



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Stonefield Quarry and Crushing Plant Development Application

Q1

When was the application for the Stonefield Quarry and Crushing Plant formally submitted to the Planning Authority?

The initial combined application for the quarry and crushing plant was submitted on July 31, 2025. Following review by the Physical Planning Division (PPD), the applicant was advised to separate the project into phases. A revised submission for the crushing plant was made on December 12, 2025, and the quarry application was subsequently resubmitted on February 4, 2026.

Q2

What is the scope and purpose of the application?

The application relates to the development of a quarry and crushing operation located at **Stonefield, Concord**, with a total site area of **26.5085 acres**. This includes:

- **7.36 acres** of privately owned land designated for the crushing plant
- **19.1485 acres** of state lands designated for quarrying activities

The primary purpose of the application is to supply aggregate materials required for critical components of the Dominica International Airport Project, including the runway, apron/taxiway and tunnel infrastructure.

The proposed operation involves the extraction of basalt, a common construction material, with an estimated total resource of 650,000 cubic metres, and a targeted aggregate output of 300,000 cubic metres.



This is not a mining operation for metals. The application does not involve the extraction of copper, zinc, gold or any other minerals, but strictly relates to quarrying as defined in Section 3(1) of the Mines and Minerals Act.

Operations at the site will include continuous crushing activities (24 hours), with a maximum of 15 months of operations, supported by a haulage system transporting materials approximately 34 km from Stonefield to the airport site.

The haulage operation will involve a fleet of no fewer than 50 trucks (30-ton capacity), each carrying an average load of 18 tons, operating between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Alternative material sources were assessed, including Anse Cola (Colihaut) and Les Point (Massacre). However, these involve longer haulage distances (up to 74km) and would impact a greater number of communities, making Stonefield the most efficient, least costly and least disruptive option. Additionally, the increased distance would limit the number of trips that can be completed per day, negatively affecting the construction timeline.

Q3

What laws, regulations and planning policies govern the application, and what procedures are required under them?

- **Physical Planning Act Cap 60:05** – Establishes the legal framework for development permission, including mandatory ESIA submission, consultation with the Physical Planning Division and consideration of all material factors.
- **Mines and Mineral Act Cap 57:01** – Application for Hauling Permit and Quarry Licence
- **Quarry Regulations of 2013** – Guidelines for preparation of ESIA for Quarries
- **Solid Waste Management Act** – Guidelines for Waste Disposal and for establishment of Dumping Sites and Licence to dispose of solid waste
- **Water and Sewerage Act 43:40** – Declaration of a water catchment as a controlled area in need of protection
- **Forestry and Wildlife Act 60:02** – Management of forest lands
- **Fisheries Act 61:60** – Management of aquatic life and protection of marine and coastal areas
- **National Parks and Protected Areas Act 42:02** – Protected areas management
- **Environmental Health Services Act Cap 42:01** – Environmental Health and Safety Management
- **State Lands Act Cap 53:01** – Administration of state lands



Q4

What nature of communication has taken place between the Planning Authority and the applicant throughout the process?

- Communication between the Physical Planning Division and the applicant has been ongoing and consistent throughout the development permitting process, from the initial application submitted on July 31, 2025 through multiple reviews, consultations, site visits and regulatory actions. This process has progressed to approval for the installation of the crushing plant by letter dated March 6, 2026, with continued communication to finalize the remaining aspects of the development application.

Q5

What opportunities have been provided for public participation?

Part I – By Applicant

- Between April 17 and December 30, 2025 forty-three (43) targeted engagements, including one-on-one home visits, meetings with special interest groups, government departments and focus groups, were undertaken to gather feedback and address concerns.
- Seven (7) targeted meetings were held with stakeholders in the tourism sector, including key operators such as Behind-the-Bush Bay, Hibiscus Inn and Summer Garden.
- Two (2) formal public consultations were held at the Concord Primary School as part of the ESIA preparation process, in accordance with statutory requirements.
- A community survey was conducted in Concord, with 50 questionnaires completed.

Part II – By Physical Planning Authority (PPA)

- The ESIA was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Blue and Green Economy for review.
- An initial internal review was conducted by the Physical Planner on August 13, 2025, followed by a report on August 20, 2025.
- A second internal review and a report on the Stonefield Quarry were completed on September 19, 2025.
- The ESIA was also submitted to the Chief Environmental Health Officer (CEHO) for technical review.



- A report was submitted to the Chair of the Physical Planning Authority on October 10, 2025.
- A response to a request for information from a member of the public was issued on February 23, 2026, providing access to relevant documents, including stop orders, compliance notices and the application.
- On March 2, 2026, correspondence was sent to the Kalinago Council requesting consultations with the Council and the wider Kalinago community.
- The Kalinago Council subsequently requested access to the ESIA and supporting documents; arrangements were made for Council members to review these documents at the PPD Office in Roseau, facilitated on March 25, 2026.
- A public notice was issued inviting review and comments on the ESIA from March 16 to March 27, 2026, with submissions accepted up to March 30, 2026.
- Between November 2025 and February 2026, three (3) written requests for information and three (3) requests for public access to the ESIA were received and addressed.

Q6

How have concerns raised by stakeholders been addressed?

Stakeholder concerns have been actively addressed through a combination of mitigation measures, operational controls and ongoing engagement.

1. Turbidity of watercourses and impact on the riparian zone

- Installation of three (3) sedimentation ponds, four (4) gabion basket check dams and a continuous retaining wall
- Development of paved internal access roads, controlled drainage systems and a wheel wash facility to reduce runoff and sediment flow

2. Encroachment into the Northern Forest Reserve

- An initial encroachment of 0.39 acres was identified and immediately halted
- A restoration plan is being implemented in collaboration with the Forestry Division
- A 25-metre buffer zone has been established to protect the reserve

3. Water and soil contamination risks

- All servicing, fueling and maintenance of equipment conducted off-site
- Deployment of spill response kits and secure storage systems for waste
- Proper handling and disposal of wastewater and sewage
- Routine water quality monitoring and frequent watering of roadways to control dust

4. Road safety and transportation impacts



- Implementation of traffic management measures including signage, speed controls, wardens and spotters
- Established haulage protocols governing operating hours, vehicle standards and driver competency
- Ongoing road maintenance and repairs along affected routes in collaboration with relevant authorities

5. Public concern and perception

- Engagement of full-time community liaison officers
- Continued stakeholder engagement through consultations, surveys and targeted outreach
- Regular public updates and public service announcements
- Ongoing monitoring of operations in accordance with the Physical Planning Act and Quarry Regulations

Q7

What is the current status of the application?

Following the issuance of a Stop Order in December 2025, the following actions have been taken:

- The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), along with public submissions, is currently under review by the Physical Planning Division (PPD) and the Physical Planning and Development Authority (PPDA).
- Mitigation measures identified in the ESIA have been implemented to the satisfaction of the PPDA, with ongoing actions aligned with the requirements of the Physical Planning Act.
- The application remains under active consideration, with 39 public submissions being reviewed and compiled for submission to the developer as part of the ESIA process. All feedback and technical assessments will inform the final determination of the application.
- The developer is in the process of completing the necessary applications for a Quarry Licence and Haulage Permit, in accordance with the Mines and Minerals Act, and for the establishment of an additional dumping site in accordance with the Solid Waste Management Act.