Attachment D Public comments - unique letters and emails

Unique Responses

Respondent Names: No Address

Bryan Smith
Christine McKinnon
Danielle Lindamood
David Lubell
Eric Mills
Gillian Kelly
Heidi Ohno
Janet Chevalier
joanne scharf
Karen Rathwell
Louisette Lanteigne
Paul Blake
Richard Reist
Samuel Nabi (on behalf of Hold The Line Waterloo Region)
Sandra Bray
Shelley Stevenson
George Costanza
Santa Claus
NFU Local 340 - Waterloo-Wellington

Respondent Names: Non-Wilmot

D. Herbert Heine
Linda Oliver
Morgan Dandie-Hannah
Susan McSherry
Catherine Fife

Respondent Names: Wilmot

Anna Harnack
Arne Kennel
Calvin & Diane Golbeck
Christina Harnack
David & Cheryl Witzel-Prong
David & Martha Bricker
Dietlinde Laepple
Don & Bonnie Fleet
Ed & Ann Dupej
Jeffrey Lernout
Jennifer Lauzon
Julie Weber
Lavern Forwell
Mark Gordon
Murray & Patti Huber
Nancy Birss
Natalie Borsuk-Ramsaywak
Pat Chevalier
Paula Brown
Matt and Rachel Rennie
Richard Stevenson
Ron, Mary & Graham Deitner
Rory Farnan
Rosemary Off
Ruth Rosner
Samantha Lernout
Citizens for Safe Ground Water
Matteo Caccavelli
Robert and Catherine Gebotys
Kathy Loree
Nith Valley Ecoboosters
Wilmot Horticultural Society

Andrew Martin

From: Ann Dupej
Sent: Friday, November 29, 2019 6:36 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Hallman Gravel Pit - Letter of Objection

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land and the ability for it to be rehabilitated into farmland. Research does not support this rehabilitation.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections. The number of gravel trucks using our roads will add much pollution which will add to the climate emergency and negatively affect the health of the community.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Dupej

Andrew Martin

From: Anna Harnack
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2019 10:24 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Re: Proposed Hallman Gravel Pit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Doug Ford, Mike Harris, Rick Esbaugh, Andrew Martin, Seana Richardson, The Township of Wilmot,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

My name is Anna and I am 5. My sister is Natalie. Natalie is 3.

I am worried about your gravel pit. I am worried because:

I don't want my water to not be safe.

I am worried about all the trucks you will have.

I am worried about the noise. Will is wake me up?

I don't want to see all the dust blowing to my house.

Thank you,
Anna Harnack
2158 Bleams Road RR2 Petersburg ON N0B 2H0

Andrew Martin

From: Arne & Sue
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 4:43 PM
To: Planning; Seana.Richardson@ontario.ca; rickesbaugh@outlook.com
Subject: Proposed aggregate extraction at 1894-1920 Witmer rd Wilmot

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Martin; Mr Esbaugh and Ms. Richardson

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

My opposition to the Hallman Pit is somewhat less than some other people however I do have concerns:

- The work done on water quality issues is reassuring for the regional water source thus protecting Shingletown residents but wells on Witmer Rd. seem to be problematic.

- I am concerned that the wetland area would drain to the lowest dugout areas. I have concerns that rehabilitation plan is actually carried out.

- I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

- If the Dust and noise control efforts are carried out as presented I am not to concerned about property values.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns. I am not sure how serious the concerns are since it all depends on the integrity of the execution of the plan and the enforcement.

Respectfully submitted,

Arne Kennel
2152 Bleams rd Petersburg
Ontario N0B 2H0

Andrew Martin

From: Bryan Smith
Sent: Saturday, December 7, 2019 4:16 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Negative impacts of proposed Hallman Gravel Pit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a resident of Ontario I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of drinking and surface water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan being considered at this stage or the likelihood of it being eventually acted on in the spirit that it may suggest now. I also question the loss of prime agricultural land in Ontario's (read Canada's) Foodbelt.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections. Beyond the price in human lives, I also think there needs to be a calculation of the costs to local residents via their municipal taxes for the maintenance of a township road when heavy, even overladen gravel trucks are using them regularly.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have lost value in property, their single greatest investment.

● When the Jensen Report to the Ministry of Natural Resources identifies that the province has somewhere between a 100 to 200 year supply of aggregate under current license, I wonder why they would consider any new pits given the costs to Ontario residents associated with permitting and monitoring them.
Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan Smith

From Calvin Golbeck October 18, 2019

My wife, Diane and I were coming home after getting groceries on Friday morning at about 11:45 am.

We were traveling west on Highland Road when we came to Trussler Road and saw a huge plume of dense dust rising 40' to 50' We couldn't see anything on the other side of the intersection.

There was also a lot of mud on Highland Road. There were two gravel trucks at the intersection from Tri-City Aggregates.

As we turned left the plume opened up a bit and Diane saw three cars lined up on Snyders Road waiting to move forward on Highland Rd.

In the last few years we have noticed a lot of dust in the air where we live.

We are also concerned about our water which is very good. My wife sends a sample in every so often to be checked. The results have always come very good!

We have relatives who live in a town that is surrounded by gravel pits and they can't drink their water. They have to buy bottled water.

Another concern we have is that of all the land in Ontario, only 5% is farmland. With all the gravel pits around that 5% is going to drop tremendously. With the drop in farmland and the increase in population, where are we going to grow our food!

We are 100% against having gravel pits in our area!

Calvin Golbeck
Diane Golbeck

Calvin & Diane Golbeck
[redacted]
Wilmot, Ontario
[redacted]

Andrew Martin

From: Christina Harnack
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2019 10:13 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Aggregate Extraction in Wilmot Township

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Rick Esbaugh, the Ministry of Natural Resources, and the Township of Wilmot.

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

I have some serious concerns regarding Rick Esbaugh's aggregate operation across the street from my home. I have two small children and I care about their well-being along with the well-being and safety in my community from safe drinking water to road safety and the protection of our environment.

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am worried about the safety of our community. I drive by Mr. Esbaugh's TriCity locations everyday and I see the speed at which trucks enter and exit, the wide turns and also the volume of traffic. I worry about my children's safety as they wait for the bus on the shoulder of the road, as the trick or treat, collect the mail and cross the street. How will it be insured that an unfortunate accident like the Herrle's daughter will not occur with the increased volume of dozens of trucks an hour?

● I am concerned about our water safety and environment. We live in a protected water area, we must restrict water usage on our own properties and have our septic tanks inspected regularly. When we have to do to such lengths to protect and conserve water, why should Mr. Esbaugh's Jackson Harvest Farms operation risk our water safety and protected water area? Waterloo region is focussing on protecting ground water and source water. How will you insure that our water not be contaminated and lost like the wells in Baden and Elmira have been?

● I am concerned that Jackson Harvest Farms request for rezoning and gravel pit will undermine the the Township of Wilmot, along with government agencies, declaration of a climate emergency.

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight,

no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.
● I am concerned about my families' well-being, health and mental health. We chose to live in this residential country community for the peace and tranquility. I fear this will be lost.

● I am concerned about the location. We live in a residential community in Shingletown of about 50 homes. It would not be appropriate for Westmount Golf Course to be turned into an aggregate production nor would it be appropriate for traffic in this kind of volume and production be in Rockway Gardens in Kitchener. How is my community any different?

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Harnack
Bleams Road RR2 Petersburg ON N0B 2H0

Andrew Martin

From: Christine McKinnon
Sent: Saturday, December 7, 2019 3:05 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Aggregate Extraction in Wilmot Township

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

I think protecting residents' water sources is vastly more important than facilitating commercial gravel extraction.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine McKinnon

Andrew Martin

From: D. Herbert Heine
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2019 6:31 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Environmental Problems for Hallman Gravel Pit?

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. Although I am not a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our communities and our lifestyles.

