

Aggregate News

AGGREGATE & QUARRY ASSOCIATION OF NZ NEWSLETTER

Message from Mike Lord

Hello to Aggregate News readers. My name is Mike Lord, and I have been President of the AQA since April, when James Boyce resigned from the role.

The AQA Council acknowledged James' huge contribution during his three years as President, culminating in the launch of the Planning Guidance Note for the Aggregate and Quarry Industry at Parliament in March. During his time as President James and his team firmly brought the AQA to the forefront as a respected industry voice. His quiet and reasonable approach won respect from colleagues and associates.

It is my intention to continue this excellent work and I and the AQA council have recently updated our Strategic Plan for the coming two years.

As I was formerly the Vice President, this role is now vacant and this will be resolved at our AGM on 7 July in Napier.

With my AQA Planning hat on, I am pleased that AQA has now signed up with Environment Management Services to give us a weekly reporting service regarding planning changes to district and

regional plans and policy notifications and future growth strategies. When we receive copies of the reports they will be forwarded to all members.

I look forward to meeting many members at the Quarry Conference in Napier.

**MIKE LORD
PRESIDENT**



AQA Council

President

Mike Lord
Perry Aggregates

Councillors

Geoff Callis
Ravensdown

Tony Hunter
Blackhead Quarries

Jason Lowe
Winstone Aggregates

Robert Patience
Higgins Group

Eric Souchon
H G Leach & Co

Bruce Taylor
Fulton Hogan

Planning Committee

Chairman

Mike Lord
Perry Resources

Grant Anderson
Holcim

Kevin Bligh
Winstone Aggregates

Jonathan Green
Fulton Hogan

Technical Committee

Chairman

Jason Lowe
Winstone Aggregates

Greg Arnold
Pavespec

Jayden Ellis
Stevensons

Robert Patience
Higgins Group

Alan Stevens
Roading NZ

Colin Taylor
CCANZ

Meet Mike Lord, AQA President and Planning Committee Chairman

New AQA President Mike Lord is has worked for Perry Group Ltd based in Hamilton for the past nine years in a number of roles across various divisions. Currently he is the Divisional Manager of Sales and Technical Services, for Perry Resources (2008) Ltd. Mike s key responsibilities are Aggregate and Burnt Lime Sales, technical research, quality systems and consent planning. He has been an AQA council member for three years, during which he has been Chairman of the Planning Committee that he helped establish.

Mike has keen interest in developing new markets for products and services and in the long term planning for future aggregate supply. Within this he has assisted with the publication of the



Planning Guideline for the Aggregate and Quarry Industry that is stored on the Quality Planning (QP) website (see Guidance Note launched later in this issue).

Mike was formerly Vice President and as President will lead the AQA through the coming two years. A new Vice President will be elected at the AGM in July along with a new Planning Chairman, a role currently held by Mike.

Away from work, time with family and travel are high on Mike's list, along with keeping fit, he enjoys fishing and diving, reading and playing golf.

Industry warning from AQA

The AQA was quick to react when it heard that some operators have been “skimming the system”. The result was the following open letter to industry, prepared in consultation with Roothing NZ:

To Whom It May Concern
**UNSCRUPULOUS OPERATORS
AND QUARRY PRODUCT TESTING
FALSIFICATION**

The AQA has been advised of a number of cases of unscrupulous operators “skimming the system” on roading and other projects in order to save costs and supposedly deliver the specified end product to an unsuspecting client.

This fraudulent practice appears to have taken place at several locations and is not limited to any specific region and it is suggested that the economic conditions prevailing over recent times has resulted in the practice escalating in some parts.

*By way of an example:
Contractor A tenders for a Council roading project and undercuts his tender price to ensure they win the work. The project requires say, construction of a sub-base layer (typically a General All Passing or GAP type product), overlain with a base coarse layer of higher quality product (say*

TNZ M4 AP 40 mm base coarse with a sand equivalent greater than 40).

Contractor A purchases and lays the sub-base material from the quarry for both the sub-base and base coarse layer and then orders a very small portion of base coarse material, requesting formal aggregate quality testing results from the quarry (source property and QA/QC testing) in support of the base coarse material delivered.

The conforming test results are then used as evidence to support the entire base coarse layer as being compliant, when in fact up to 90 % of the material actually placed in the base coarse layer is sub-base material!

