationship with Graymont; we use Te Ana o Te Atua, a cave under their property. It is protected by a QE2 covenant. We pay royalties to Graymont for this access.

We support this quarry expansion project on the understanding that the part of the original proposal, which drained into the Mangawhitikau stream above the Mangawhitikau cave system has been excluded from the application. We support the best practise of keeping any extractive industry in its own watershed.

Note that some of the application maps show the submergence in the wrong place, as a dry karst valley continues east for approximately 300 metres, to the entrance of Te Ana o te Atua/ the cave of the Spirit, which is under the Graymont land mentioned above. We also support the proposal with the knowledge that the heavy vehicles travelling between the new pit and the existing pit and plant is behind a hill, so is not visible to our customers while on tour.

We can hear quarry operations from the start of the walking part of our tour, and without being able to see it, we find this acceptable at the current noise levels.
We appreciate the work that Graymont have done in consultation with us and that Dr Ngaire Phillips took the time to join our "Spellbound Essential' tour visting the Mangawhitikau cave during her site visit.

Yours sincerely
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