P.S.
If the Province continues to allow Water Extraction by Commercial Enterprises, then the FEES PAID to the Province and Municipalities must be so high that they GENEROUSLY compensate All Ontarians province-wide for the detrimental effects to our Ground Water Tables and for the Plastic Pollution caused by the retail sale of single-use water containers.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Herbert Heine
Burlington, ON

Andrew Martin

From: Danielle Lindamood
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 3:15 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Re: Proposed Hallman Gravel Pit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking, I would like to specifically identify my concerns and make sure our voices are heard.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably impact the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan. This is of grave concern as our water treatment facilities can only support so much treatment and our environment is sensitive to water quality changes.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan which is not comprehensive and question the loss of prime agricultural land to which the province claims to have deep interest in.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property. All of these burdens would be borne by residents - not industry.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Lindamood

Date December 8, 2019

Name David Bricker & MARTHA BRICKER

Address [redacted] Witmer Road
RR #2 Petersburg
N0B 2H0

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
1 Stone Road West
Guelph Ontario, N1G 4Y2
% Seana Richardson
Aggregate Specialist
Seana.Richardson@ontario.ca

Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd.
2879 Hergott Road
St. Clements, ON N0B 2M0
% Rick Esbaugh
rickesbaugh@outlook.com>

Township of Wilmot
60 Snyder's Road West,
Baden ON, N3A 1A1
% Andrew Martin
planning@wilmot.ca

Dear Ms. Richardson / Mr. Esbaugh / Mr. Martin

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1920 Witmer Road, Wilmot

Thank you for the time considering my letter of objection.

I have been living at 1768 Witmer Road since 1975. I moved in March the 1st in a snowstorm. I served as a firefighter for 30 years in the City of Waterloo and moved out to Wilmot Township to enjoy my later years. My house is 60' from the intended traffic route. The deformation of sleep and enjoyment of our properties is my major concern. I object to the rezoning of 1982-1922 Witmer Road and the approval of an Aggregate Licence.

Each community must do their part to slow down climate change. Wilmot Township, you have taken the first step by declaring a Climate Emergency.

This pit will disturb the natural lay of the land.

We must preserve farmland. Save the soil. This land must remain agricultural for the good of the community.

Removal of the aggregate will compromise the natural way water is filtered. Filtration and purification through the sand and gravel is vital. The world is in a crisis for clean water. We must protect it.

The traffic is too much volume for this township road and it adds to the climate emergency. Wilmot Township you have an opportunity to act on your first step by declining this zone change application. What type of Wilmot do we want?

The residents along Witmer Road can not and should not have to suffer from this volume of trucks due to another gravel pit. This volume of trucks is intolerable. This is not the 401. How do we get in and out of our properties safely with this volume of heavy trucks? We have 3 hidden driveways in our community.

Noise dust and exhaust, 6 days a week , 6-6 as proposed. This is infringing on our rights.

The destructive impact this extraction of aggregate will have on our community must be considered by all levels of governing agencies ahead of the profit to be had by one company.

Impact of the quality of our water and our environment must be fully considered. Safety of our residents is paramount. Consider our right to enjoy our homes and property.

Thank you for for time addressing these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

WRITTEN &

Respectfully submitted by

Dave Bricker

Martha Bricker

Andrew Martin

From: David Lubell
Sent: Friday, November 29, 2019 6:02 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Aggregate Extraction in Wilmot Township

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

I am deeply concerned about the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of one of the communities that I believe will be negatively impacted by this proposed undertaking, I wish to make my concerns clear.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will have a negative effect on the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding area and I am also concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land. Furthermore, I note that this is an area in which there are likely to be substantial and important remains of indigenous people and their cultures and that there has been nothing in the proposal to deal with that possibility.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not believe home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles and I thank you for taking the time to address my concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

David Lubell

Andrew Martin

From: Dietlinde Laepple
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2019 9:06 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Water Quality in Wilmot Township

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● Groundwater is a public good. Citizens in the Region pay 6 Million Dollars a year for the water that is pump from underneath the proposed gravel pit and so rounding area. I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in this regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.
As an area farmer I have stringent rules and regulations to follow how I can treat the top soil, the protective layer in the area. All this rules seemed to be waved, allowing the removal of the protective layer and allowing for aggregate extractions.

● The wetland provides an essential service to the public by filtering nitrates and other substances out of the water before it seeps into the groundwater as the study has proven. I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● As a farmer sharing the road with so many transport trucks is dangerous for truck drivers and farm equipment operators. I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Dietlinde Laepple
Bleams Rd
Petersburg N0b 2H0

Date	DEC. 17, 2019
Name	Don ~~Fleet~~ & Bonnie Fleet
Address	[redacted] Witmer Road RR #2 Petersburg N0B 2H0

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 1 Stone Road West Guelph Ontario, N1G 4Y2 % Seana Richardson Aggregate Specialist Seana.Richardson@ontario.ca	Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd. 2879 Hergott Road St. Clements, ON N0B 2M0 % Rick Esbaugh rickesbaugh@outlook.com>	Township of Wilmot 60 Snyder's Road West, Baden ON, N3A 1A1 % Andrew Martin planning@wilmot.ca

Dear Ms. Richardson / Mr. Esbaugh / Mr. Martin

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1920 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

1.) Water

I am concerned about the risk of potential accidents related to aggregate extraction and the impact such an accident could have on my water safety. I have concerns about removing the natural filtration system as this will allow contaminants (such as hydraulic lines, fuel lines breaking, fuel storage mishaps) to more quickly access the water table with less filtration. This will make a regional recharge area more susceptible to contamination. At the very least we would request weekly water testing for nitrates and an agreement with Mr. Esbaugh that he will be responsible for replacing our water as we see fit.

We have serious concerns of further disruption to the nitrates on this property. We request an external professional review and consideration of these impacts. Residents of Witmer Road have seen spikes in the nitrate levels of their private wells.

We also ask that the difference between nitrites, nitrates and nitrogen be distinguished.

We have been assured that there is a protective clay layer between the upper aquifer and lower aquifer. We question how the nitrates get to the lower aquifer if this layer protects it. Our well and others on Witmer Road have wells that are below the upper aquifer that are impacted by nitrates. The water gets to the lower aquifer. Where does it get through? What if this is on the proposed pit? How many test holes were taken on the site to determine where the clay layer is? How do we know if the clay permeates across this property? And how thick is it?

Lastly, we object to a permit to draw water as well as asphalt and concrete recycling due to the increased risk of contamination to our water and water overuse.

2.) Noise and Dust

Hours of Operation:
Mon-Fri 8-5. NO WEEKENDS OR NIGHTS. We have a right to our continued quality of life. Our sleep and enjoyment of our properties can not be impacted. Dormant pits such as the LaFarge pit south of Witmer must be utilized before we even consider destroying a community and sensitive area.

This also has an impact on wildlife and farm anumals. Has a noise study oon this aspect been completed? The woodlots surrounding this property are home to a diverse array of wildlife and a local farmer has a water buffalo dairy farm. these animals are very sensitive to changes in their enviroment.

We were here first. It is our understanding that this property is zoned/designated prime agricultural according to the Region Of Waterloo and Wilmot Official Plan. This is because it is the best use of land when you take into consideration urban, farmland, water and community.
We will not be able to enjoy our patio during the week, where we enjoy having our meals outside in the peace and quiet.

3) Property Value
We do not feel that the home owners will be compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety, because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long standing community.
Our property value drops by at least 1/3 of the assessed value. How can this be fair.

4) Road Safety
I am very concerned also about the road safety. The haul route on a township road with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rail, hidden driveways, school bus route, and dangerous intersections. this road in enjoyed by countless residents recreationally.
We have walkers, joggers, and cyclists come here from the city to enjoy the countryside.
We are concerned for the safety of our community. The intersection of Queens and Bleams is already a difficult intersection to merge into.

5) Enviroment
I we are also concerned about the enviromental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the properties surrounding this area. We go bck to the the number and variety of animals and birds here.

6) Rehabilitaion
We are still concerned about the rehabillitaion plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land. It will never be the same again.

In closing, we have the feeling that everything we've worked for , to enjoy our retirement in surroundings that we love, is being taken away.
We don't desreve to have this taken away from us. All the precautions that are being told to us, does not take away the fact that you are invading our community. We chose to live here for reasons, maybe beyond your comperhension, but for us is a real concern.