Other examples of this type of behaviour include requests from some unscrupulous operators for “pre delivery” tests results from a particular quarry, supposedly for inclusion in their tender submission; the quarry supplies these in good faith as part of the tender process and subsequently the operator sources aggregates from alternative sources and then uses the pre delivery testing as proof of the aggregate being compliant!

In conclusion the AQA urges all

its members, aggregate users, contractors, clients and clients’ representatives to be vigilant in this regard and to ensure that they in fact receive what they are paying for.

The Association recognises that this practice is limited to only a few rogue operators; however they have the ability to negatively impact on our members and to tarnish the quarry industry’s integrity.

This letter has been written in consultation with Roothing New Zealand who supports the Association’s stance on this matter.

Please don’t hesitate to contact the AQA’s Executive Director if you have any queries.

Said Tony Hunter, AQA Council member and General Manager of Blackhead Quarries: “There has been quite a reaction to the letter from engineers and we are finding there is a tighter requirement for testing of products. Some products such as AP65 that have traditionally been taken as fit for the jobs have now had a specification placed on them.

“Although this puts the pressure on the producer to supply a complying product it also improves the communication between the customer and the quarry operator.

“There may be some short term issues however the long term gain is worth it.”



Guidance Note launched



Guests enjoying hospitality at the Beehive as AQA celebrated the launch of the Guidance Note: Planning for the Aggregate and Quarrying Industry.

Guidance Note launched

The Banquet Hall at the Beehive was alive with AQA representatives and industry contacts when Minister for the Environment, Nick Smith, launched the Guidance Note: Planning for the Aggregate and Quarrying Industry.

During the past year, the AQA worked in partnership with the Ministry for the Environment, Local Government New Zealand, regional and local councils, to develop a base of information that outlines the key matters in planning for quarrying, describes the main effects of quarrying and the methods available to manage these. The QP website is to promote best practice by sharing knowledge about the implementation of the RMA and is aimed at council practitioners, consultant planners, environmental managers, surveyors, lawyers and others involved in RMA processes.

You can view the resulting Guidance Note on the Quality Planning website hosted by the Ministry for the Environment:

<http://www.qualityplanning.org.nz/planning-topics/aggregate-quarry-industry.php>

The website promotes best practice to council planning practitioners and consultants, environmental managers and others involved in resource management and planning practice under the RMA.

The Aggregate and Quarrying Industry Guidance Note is being well used already with 687 visits between March 31 and 21 May – the second highest guidance note to be visited on the site.



AQA President Mike Lord with Environment Minister, Nick Smith



Technical Committee Chairman Jason Lowe with Graham Seah, Taupo Scoria and Institute of Quarrying President Warwick Leach.

Meet AQA's committees

AQA member's have access to the expertise of the Planning and Technical Committees that are in place to influence the wider industry and assist members. Here we have a brief overview of the committees and an introduction to the members.



Planning Committee, left to right: Kevin Bligh, Grant Anderson, Jonathan Green, Mike Lord.

Planning Committee

The Planning Committee was convened to represent AQA in the establishment of the Guidance Note: Planning for the Aggregate and Quarrying Industry and to assist with its annual review; to assist with the reviewing of changes to regional policy statements and district plans. The committee also provides a sounding board for members who may have planning issues need advice.

Mike Lord, Planning Committee Chairman

Mike is AQA's President and has worked for Perry Group Ltd based in Hamilton for the past nine years. A new Planning Committee Chairman will be elected at the

AGM on 7 July in Napier, freeing Mike up for his duties as President (see also Meet Mike Lord, page 2)

Grant Anderson

Grant Anderson has been with the Planning Committee since its inception. He is an Environmental Advisor with Holcim (New Zealand) Ltd and while his is based in Christchurch, Grant works all over NZ.

He has worked in the industry for five years and highlights include the development and implementation of solutions which have an amicable outcome for both the operations managers, and which address councils concerns.

Grant's industry focus is about improving negative perceptions of the industry that lead to delays, followed

closely by security of supply in the future due to land use conflicts.

Grant is an outdoors man and when he has time he enjoys waterskiing, snowboarding, running and squash.

