**Scenario 1: Proposed Small-Scale Gravel Quarry at Mbalasuna**

**Project Reference No:** MECDM/EIA/2024/016

**Project Name:** Mbalasuna Gravel Quarry Project

**Project Proponent:** Rocky Earthmovers Limited

**Proponent's Email:** [info@rockyearthmovers.com.sb](mailto:info@rockyearthmovers.com.sb)

**Proponent's Phone:** +677 27458

**Project Location:** Mbalasuna Village, Guadalcanal Province (9°33'52"S, 160°06'12"E)

**Type and Purpose:** The project involves the establishment of a small-scale gravel quarry mining operation to meet the increasing demand for construction aggregates in the Honiara region. The quarry will extract gravel, limestone, and silica using open-cast shallow mining methods without drilling or blasting. The gravel will be used to support various infrastructure and construction projects in Guadalcanal Province and Honiara.

**Project Description:**

Rocky Earthmovers Limited has acquired a 10-year quarry lease from the local landowning tribes and is proposing to establish a gravel quarry on a 25-hectare site in Mbalasuna Village. The site is approximately 40 km northwest of Honiara and is covered in dense tropical vegetation.Key components of the proposed quarry include:

* Open-cast mining of gravel deposits up to 5m depth (3m above ground, 2m below)
* Extraction of approximately 100,000 tonnes of gravel, limestone, and silica per annum
* Establishment of a site office, equipment storage yard, and fuel storage facilities
* Designated stockpile areas for extracted materials and waste rock
* Construction of a sediment pond for water collection and dust suppression

The project area has sufficient reserves for over 20 years of operation based on the proposed extraction rate. No drilling or blasting is planned, and the proponent claims it will be an "eco-friendly" quarrying operation using excavators and haulers. The nearest residential area is around 1.5 km from the proposed quarry site.