Andrew Martin

From: Ed Dupej
Sent: Friday, November 08, 2019 2:37 PM
To:
Subject: Reference: Proposed Gravel Pit 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Petersburg

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

e received a hand delivered notice in our mail box from Jackson Harvest Farms. This company can not be found on Google or in the Province 0f Ontario Ministry of Government Services Registry. The notice indicated a proposed gravel pit at the referenced address. I believe all properties within 0.5km of this site received this notice.

WE ARE EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS NOTICE AND IMPACT ON OUR COMMUNITY

We are submitting this letter to the collective elected officials and their senior employees in the hope that you can answer our questions and reduce our concerns.

Our concerns are as follows:

Concern: The entire site is designated as a Regional recharge area for the large aquifer that lays below the surface. (Regional Official Plan). We have been told the 3 wells in Shingletown (K50, K51, and K52) provide 7% of all water for the entire region (information 2 years old, maybe more now). This also translates to approximately 10% of all the ground water for the Region.
- How will you provide us and the Region with water when this supply is contaminated and effectively gone?

Concern: Our area is in a Water Source Protection Area. (signs posted by Region). From the Ontario Source Protection information, approximately 1/2 of the proposed site falls within this area. I looked up two possible hazards, gas and antifreeze leak/spill contamination. They are both listed as EXTREME HAZARDS to the existing aquifer.
- How do you propose to protect us and the Region from this contamination to our water supply?

Concern: There are wetlands on the site (a good size pond, marsh and woodland) that fall under the Grand River Conservation Authority. We have been told the GRCA has no authority over their regulation when it comes to regulating gravel pits. They can only make recommendations.
- Why does a gravel pit not have to follow the rules and regulations that everyone else has to follow?

Concern: Extreme concern about the removal of filtration media above one of the largest aquifers in Ontario and water supply to the entire Region by gravel pit extraction . The Clean Water Act (that supersedes ALL other Acts), The Water Protection Act and the Official Plan of Waterloo Region all state the number one priority is to protect the existing aquifer and water supply .Removing the filtration system above the recharge area (Waterloo Official Plan) and Water Protected Area (Ontario.ca) defeats the intent of all these regulations. We have been told extraction will be above the water table (1.75m?) to maintain some sort of filtration layer to protect the aquifer. In my personal experience with relocating our septic system on our property, the Ministry required us to dig a 5 foot deep test hole for a water percolation test witnessed by a Ministry Official. I was told that the intent of this test which was timed by a stop watch was to measure how fast the soil filtration system could absorb the water in a test hole full of water. A garden hose on full blast could not even create a puddle at the bottom of the hole, let alone fill it, demonstrating to me that the percolation rate in this area is mind boggling. I do not understand how our ground water supply in the aquifer can remain protected when a very thick layer of filtration is removed, leaving only a very thin layer of filtration.
- Is it risk-free for the Region's drinking water?
- Has there been an aggregate operation in any other water source protected, recharge area? What are findings of any study done?

Concern: Increased traffic. The owner stated they will be applying for a licence to extract 750,000 tons per year. Based on 20 tons per load (MTO tri-axle truck,) this works out to 75,000 trucks per year to and from the site. Depending on the season, weather and hours of operation this truck traffic works out to one truck every one to two minutes. We have been told the haul route would be Witmer Road to Queen Street. Witmer Road is not built for this type of traffic. This does not take into account the possible increase in traffic with a concrete or asphalt recycling facility on the site.
- Is there a traffic study?
-Is there a road assessment study?
-Is there a haul route assessment/agreement?
-Who pays for the upgrades to Witmer Road?
- Is there a long term agreement on road maintenance/upgrades/replacement?
- What is the impact on emergency vehicles (no shoulders)?
- School bus safety?
- Blind hills, adjacent land owners safety?
- Witmer Road/Queen Street intersection, a blind corner? (there have been fatalities at this corner)
- Mitigation of additional trucks through Shingetown?

Concern: Effect on household water wells. Many neighbours are on their own private wells. Ground water table is unpredictable. We live in the middle of Shingetown (in the valley). The well next door (20 feet away} is at an approximate water level of 35 feet. The house up the hill when digging a basement, hit water at 5 feet. Thus a raised bungalow was built. There is a well in our community of Shingletown that ran dry after over 75 years of operation.
- What plan is in place for residents on wells when they run dry or become contaminated?

Concern: Diminished air quality. Have a drive down Cedar Creek Road (old HWY 97) in summer. It is like driving through a dust storm. Breathing in these dust particles compromises our health and can cause long term health issues. People with respiratory problems would find it especially difficult.
- What measures are proposed to be implemented to mitigate this problem?

Concern: Noise of gravel trucks on site and on our roads. We live in an area that is very peaceful and quiet. We enjoy living in our community and in Wilmot Township. Gravel trucks are the noisiest vehicle rumbling down the road. You can hear them coming from 1 Km away destroying the peaceful nature of our rural community.
- What mitigation is in place to reduce/eliminate this problem?

Concern: Double-standard of The Provincial Policy Statement and Environmental Registry of Ontario. The objectives are to protect water, farmland, wetlands and the rural community.
- How does a gravel pit in the midst of our community comply with these standards of this policy?

Concern: The number of gravel pits in Wilmot and the best use of irreplaceable resources. Currently there are 13 properties and an additional 9 properties abutting the Township within 1 KM that are licensed for aggregate removal. (Ontario.ca). In a study done (WWW) there is enough aggregate left in existing pits in Ontario to last 30-50 years. Directly across Witmer Road from the proposed gravel pit there is an approximately 400 acre parcel of land zoned for aggregate extraction.The zone change application with numerous restrictions (Cattle Lands Agreement) was submitted Jan. 28, 1981. To date, we have been told only 10%of this property has been mined for aggregate. (period of 38 years).
- Do we need another gravel pit in Wilmot Township?
- What is the actual % of resources available to supply the needs in existing pits?
- Does Wilmot want to keep its very positive reputation as a great place to live?
- What is the cumulative effect of multiple aggregate operations in close proximity on the safety of the aquifer?

Concern: The devaluation of our homes and properties. From the 4 studies I have reviewed on gravel pit operations effect on property value, the devaluation can range from 39.36% to 8.5% (Lansink 2014) depending upon the distance you are from the gravel pit (abutting to 3 Km - Erickcek 2006). Properties within 0.5Km would be highly impacted. Because of its " commumity nature", properties in Shingetown would all be considered as "abutting" (MPAC). Our homes and property are our life-time investments and potential retirement fund.
- Who reimburses home owners for devaluation of property value, the Township, the Region, the Province or the gravel pit owner?
- MPAC recognizes devaluation of property values near gravel pits and reduces assessment valuation. Who notifies MPAC of the affected properties for a reduction of tax assessment?

Concern: The extermination of wetlands. There is a large natural beautiful wetland environment on this property. Most of the surface drainage on the proposed site slopes towards the wetlands.
- What happens when you change the topography by gravel extraction?
- What measures will be taken to protect this natural environment?

Concern: Wildlife. The wetland is home to numerous kinds of wildlife and is a heavily used stop for migratory birds. Many duck species, geese and even trumpet swans use this wetland on their migratory route. I will miss "Red". Red is a bushy tailed red fox that runs down our driveway to the wetlands. When the wetlands are gone, Red will no longer have a home.

- What happens to the wildlife when the wetland is exterminated or severely reduced?
- How does reduction of woodlots and wetlands aid in the current climate emergency?

Concern: Visual disamenity. We live in one of best locations in Wilmot Township and in the whole Region of Waterloo. Our community is surrounded by graceful rolling hills, creeks, ponds, Hoffstetter Lake, wetlands and prime agricultural farmland. The ugly scar of a gravel pit operation will destroy this environment.
- How can you prevent this from happening?
- How can you maintain our current visual and atheistic environs, one of the reasons we chose to live here?

Concern: Cultural heritage. A community has existed in this area since 1852 (Township of Wilmot) when they started to make shingles in this area. There has been a recorded "community" in Shingletown since 1861 (Termain map). Shingletown is a long established community with friendly neighbours in a very quiet and peaceful environment surrounded by rolling hills and farmland, one of the top ten places to live in Ontario (Wilmot Township).
- How does a gravel pit enhance our peaceful community and our way of life?