Kevin Bligh

Kevin Bligh has been working in the resource development area since completing his Bachelor of Resource Studies at Lincoln University. After a two year role at Rodney District Council as a Town Planner, he completed a Masters degree in Resource and Environmental Planning and took on the job of Resource Management Adviser at Winstone Aggregates.

As a member of the AQA's planning committee, Kevin has had an active role in the development of the Resource

Management Act Guidance Note - positive step forward in achieving better consistency in Council planning and decision making.

When he's not busy at work, Kevin likes rugby, basketball and travelling.

Jonathan Green

Jonathan Green is National Resource Consents Manager with Fulton Hogan in Auckland. He has been in the industry for 16 years.

Jonathan has particular interest in

reducing the demands made on the industry to implement mitigation or treatments that are not evidence based and show little or no discernable environmental benefit.

Jonathan is a family man who enjoys club level motorsport, running and surfing.

Technical Committee

The Technical Committee provides technical advice on the most suitable aggregates to use. It provides comment on any proposals relating to the extraction, testing, and use of aggregates. It monitors and advises on the development of new aggregate products and uses of aggregates in new construction products or specifications.



Jason Lowe, Technical Committee Chairman

Jason Lowe has been an AQA Executive Committee Member since 2006 and was Vice President 2007 – 2009. He is Chairman of the Technical Committee which he re-established in 2008.

Based in Auckland, Jason is the National Manufacturing Manager with Winstone Aggregates. His career in the industry spans 13 years (eight years in the UK and five years in NZ). In the UK he worked at a total of 11 quarries managing seven of them.

Jason's ambition for the industry includes maximising aggregate resource to enable the best possible use of aggregate with minimum wastage. He is keen for the

industry to have a voice when it comes to technical development and aggregate specifications.

He is a tireless worker but Jason also enjoys spending time with his family, taking his dog for walks, camping and exploring New Zealand.



Robert Patience

Robert Patience is Group Technical Manager with Higgins Group, based in Palmerston North Group Office, covering the whole of the North Island.

He has 25 years in the roading and construction industry in NZ in various roles as a civil engineer.

He is keen to encourage more quality process control in supply of all types of

aggregate products and would like to see a reduction in unnecessary long haul cartage of aggregates across the country.

Robert is adaptable in his leisure interests – take him outside and he likes Alpine skiing and sea fishing...keep him inside and he likes computers and wine!



Dr Greg Arnold

Dr Arnold has been a member of the Technical Committee since its inception. He is the Director of Pavespec Ltd with nearly 18 years of research and project management experience, specialising in pavement design, research and Repeated Load Triaxial testing of granular and subgrade pavement materials.

He has a doctorate in Engineering from

the Nottingham Centre for Pavement Engineering at the University of Nottingham, England and holds a Bachelor of Engineering degree and Master of Technology in Pavements.



Alan Stevens

Alan Stevens was appointed to the AQA Technical Committee this year and represents Roding New Zealand where he is an Industry Manager based in Wellington. He has broad experience with seven years at the Pavement and Bitumen Contractors Association and Roding New Zealand preceded by 18 years in the ready mix concrete / masonry industry.

During his career, Alan has been involved in many industry wide initiatives to better the contracting industry for all stakeholders. to name a few.

When he is not working, Alan and his wife of 31 years enjoy working around their rural property, exploring New Zealand and the Australian outback by 4wd, wine and food, arts and theatre, and reading.



Jayden Ellis

Jayden Ellis is General Manager – Laboratory and Technical Services, Stevenson Resources serving Auckland/ Franklin/Waikato. He has been in the industry for 17 years, starting at Stevenson Laboratory in 1993, where he was promoted to Laboratory Manager 2001.

Jayden was a Founding Member of Civil Engineering Testing Association New Zealand (CETANZ) in 2008 and elected Vice President of CETANZ in 2009, when he also joined the AQA Technical Committee.

Jayden likes the water and what it can produce – so boating and fishing are popular activities...and watching a good movie is always good if the weather's too stormy.



Colin Taylor

Colin Taylor is the Technical Manager for Holcim Concrete and Holcim Aggregates.

His technical team has a centralised laboratory at Bombay for concrete and aggregates testing.

He has worked in a number of technical roles, including the NZ concrete roof tile (Monier) and clay brick divisions of CSR Building Materials.

As Technical Manager, Colin was also Quarry Manager for the six clay quarries operated in the Auckland and upper Waikato.

