

## **AHMAG – Update June 2018**

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### **Gravel pit discussion deferred**

For more than three and a half years, the Avon and Hills Mining Awareness Group (AHMAG) has been raising awareness about the threat of open-cut bauxite mining to local communities.

Battles to protect the environment are rarely short and typically undergo various stages of activity.

The price of bauxite has fallen and the local bauxite mining proponent Yankuang Resources Pty Ltd has gone into a holding pattern until the market improves.

AHMAG however is still working both publicly, at regional agricultural shows and field days, and behind the scenes gathering environmental reports, petition signatures and monitoring on-going exploration activities.

While the primary aim of the group is to stop open-cut bauxite mining within a 100km radius of Perth, AHMAG recently played a role in organising opposition to a twentyfold size increase to an existing gravel pit on Toodyay Road in the Shire of Mundaring.

Residents were given only two weeks over Christmas 2017 to comment on the proposal that would impact the environment and add up to 130 large trucks per day to Toodyay Road. The groundswell of opposition resulted in an extension of two weeks with Mundaring Shire receiving more than 200 submissions opposing the expansion of the pit.

Local concerns about increased truck movements and environmental and health risks have resulted in Mundaring Shire seeking further information before considering the proposal at its council meeting which, at this stage will be in July. Those who made submissions will be given written advice of the time and date prior to the meeting.

AHMAG invites all Avon Valley and Hills residents who are concerned about open-cut bauxite mining or the expansion of the gravel pit to become members. Forms are available at the Gidgegannup Newsagency or online at [ahmag.com.au](http://ahmag.com.au). For \$10 a year you can help the group maintain its watch on local mining activities and to continue to provide information to the public.

If you'd like to become a member and think you can help, ring.....or keep in touch at [facebook.com/avonandhills](https://www.facebook.com/avonandhills)

**The AHMAG Team**