Concern: Archaeological aspect. We have been told there was once an Indian village near the wetland on the property. We believe an archaeological study has to be submitted with the application. There have been a significant number of artifacts found.
- In the submitted report, is there any mention of the Native American village that existed near the large pond on the east side of the property?
- Has the Ministry of Indian Affairs been consulted about the proposed gravel pit?
- Has Six Nations (original residents) been contacted about this proposal in regards to their heritage lands?

Concern: Rehabilitation. Leaving the land a moonscape and letting the weeds grow in is not rehabilitation.There are many examples on Cedar Creek Road and others though out the province of abandoned, unsafe gravel pits. The Region of Waterloo Official Plan states that "in the Prime Agricultural Area Designation, rehabilitation to agriculture will be the first priority". Soil science suggests that the returned topsoil will not have the fertility of its previous levels.
- What are the studies done to show that this return to agricultural land is possible?
- How will this be done?

Requests:
- 3rd party review of all submitted reports/studies by the Township/Region/province/federal governments. Copies of those reviews.
- Our allotted time to speak at the required public meeting. (I believe that is 20 minutes for two people).
- We be a participant in the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT).
-We be a participant in the Ontario aggregate application review.
- We be a participant in any Provincial, Regional or Township discussions/agreements with the owner. (similar to the Cattle Lands Agreement imposing restrictions on the conditions of the application).
We be notified of any decisions made in this matter.

In your combined experience, knowledge, wisdom and conscience of mind, you as a group should find a way to stop this proposed gravel pit.

Our quality of life and well- being are at stake.

When it comes to us, the community, the Region, our children and future generations, NO AMOUNT OF RISK to our drinking water is acceptable.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed and Ann Dupej
Bleams Road RR2
Petersburg ON N0B2H0

Andrew Martin

From: Ed Dupej
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2019 3:29 PM
To:
Subject: Correction

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

CORRECTION : To letter submitted November 8, 2019

Reference : Proposed Gravel pit 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Petersburg

In the submitted said letter I stated "there is enough aggregate in existing pit in Ontario to last 30-50 years" This is incorrect.

In a recent study by Dr. Larry Jensen, PHD Geo Science, there is enough aggregate left in existing pits in Ontario to last 208 YEARS.

Added **Concern:**

- Do we really need another gravel pit anywhere?

- Can you prove to us another gravel pit is required?

Respectfully submitted,

Ed and Ann Dupej

Bleams Road RR2

Petersburg ON N0B2H0

Andrew Martin

From: Eric Mills
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 6:50 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Property values near proposed Hallman Gravel Pit

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To Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

I am concerned about the Hallman Pit aggregate operation:

● Aggregate extraction and related activities (drawing water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) would inevitably affect the quality and quantity of local water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead-protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● The wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding are vulnerable. I am also concerned about the loss of prime agricultural land.

● Hauling on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads poses safety risks.

● Home owners would see loss of property value and declining quality of life and safety because of gravel pit operations close to a long-standing community.

I hope you will address these concerns about serious threats to the community and environment.

Sincerely,

Eric Mills

Andrew Martin

From: George Costanza
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 2:19 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Property values near proposed Hallman Gravel Pit

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These emails are coming from a third party sender from:

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and the IP of 167.89.25.21

Andrew Martin

From: Gillian Kelly
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 3:57 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Aggregate Extraction in Wilmot Township

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a citizen of Ontario, I stand in solidarity with members of the community which will be negatively impacted by this undertaking and I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:l

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to the community and the lifestyles of its residents.

Respectfully submitted,

Gillian Kelly

Andrew Martin

From: Heidi Ohno
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 9:16 AM
To: Planning
Subject: Re: Proposed Hallman Gravel Pit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot
I am inserting a personal note here. My families livelihood is water quality. Doug Ford's move to open our green belts to his friends quarries is blatantly FOOLISH. It's time, as decision maker and leaders to really think about this.... is BLASTING in or near our drinking water sources a smart move? Do people or industry profit? Now, ask yourselves what Canada's water situation REALLY is... how's that pipeline under the great lakes doing? How long until it cracks under the Mackinac straight? What will we do with only 3 great lakes As drinking water sources? No ones draining our aquifers so it should be fine? Or did we PIMP out our aquifers to nestle for PENNIES. We did. No worries, there's enough, right. So, let James dick, and other wealthy friends of Doug Ford to profit hand over fist for gravel that we already have a 50 year surplus of, because, who needs water, right? You have many, qualified class 4 water quality operators in Kitchener waterloo region to keep clean (by chlorine, ozone,) or do you? Before you turn your tap on, and give your children or grandchildren a glass of water to drink, that YOU have allowed to be damaged, sold for a few cents, polluted, in a region, where perhaps one or two operators have pushed themselves to get a high classification to keep you safe... ask yourself, when was the last time the region hired someone who is a CLASS 4 (highest classification in water quality)? If you are going to treat water as a throw away commodity, something with such little value.... how safe have I made it for my family. When was the last time we hire classified operators? Go check. I as a citizen, DEMAND you start acting responsible, and if you intend to put something we can go THREE DAYS WITHOUT, that YOU go on a hiring spree. Reward those water workers who used to care, before you burnt them out over poor water choices.
What will happen when the USA realizes their water situation? Do you feel they will ask kindly before draining our remaining 3 great lakes? Trump acts just like Doug Ford, so tell me sir, as I am also writting to you- what IS YOUR PLAN for when America wakes to the real water situation? Trade humans for water rights like Kevin Garret and China? WAKE UP. This situation, and your disregard for something so important has us looking to relocate out of Ontario. Please, I explore you. I beg you. A quick search will show you everything I have written to be true. I would love to be able to stay here near my family. Stop forcing us out. Start hiring better qualified folks. Start realizing why nestle will "always purchase an available well, and NEVER sell it, as water is finite". As least act as responsible as nestle in this regard. Before they force us to go private.

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional

recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Ohno

Andrew Martin

From: Janet Chevalier
Sent: Sunday, December 8, 2019 7:03 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Water Quality in Wilmot Township

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.
I think it is time for big business to back off when their business can do environmental and social damage. To abuse the vulnerability of people who live in small rural communities just to make a buck and for the owner to show disregard for members of the community is reprehensible.
I look forward to you in elected office doing the "right" thing.
And I wonder what each of you would do if this venture was poised to invade your back yard.
J. Chevalier

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Chevalier

Monday December 16, 2019

Jeffrey Lernout

Witmer Road

Wilmot,ONN0B2H0

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 1 Stone Road West Guelph Ontario, N1G 4Y2 % Seana Richardson Aggregate Specialist Seana.Richardson@ontario.ca	Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd. 2879 Hergott Road St. Clements, ON N0B 2M0 % Rick Esbaugh rickesbaugh@outlook.com >	Township of Wilmot 60 Snyder's Road West, Baden ON, N3A 1A1 % Andrew Martin planning@wilmot.ca

Dear Ms. Richardson / Mr. Esbaugh / Mr. Martin

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

Thank you for the opportunity to present my objections and concerns to the aggregate extraction proposal at 1894-1922 Witmer Road (to be referred to as the "Hallman Pit" going forward).

I have been a resident of Witmer Road for over a decade now. My wife and two boys have started our lives here - we got married on this beautiful property and our children have enjoyed their formative years here to the fullest. We love Wilmot Township and despite vigorously and extensively searching elsewhere for a replacement property; we have decided to continue to call this home.

As a concrete business owner and operator, I fully recognize and appreciate the need for aggregate. However, we object to the Hallman Pit as it's impacts can be mitigated unless the following considerations are incorporated into the application.

1.) Road Safety

a.) All of the following must be considered in order to ensure NO NEGATIVE IMPACTS of the community:

i.) shoulders/bike lanes to accommodate current recreational users and provide an area for vehicles to pull over when needed

ii.) guard rails

iii.) turning lanes into Hallman Pit

iv.) line of sight improvements on Witmer Road (carve out hill to improve sight lines for 3 hidden driveways)

v.) Improvements to Queen Street and Witmer Road intersection (i.e. large round-about, improvement to sight line to the south when turning onto Queen Street off Witmer Road) to safely accommodate the increased heavy truck traffic and allow current traffic to continue to safely travel Queen Street

vi.) 60km/hour on Witmer Road

b.) owner/operator of JHF to complete replacement of the road at the 20 year mark. Township (tax payers) shall not cover maintenance of the road. The proposed traffic increase far exceeds the roads currents use.

c.) Baseline study that shows the extent of recreational (cyclists, walkers, joggers) use of Witmer Road

d.) Has the impact to emergency services, waste management and school buses been investigated?