Born in NZ, Colin is a Science Honours graduate from the University of NSW.

More health and safety inspectors

At the combined AQA/IoQ council meeting in May the Occupational Health and Safety Chief Inspector of Mines, Johan Booyse, came to discuss the Department of Labour's plans for the industry.

In recent years, while there are more than 1000 quarries, there have only been two OSH inspectors and this has now increased to 21. The new inspectors were

trained in late May and early June.

Mr Booyse said the industry does not have a good safety record, with particular issues in the smaller quarries and also some quarries are buying in equipment that may not meet NZ safety standards. Mr Booyse also said that while OSH wants to work cooperatively with the industry, it cannot allow illegal operations and

standards must be enforced.

At the time of going to press the Department of Labour could not provide details about the geographical spread of inspectors, the frequency or timing of visits, or names and contact details.

When more information is available it will be made available on the AQA website.

News in brief

AQA offers unique resource

The AQA website now boasts a database that can match up with contract specifications for a minimum Polished Stone Value.

The PSV gives a measure of the resistance of an aggregate to the polishing action of a pneumatic tyre under conditions similar to those occurring on the surface of a road.

AQA members have contributed to the data to ensure that those responsible for material selection understood exactly what aggregate is available, providing the corresponding PSV, weathering and crushing resistance data for that aggregate.

The unique resource was developed with input from NZTA and also has the full support of Roding New Zealand. The database is the most current and extensive source of PSV information in NZ and the data will be updated on a monthly basis.

Industry can only benefit from joint alliances

The AQA has a strategic aim to develop relationships with aligned industry groups with a view to greater collaboration and knowledge.

In support of this aim, the AQA has accepted an invitation to be involved in the National Pavements Technical Group (NPTG). The Technical Committee Chair, Jason Lowe, will be the representative on the group which comprises representatives from the client (NZTA), a number of

consultants, contractors and suppliers.

Jason believes it is "a great step forward for the AQA to be invited to become part of such a key roading group and I look forward to having our voice heard and to progressing work that will benefit the whole roading industry."

The Technical Committee invited the Cement and Concrete Association (CCANZ) and the New Zealand Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NZRMCA) to have a concrete industry representative on the AQA Technical Committee. In turn, the AQA has been invited to have a representative on the concrete technical committee, an offer we have accepted.

The CCANZ representative is Colin Taylor, Technical Manager for Holcim Concrete and Holcim Aggregates. His technical team has a centralised IANZ accredited laboratory at Bombay for concrete and aggregates testing.

Colin has worked in a number of technical roles, including the NZ concrete roof tile (Monier) and clay brick divisions of CSR Building Materials.

AQA believes this amalgamation of knowledge will provide long-term benefits for member companies.

If you have any feedback, opportunities, or topics that you would like raised in these forums then please let us know at technical@aqa.org.nz

Certificate of Competence consultation

The proposed new Certificate of Competence (CoC) framework from MinEX has been developed from first principles

and started from the selection of nine core competencies required for a competent surface mine manager. It has been designed to account for modern thinking around Health and Safety and is a blend of knowledge, experience, and practicality.

There are currently around 1350 CoC holders, of which some 900 are life-time holders. The remaining 450 were issued under the current unit standard framework. All current CoC holders will be affected by the proposal.

The CoC requirements are pitched at a level which is achievable by both small and large operators and will ensure a much safer working environment.

Under the proposal all existing surface mine managers will need to meet the new requirements within a transition period of five years from the date of gazetting (expected by 31 March 2011); ample time to achieve the new qualification.

Consultation

As this proposal has wide implications, MinEX is seeking submissions on key principles from industry associations, companies, individuals and other interested parties. You can see the document on www.minex.org.nz

Comments from industry will close on 2 August 2010. MinEX will then review the proposal in light of comments received and intends to submit the formal document to the Secretary, Department of Labour by 1 October 2010.

Planning projects update

HGCL ref: 1020-122427-10

Project Name: Auckland Regional Council
Work Completed: AQA provided feedback on the Auckland Regional Policy Statement and preparation of a new Auckland Regional Land Transport Strategy on 11 November 2008. ARC posted a summary of all feedback on their website in mid December 2008.