We consider the above necessary for the safety of residents (bus stops, current bike route, and road users)

2.) Water Quality, Quantity and Safety

a.) Test well (120 M deep) drilled in far NW corner of our property with monthly Nitrate and Bacteria testing.

i.) With the flow of the groundwater suggested to flow in our direction, we see this as necessary for the safety of our growing family.

b.) What happens if my private well is contaminated or runs dry? We need an agreement in writing between owner/operator of JHF and ourselves that he will be held responsible for our loss of groundwater.

c.) No asphalt recycling (risk of contamination - salt, fossil fuels, etc.)

d.) No wash ponds

i.) Region to complete study of effect of wash ponds in areas such as this (existing Atrazine and Nitrates)

ii.) Region to determine how much water can be drawn in the dry season to ensure there are NO NEGATIVE IMPACTS to residents.

3.) Noise and Dust Pollution

a.) Requires a vibration study (traffic) for those living on Witmer Road

b.) 2 staggered rows of mature (20 years) coniferous mix along road line and along the west property line. Replacement trees for life of Hallman Pit completed by owner/operator of JHF

c.) Hours of operation as follows: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm and NO OPERATIONS on weekends or nights.

We require these mitigation in order to continue to enjoy our present quality of life, health and ensure the safety of our family

4.) Rehabilitation and existing dormant pits

a.) How will the land be rehabilitated in the WHPA with much of the natural capital removed? We do not want the Hallman Pit to become a safety hazard for our growing family and children in the community and liability for the township down the road. Gravel Pits that accidentally break through the water table and cease active mining become liabilities. These abandoned/dormant gravel pits leave open bodies of water that attract kids and 'explorers.' It would be a shame if this productive piece of farmland with potential to operate in harmony with the SPP became this, particularly as it backs onto a community.

b.) Can you give an example of rehabilitation of a gravel pit back to farmland in a source water protected area?

5.) Property Value

a.) If the negative impacts to our property value/quality of life can not be mitigated with the above; we must be compensated for our losses.

b.) Drop in property taxes yet to be determined

c.) Monetary compensation from owner/operator of JHF based on extraction

Thank you for your time and energy considering and addressing my concerns.

Respectfully submitted by

Jeffrey Lernout

Andrew Martin

From: Jennifer Lauzon
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2019 6:47 PM Planning
To: Re: Proposed Hallman Gravel Pit
Subject:

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

December 17,2019
Jennifer Lauzon
Bleams Rd.
Petersburg,On.
N0B2H0

Dear Andrew Martin,
I have made Wilmot Township my home for thirty years. The first ten years that I resided here it was as a renter. I realised very quickly that Wilmot Township was a pretty great place to live. The caring and compassion of the people was so much different from living in the city. The abundance of green and the absence of so much concrete, traffic and noise were to akin to living in heaven. I knew that I wanted to make this amazing little gem of a community my home forever. So, in 1998, when I was five months pregnant with my second daughter, my husband and I moved into our very first home in Shingletown. And it has been everything and I mean everything that we hoped for. But now there is something very, very scary happening here to all of the residents of Wilmot and even beyond. An event, that should it happen, will completely change the lives of literally hundreds of people. And not in a good way. This event is of course the proposed gravel pit. I just read an article in the September issue of the Baden Outlook on page 3 that talks about Maclean's magazine just coming out with their annual report on the "Best communities to live in Canada." Wilmot ranked number twenty. It goes on to say how lucky we are. And we are. Right now. But will we be lucky when our water, our air, our peace, our road safety, our farmland and our beautiful, beautiful green spaces are compromised? When our physical health is threatened? And what about our mental health? I can tell you that I have been to my doctor four times in the last month because I have had terrible headaches and shortness of breath. I am awaiting on blood work results but my doctor thinks it's stress related. I'm already getting sick and the pit hasn't even been approved yet!
First I would like to bring to your attention the issue of the exhaust caused by hundreds of dump trucks hauling aggregate. When my neighbors and I were at the township meeting this past November 26, Mr. Esbaugh was asked exactly how many trucks would be expected on the road in 1 hour. He turned this question over to his traffic expert who verified that we could expect 11 trucks an hour in and out which means a total of 22 trucks an hour. BUT, when the pit is busy it would mean 44 trucks an hour. The hours of operation for Hallman Pit in one day is 13 hours. Six days a week. That works out to a possible 572 trucks a day and a possible 3432 trucks a week on our roads. Roads we drive, walk, bike, and push strollers with fussy babies. Where caregivers walk beside wheelchairs, dogs are exercised and parents pull little ones in wagons. Could this really happen to our roads?? For 30 years or more? And what of the exhaust fumes? I was following a dump truck on Monday as I was heading toward New Dundee. It belched out a huge cloud of thick, black smoke which immediately filled my car with fumes. That was 1 truck! What will our air quality be like with 3432 trucks a week on our roads? Even if it is a slow week that means there would still be 1,716 trucks coming and going. Our air quality would

be awful at all times but imagine it in the heat of summer! And speaking of summer, is the Township not aware that .02 kilometers from the Witmer Rd. and Queen St. intersection there is multiple trailers where residences of Country Gardens Tent and Trailer Park spend their summers? The noise from multiple trucks at this intersection will be heard loud and clear for those moving into the park to spend a peaceful summer. This will definitely have a huge impact on Peter and Jan Bingeman's business. Country Gardens has been in Wilmot Township since the 1950's. It doesn't seem fair that hard working members and business owners of this region could potentially lose a business while another man who is not part of this community will make millions.
When Mr. Esbaugh was questioned about the number of trucks on our roads he became angry and stated "I don't have to do this!" "We can end this meeting right now!" At the September 23rd council meeting did the Township of Wilmot not take "a solid step forward" in continuing its efforts to promote sustainability by joining government agencies in the declaration of a climate change emergency? Does the Township of Wilmot not have an absolute Green House Gas emissions target reduction of 25% from 2012 levels by 2027? How does the township figure that adding in a possible 3432 trucks a week on our roads will help cut Green House Gas emissions and give its citizens cleaner air? Quote from Mayor Les Armstrong; "Council and I are proud to support the continued efforts of our organization in making progress towards reducing our carbon footprint. It is hoped that this declaration and similar statements from our peers at all levels of government will promote action towards a cleaner environment for future generations." The citizens of Wilmot Township would really love our mayor to stand up and say, "I am proud to support all those who live and work in Wilmot Township and surrounding areas in maintaining the quality of life we presently are so fortunate to have."
The next concern that has come up many times in meetings about the proposed pit is also about air quality due to dust. Mr. Esbaugh, when asked about the dust, assured all present at the November 26 meeting that water trucks would be continually spraying water to keep the dust down. That might work a little bit in a world where there was absolutely not a puff of wind or the slightest breeze but in reality, not so much. After extensive reading about gravel pit dust this is what we will be faced with: The mining and crushing of gravel creates and unleashes fine particulate matter called Crystalline Silica into the air which is carried on the wind towards homes, schools and businesses. This killer is the fine particles of dust you cannot see. Adults and vulnerable children and seniors will be exposed to this harmful carcinogen every day, all day. Crystalline Silica is a known carcinogen which has been found to cause lung cancer, silicosis, and other health hazards. Once these tiny particles enter the lungs they stay there. The body has no way to expel them. Wind can carry these particles over great distances. The closer you are to the source, the higher the concentration and danger. Crystalline Silica clings to inanimate objects like homes, schools, playground equipment, trees, plants, grass and cars. It will infiltrate heating and cooling systems and there is no way to stop it or mitigate it. The dust is cumulative. This is the air we breathe every day and to unleash this on our community is inexcusable, incomprehensible and unacceptable.
Everyone in our region is extremely upset about the water. I could get into all of the facts and figures but I think that out of all of the concerns that have come to the Townships' attention this one is the most prominent. All I will say here is that everyone that I have discussed the Hallman pit with is just completely baffled as to why anyone would ever take a risk with our water. Studies or not. It is one of the planets' most precious commodities so why even take a chance on water for the region for one individual to benefit?
When I drive home from the city and I leave all the noise and hustle and bustle behind and I come down the hill into Shingletown I always look off towards the fields to my left and take in the beauty of the landscape. In the spring I watch the earth come back to life with soil that is black and fertile and fresh from shedding the winter snow. In the summer, the green rolling hills take my breath away. The fall is just majestic and speaks for itself. And in the winter I marvel at the hills covered in their sparkling blanket of white. These views are what many of us in Wilmot Township see from our back decks or our front porches. We see nature when we open our eyes first thing in the morning from the windows of our homes. This is our life. Our air, water, farmland, landscape, and peace. This is all we have every day. When I was at the meeting on November 26th, Mr. Esbaugh's associate projected imagines on the wall of the room showing what we will see if the pit is approved. Piles of dirt, trucks, wash ponds, conveyer belts and towering rock crushers. The best word for it is devastation. A tear in the beauty of our home. I felt physically sick looking at these pictures. A woman who I know has been a resident here for many, many years was quietly sobbing beside me. I put my hand up and asked Mr. Esbaugh if

he had any compassion at all for the people of our community. His reply was that he can't help where the good Lord puts the aggregate and all his experts at the table laughed. Please. We are asking you as residents and taxpayers of Wilmot Township to do the right thing. Listen to the people. Hear us! Our voice is strong when we ask to keep the quality of life we know. This gravel pit will be way too close to a long-standing community. None of us are against aggregate. We all understand it is needed. But not in the middle of a community that will destroy quality of life for hundreds. I'm guessing that at the present, the Township offices don't have too many pressing issues. Maybe a traffic matter. Some kids causing mischief or a request for some new playground equipment. If the Hallman Pit goes through, the fallout will be huge. Is council prepared for what they will have to endure if this door is opened? And once that door is opened it can never, ever be shut. This is by no means a threat. Just a fact. The people of Wilmot are strong and we will fight for our right to live free of the destruction of our quality of life.

Andrew Martin

From: joanne scharf
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 7:49 AM
To: Planning
Subject: Negative impacts of proposed Hallman Gravel Pit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of a community that has many aggregate extraction pits,
I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of local water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I also
live in an area with many functioning aggregate operations and future expansion of aggregate extraction likely. Legislation
needs to provide a better balance between the needs of large metropolises for construction material, clean water for all
residents of the province, the ability of rural residents to
enjoy the property they have invested in for their homes, and for
all members of the province to preserve prime agricultural
land for farming, and forested areas for climate control
and recreational use.

Respectfully submitted,

joanne scharf

Ms. Julie Weber
[redacted] Sandhills Rd.
Baden, Ontario
N3A 3A4

Mr. Rick Esbaugh
Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd.
2870 Hergott Road
St. Clements, Ontario
NOB 2MO

Dear Mr. Esbaugh,

As a neighbor to the proposed gravel pit (Proposed Aggregate Extraction Witmer Rd. Wilmot) I am saddened to think of the implications this operation will have to both people and the environment. I am aware that studies have been done to ensure all safety standards have been met and there will be minimal damage to the environment or to the community. I am aware there has been much conversation with you regarding this proposal.

The following are categories of concerns:

Environmental concerns – a few test wells have been dug to determine the depth of the aquifer, but I am not convinced that the areas tested are indicative of the entire scope of the area. I am most concerned that the gravel pit may breech this aquifer and once this happens this large area of clean water will be polluted with no ability to remedy the situation once the damage has been done.

I am aware that this environmentally sensitive area will not be able to be returned to its natural state once the land has been mutilated with the development of the gravel pit and all the related business associated with this operation.

I am concerned that across Ontario owners of gravel pits have yet to cleaning up sites once the use of the land and the pit is terminated. There are pits all over Ontario which are left to decay and ruin due to the fact that owners walk away and feel no responsibility in caring for the future of the space, and returning the land to minimal use.

Community concerns – I am saddened for the neighbours who live within close proximity to the gravel pit. They will be living with constant noise pollution, including vibrations and ongoing dust in their living spaces. Their country-side homes will be continually impacted through the intense operations of this pit.

The impact on the roads will be a definite safety hazard with the substantial amount of traffic increase. I reside on Sandhills Road and already struggle with entering onto the road safely due to speeding cars and traffic, who take minimal notice of "hidden driveway" signage posted. Every time someone leaves my property they do so with trepidation of being hit by a vehicle. The likelihood of someone being

injured will increase substantially with the amount of traffic your business will put on the back roads surrounding the gravel pit.

Economical concerns – I am appalled that this gravel pit will cause undue hardship to a small community and surrounding areas of those families who rely on this water source in order for your company to continue to expand and you can continue to make a substantial amount of money.

Questions – I have the following questions for you as you continue to plan for this development.

1. What happens if/when the gravel pit breeches the aquifer under the current land area? Who is responsible for finding another clean water source to Kitchener and surrounding areas? What responsibility would your company have for helping repair the damage and assuming responsibility for having built the pit on a protected water area in the first place?
2. Will your company assume responsibility of finding clean drinking water sources for neighbours whose wells have the potential of drying up, or will the cost of drilling new wells be a burden for each landowner to bear at their own estimated costs of over $20K?
3. If neighbours and citizens are suffering due to the gravel pit interfering with traffic and noise pollution, how will you work to maintain a peaceful relationship and remedy the situation?
4. If the gravel pit is approved, would you consider ongoing meetings with a neighbourhood coalition to hear ongoing concerns? If yes, how do you see this happening, if no... what would be your reasoning for not engaging with the concerned citizens and the impact your business has on their daily lives?

Thank you for your time to address these concerns. I do appreciate that you have taken time to explain your plan with interested citizens. I am hopeful that you will consider implications of the impact of this business plan on people, both present and future generations, and not just monetary gain for a few people.

Respectfully,

Julie Weber

Andrew Martin

From: Karen Rathwell
Sent: Saturday, December 7, 2019 6:51 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Re: Hallman Gravel Pit, safety risks

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. Although, I am a member of an adjacent community, I understand the negative impact this undertaking will have and would like to voice my concerns. More has to be done to protect rural families that do not wish to have the fabric of their communities threatened. Ontario relies on farmers and farmland - they feed cities and it is not right for the profits of one individual to undermine so many innocent families. I have seen this happen to other communties in Ontario and we must learn from these experiences.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Rathwell

Andrew Martin

From: Lavern Forwell
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2019 2:05 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Hallman Gravel Pit - Letter of Objection

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

In a 1990 Agreement by the township one of the conditions for approval of the expansion of the cattle land pit..was that there be no access onto Witmer Rd for the purpose of extracting gravel. This came all the way west as far as the west boundary of the proposed Hallman pit. This was put in place to protect the homes, families quality of life, safety and home values. This agreement is still in place under the cattle land agreement for the south side of Witmer Rd then in retrospect it should fall the same for the north side.
Even though this agreement was ignored by our past mayor and council they went ahead and approved the Sted and Evans pit...one would think that this agreement regarding Witmer Rd and the residents would not be disregarded a second time.

There has to be a berm all the way along the west side of the Hallman property, along with a tree line if this were to be approved.

A nesting habitat for hundreds of ducks and geese would be ruined by the activities of the pit.

The value of our property would decrease the value 25-35% as my property abuts the proposed pit.

The draw on the water table by a wash plant and the chance of contamination is unacceptable.....considering the water protection area on the property and the hugh Aquifer directly across the road to the south that was recorded on the cattle land study of 1990

We as neighbours moved out here to live a quiet rural lifestyle. This pit will take this away from all of the residents.

In closing the lives and health of so many families should not be effected by one persons needs. If this pit or any other should be approved then direct compensation should be made to those effected by the applicant.

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and

concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Lavern Forwell
Witmer Road Petersburg,
ON N0B 2H0 Canada

Andrew Martin

From: Linda Oliver
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 9:50 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Environmental Problems for Hallman Gravel Pit?