Upcoming Deadlines: The ARPS has been under review since 2008. Because of the changes to the way the Auckland region is governed, which come into effect on 1 November 2010, the ARC has decided not to publicly notify the draft ARPS. Instead the final draft of the reviewed ARPS will go forward to the Auckland Council for its consideration after 1 November 2010. This means there will be no public consultation on the draft document in the term of the current council. The new Auckland Council may wish to consult on all or some of the draft policies as it develops a planning framework for the region. The operative

ARPS is set out http://www.arc.govt.nz/plans/regional-policy-andplans/auckland-regional-policy-statement/auckland-regional-policy-statement_home.cfm

HGCL ref: 1020-122427-11

Project Name: Environment Bay of Plenty
Work Completed: AQA provided feedback to EBOP's Issues and Options Paper on the Regional Policy Statement to recognise and have greater provision for aggregates and minerals in the RPS on 22 January 2009.

Upcoming Deadlines: Draft RPS was released for comment in February 2010. Comments closed April 2010. Notification of the Proposed RPS is anticipated in Late 2010.

HGCL Ref: 1820-128243-01

Project Name: Taupo District Council
Work Completed: Lodged a submission on Plan Change 24 and Variation 25 (landscape and natural values plan

changes) on 27 February 2009.

Upcoming Deadlines: Council decisions notified on 26 February 2010. Currently under appeal from numerous parties to the Environment Court.

HGCL Ref: 1820-128293-01

Project Name: Palmerston North City Council

Work Completed: Submission lodged on 13 March on PNCC District Plan Review Discussion Document to provide greater provision for aggregates and minerals.
Upcoming Deadlines: Council to prepare issues and options papers based on issues raised in submissions. There will be opportunities for the public to become involved. Once the District Plan has been reviewed, a new proposed District Plan will be prepared and publicly notified under the RMA. The public will again have the opportunity of lodging submissions to the Council regarding the proposed District Plan.



HGCL ref:1820-128245-01

Project Name: Western Bay of Plenty District Plan Review
 Work Completed: Submission lodged on 24 March 2009.
 Upcoming Deadlines: Summary of submissions prepared. Further submissions closed 9 June 2009. Hearings begin 14 September. AQA have been advised. Decisions on submissions on First Review issued 1 February 2010. Decisions currently under appeal to the Environment Court.

HGCL ref:1820-128386-01

Project Name: Proposed Greater Wellington Regional Policy Statement
 Work Completed: Submission lodged 2 June 2009.
 Upcoming Deadlines: Further submissions closed 7 August 2009. Hearings begin 3 November 2009 - Mike Lord to attend. No Change

HGCL ref: 1820-128362-01

Project Name: Environment Waikato Regional Policy Statement Discussion

Document.
 Work Completed: Submission lodged with Environment Waikato on 9 April.
 Upcoming Deadlines: Feedback on the 'working draft' has been received. Now working on proposed RPS, due for release in late 2010.

HGCL ref: 1820-128581-01

Project Name: Cameron Quarry, Otamarakau
 Work Completed: Submission lodged with EBOP and WBOP in support of the application to extend Cameron Quarry from Winstone Aggregates.
 Upcoming Deadlines: Notification of hearing was received 8-12 February 2010. Eric Souchon attended. Evidence presented by Eric Souchon.

HGCL ref: 1820-129000-01

Project Name: Horowhenua District Council Plan Change 22 (outstanding natural landscapes and features)
 Work Completed: Draft submission document issued 23 October. Submission lodged 2 November 2009.

Upcoming Deadlines: Summary of submissions was released in February 2010. Further submissions closed 31 March 2010. No hearing date has been set.

HGCL ref: 1820-129138-01

Project Name: Kaipara District Plan – Full District Plan Change
 Work Completed: Submission lodged 18 December 2009 (Acknowledged via email).
 Upcoming Deadlines: Further submission period has closed. Hearing reports released 30 April 2010 (as emailed through 3 May 2010). Hearings began 8 June 2010, Council to get in touch regarding time slots. AQA to advise whether still wish to be heard.

HGCL ref: 1820-129141-01

Project Name: Tauranga City Council – Full District Plan Review
 Work Completed: Submission lodged 4 December 2009. (Acknowledged via phone)
 Upcoming Deadlines: Hearing scheduled May – October 2010. AQA have advised do not wish to be heard.

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