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

I am concerned about Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd. being allowed to extract aggregate from the Hallman Pit. Has there been an adequate independent hydrogeological study of this area? With the changes to Bill 132 that allows extracting below the waterline, pollutants could enter the ground water that many in the area depend on for their drinking water and for watering their livestock. Please consider carefully before issuing a license that allows Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd. to extract aggregate from the Hallman Pit.

Sincerely,

Linda Oliver
Kitchener, ON, N2G 2H3

Andrew Martin

From: Township of Wilmot
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 4:42 PM
To: Harold O'Krafka; Andrew Martin
Subject: FW: Hallman Pit should be rejected

-----Original Message-----
From: noreply@esolutionsgroup.ca On Behalf Of Louisette Lanteigne
Sent: Saturday, December 7, 2019 12:00 AM
To: Township of Wilmot
Subject: Hallman Pit should be rejected

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello. In the attachments is the submission I provided to the MNR when they reviewed the Aggregate Act. It illustrates the risks of these projects geologically and economically.
In my view this pit project is akin to killing a cow to simply get a cup of milk. it is economically foolish and unsustainable. I provide a simple rubric on the cost of 1% of the potable water of the Waterloo Moraine. I encourage you to do the math at 7%. You will lose more money in potable water than your municipal revenues make because if you screw up that recharge area, the damages are permanent and fiscal loss is in perpetuity. You don't take the engine of a car and sell it for scrap metal expecting the vehicle to function the same way. It's the same thing with the geology of your water supply. Don't take it for granted please. Do the math on it's worth.

Thank you.

Origin: https://www.wilmot.ca/Modules/contact/search.aspx?s=rKJmm1wnArkgHd8LKy6WMweQuAleQuAl
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This email was sent to you by Louisette Lanteigne through https://www.wilmot.ca/.

Mark Gordon

[redacted] Bleams Road
Petersburg, Ontario
N0B2H0

December 3, 2019

Wilmot Township
60 Snyder's Road West
Baden, Ontario
N3A1A1
Att: Andrew Martin

Re: Application for Gravel Pit/Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Wilmot Road, Wilmot Township

I STRONGLY object to the creation of this this pit.
The applicant shows no concern for the existing community but I object, as those living nearby-sensitive receptors who would be adversely affected by air and noise pollution- are at significant risk. The sensitive receptors would forever be negatively impacted by the intrusion of industrial activity. Lives would be forever changed. When asked at the recent mandated community presentation as to how he could do this to people living nearby the applicant simply stated "that's where the gravel is". This callousness to others is from a previous century and should not be allowed to be accepted, formalized, legitimatized and supported by government licensing in 2019/2020.
The applicant shows no concern for the Region of Waterloo's water supply but I object as this pit would be in a designated Source Water Protection Area and would actually sit over an aquifer for wells providing 5-7% of the daily drinking water for the Region of Waterloo. Our water supply would forever be at risk of contamination from the intrusion of industrial activity, industrial accident or misadventure. The applicant's studies cannot cover all eventualities.
The applicant shows no concern for the wetland area, which is at the lowest and most vulnerable point on the property, but I object as this wetland, which is a vital part of the area's ecosystem, would be forever at risk of contamination from the intrusion of industrial activity, industrial accident or misadventure. All noxious liquids and contaminants would naturally end up at the lowest point which is the wetland.
The applicant shows no concern for the area's air quality-the air that residents close by and others not so close by-would be breathing from the diesel truck exhaust. This pit would bring in hundreds of thousands of new diesel truck trips and with this would come a dramatic increase in heat trapping carbon emissions, and an increase in nitrogen oxides which is a major ingredient in particulate matter. Higher rates of asthma, lung and heart disease would follow. Following there would be an increase in mortality.

The applicant shows no concern for the day to day lives of those nearby. He wants to operate this pit 6 days a week, with unscheduled hours at his discretion. He cares nothing for those whose lives would be forever changed. For example, not being able to go outside without hearing the full range of industrial sounds from the pit. For example, not being able to go outside without breathing in the full range of airborne contaminates (i.e. Silica dust, a carcinogenic substance) produced by the pit.
His concern is only for his pit.
He wants to change a rural environment to one of heavy industrial activity.

The applicant shows no concern for the loss of farmland. The population of The Region of Waterloo continues to grow and is expected to keep on growing and he wants to take approximately 150 acres of farmland out of production.
This is foolhardy at best.

The applicant shows no concern for others and no need to build a berm on the east side of the property. Without a berm the wind would allow pollutants and noise to move out of his pit and across the land. The perspective from the east would forever be one of this applicant's gravel pit, impacting all who live or move on Bleams Road.

The physical and mental health concerns of those living nearby, an established community, are at risk should this application be accepted.
It would be cavalier at best, given today's knowledge, to proceed and accept this application.

Lives are at risk.
Our water is at risk. Our wetland is at risk. Our air quality is at risk. Our farmland is at risk.
Our community is at risk.
The applicant shows no concern.
This application should be denied.

Thank you for your consideration

Mark Gordon

Andrew Martin

From: mark gordon
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2019 1:56 PM
To: Harold O'Krafka <harold.okrafka@Wilmot.ca>
Cc: Dawn Mittelholtz <dawn.mittelholtz@wilmot.ca>
Subject:

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I read Luisa D'Amato's column last night and thought back to our impromptu meeting.
I realized after meeting that the deal is down and the council you provide counsel to is going to approve the change of zoning and allow the gravel pit. If you are willing to use the interim control bylaw to delay, defer and possibly stop what you don't want in Wilmot Township,such as an adult venue of some kind, but pass on the opportunity to use it in regard to the proposed gravel pit then clearly you feel differently about the gravel pit.
As I said at the time I appreciated your professionally muted but clearly heartfelt response to my comment about a photo-op. Unfortunately your actions to put our water source and wetland at risk and take 200 acres of farmland out of production are,in the words of the World Scientists Warning of a Climate Emergency, "business as usual". You have the usual studies in hand but really don't have a lot of moral high ground to stand on here.
And then there's California. (Ah, to be in California now that winter is here.)The North American leader in environmental protection laws. Check out the proposed law to require a 40% reduction in diesel truck emissions by 2030 and an 80% reduction by 2050. A planned phasing out of diesel trucks.
While here in Wilmot the new gravel pit will bring in tens (and tens) of thousands of newly introduced diesel truck trips.
My guess is that you could use coal as a fuel source forever in the municipal building and do less damage to the environment than all those extra diesel truck trips.
Mark g.

Andrew Martin

From: Morgan Dandie-Hannah
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 3:00 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Property values near proposed Hallman Gravel Pit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Rick Esbaugh,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a person who is concerned about the members of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of local water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Additionally, as a Committee member with Protect Our Moraine Coalition, I understand the 'too many straws' concept of the cumulative effect on the water table, as well as how vitally important water recharge areas are to the quality of the local water.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to the community and their lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Morgan Dandie-Hannah
Guelph, On

Dec 12, 2019

Murray & Patti Huber
[redacted] Witmer Rd
Petersburg ON N0B 2H0

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at
1920 Witmer Rd

Dear Ms. Richardson, Mr. Esbaugh and
Mr. Martin

I'm extremely concerned about the proposed Aggregate operation, just down the road from us, and what it will mean to our lives.

We purchased our property in 2010. Our dream come true! A beautiful, peaceful acreage, abundant with wildlife, trails to enjoy with our grandchildren. The proposed gravel pit operation will severely affect all of the above. We can look forward to banging tailgates, back up beepers, and loader/crusher. Not to mention the thousands of trips by trucks, up and down our road. Six days a week.

More disturbing is the possible water contamination. Our water supply comes from the above property. Property that's within the Region of Waterloo Source Water Protection Area. Our well is 101ft

deep, with a water level of 67ft. The aquifers located at 1920 Witmer provide safe drinking water for us people in Shingleton, and elsewhere in the region. It's appalling anyone would support any venture that could impact safe drinking water for so many of us. It's even more shocking when you consider there is a 400 acre parcel across the road, that is already zoned aggregate. One would think that if aggregate was in such high demand, someone would open it up. It also has no impact on residential properties and contains No aquifers.

Financially, we stand to lose a substantial amount of money in property value if the Aggregate Operation is allowed to proceed.

More and more roads in the Region are being designated as "water protection areas", yet we still have to fight to preserve an area ALREADY PROTECTED.

We appreciate you considering our concerns, and would like to know what compensation we can expect for loss of property values; a water supply that could be adversely affecting our health; and ruining our dream.

Respectfully

Dec 12/ 2019

MURRAY & PATTI HUBER
[redacted] WITMER RD.
PETERSBURG, ON
N0B 2H0

Dear Ms Richardson, Mr. Estaugh, Mr. Martin

Re: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1920 Witmer Rd.

Thank-you for the time considering my letter of objection.
This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be have a negative impact by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.
First of all it lies in the Region of Waterloo's Source Water Protection Area. My well draws water from this same water source. It is 101 ft deep drilled well with a water level of 67 ft. At the meeting the hydrologist stated there was an upper and lower aquifer with a protective clay layer between them. I questioned the thickness of this clay layer as a buffer. He could not guarantee anything if an accident happen where contamination would affect my water supply. This was not the answer we needed to hear. Water is life. This clay layer could be 6 inches thick or 2 feet. The test wells

don't prove it is a constant thickness or that the upper aquifer is totally separate from the lower aquifer.
Secondly there is approximately 400 acres across the road that is already zoned and licensed for aggregate owned by Lafarge that is not being utilized. So the argument that there is a need doesn't hold true.
At least the Lafarge property has a safe internal haul road which was negotiated with the township. It also does not lie within a source water protection area. And does not back onto a community and residenses on the sides.
The increase in truck traffic and noise along with the hours of operation. (Mon - Fri 7-7, Sat 7-6) greatly affects our quality of LIFE. That leaves one day where we can have family and friends over to enjoy our 13 acre country woodlot as it was.
The residents of Witmer Rd and Shingletown do not deserve to have our lives destroyed for one man's gain.
We spend alot of time watching deer, turkeys and almost every bird species enjoying a peaceful setting. I'm sure once the tailgate banging, beepers and loader / crushers etc start they will all disappear

When we purchased our property in 2010, we were surrounded by agricultural land.
We stand to lose huge financially with the proposed zone change.
This is our get away from the hustle bustle of the city, and retirement.
How will we be compensated.

Andrew Martin

From: Nancy Birss
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 10:45 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Hallman Gravel Pit - Letter of Objection

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear MPP Mike Harris
63 Arthur St S, Elmira, ON N3B 2M6

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

+ Road 12 (Queen St. North) from New Dundee to Hwy 7/8 is my regular route now heading into KW. FisherHallman Rd and Trussler Rd are getting crazy with traffic. We need to keep Rd 12/Queen St. as a viable alternative to accessing Hwy 7/8 without the threat of extra gravel trucks on this main thoroughfare. As well we don't need or want any extra trucks on Township roads which can add danger to car drivers, not to mention the actual negative impacts of a gravel pit on the ground water/drinking water in Wilmot Township. New Dundee residents have long complained about the gravel trucks from nearby Oxford-Waterloo Rd. Additional heavy gravel trucks on Witmer Road and surrounding roads will be disturbing this pastoral landscape which local residents relish and is their reason for living in the country. A gravel pit in the centre of Wilmot Township will inevitably lead to many problems with water, traffic, accidents and deaths, roads, the environment and general annoyance to say the least. Just say 'NO' to this proposed gravel pit. If it goes ahead you and others will live to regret it.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

[Nancy Birss]
[New Dundee)

Andrew Martin

From: Natalie Borsuk-Ramsaywak
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2019 5:54 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Aggregate Extraction in Wilmot Township

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Doug, Mike, Rick, Andrew, and Seana,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter outlines my concerns regarding the proposed aggregate operation in our community.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● We know that climate change is affecting Canada's water supply right now and it will be worse in the very near future and therefore every effort must be made for business owners, citizens, and the Region and Province to be forward thinking and to protect our water. If you have children, you should be worried about this even more. A quick financial gain that could damage a clean water supply for the region is not forward thinking. I know you have had an assessment done, but you should be able to prove "without a doubt" that your plans will not affect the Region's water supply and here is why:

https://www.ctvnews.ca/sci-tech/toxic-algae-climate-change-bad-policy-scientists-say-fresh-water-under-threat-1.4692925

("Canada is not a water-secure country.")

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● It does not seem appropriate to have a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community.

● I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Borsuk-Ramsaywak

Mannheim, ON

Patricia Chevalier
[redacted] Bleams Road
Petersburg, Ontario N0B 2H0

December 3, 2019

Township of Wilmot
60 Snyder's Road West
Baden, ON
N3A 1A1
Attention: Andrew Martin

RE: Application for Aggregate Extraction at 1894 - 1922 Witmer Rd, Wilmot Township

To Whom This May Concern

I object to the creation of this gravel pit in close proximity to an existing community with sensitive receptors whom are significantly vulnerable to pollution including noise pollution. I also object on the basis of the location over a source water protected area, but that issue will be addressed by others with more knowledge than me about the water.

Studies show that noise have been attributed to the interruption of concentration, focus, enjoyment, and sleep and thus can impact anxiety, mood and behavioural regulation. Seniors and children are most vulnerable and comprise a significant portion of the demographic surrounding the pit.* Studies also indicate that both wildlife and farm animals near the source of industrial noise can be adversely impacted. Be it reproduction, milk production or simple agitation, noise pollution can produce a negative impact on farm animals and wildlife.

The normal operation of an aggregate pit is inherently noisy. The use of excavators, conveyors, crushers and screening plants, other pit equipment, and the trucks used to transport materials to and from the pit will create continuous disruptive and unhealthy noise. Whether it is the sound of dump truck tailgates slamming, crushers or backup safety beepers, setbacks and berms are not sufficient to temper these noises to an acceptable level for those living and working in nearby homes.

Requested hours of operation are six days per week and there will also be unscheduled hours of operation at the applicant's discretion. Residents who remain at home during the day for a multitude of reasons will be subjected to this aural assault constantly during what are currently hours where they are free to enjoy open windows and to be outside without undue noise.

There is no berm on the application on portion of the east side of the pit. Particularly because the wind tends to come from the west this lack of barrier allows noise and other pollutants to move across the land and disturb flora,fauna and humans. It impacts individuals who constantly view the easterly perspective of the pit, as well as cyclists, walkers, runners and vehicular traffic that proceed down

Bleams Road. Also, the roll of the landscape makes even berms marginally effective to the creation of a substantive block to the conveyance of air, noise and visual pollution to the community.

The location of the initial and subsequent stages of the pit display a wreckless lack of consideration for the health and mental health concerns of the establish community to which it is adjacent. Please consider the lifelong impact this will have in spite of the time limited extraction of the gravel.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Sincerely,

Patricia Chevalier

*www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1281297/
*lfpress.com/news/local-news/western-university-study-aging-brains-over-sensitive-to-sounds

Andrew Martin

From: Paul Blake
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 9:28 AM
To: Planning
Subject: Environmental Problems for Hallman Gravel Pit?

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a citizen of Ontario and the son of a former farmer and having lived close to the rural community, I want to register my objection to the gravel pit proposed for Wilmot Township.

Water is a key ingredient for the farming community. A good water well is necessary for every home and farming operation in Ontario. Without that water well the family cannot live on that piece of land. Without sufficient water to maintain the live stock and grow the feed needed for that live stock, there is no farm. The same holds true should the farm consist of crops, fruit, etc. all of which require an abundant water source as well as natural ground water. Many of the early gravel pits had to be abandoned because surrounding water ran into the pit. To-day that water can be pumped out, but it does not go back to the surrounding land from which it came. One gravel pit can destroy a very large rural community. It is a case of one operation with good monetary resources walking over the welfare and livelihood of many less resourced businesses and their families. It is not right and proper!

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Blake

Andrew Martin

From: Paula Brown
Sent: Thursday, November 28, 2019 9:33 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Re: Hallman Gravel Pit, safety risks

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

My husband and I have been residents of Baden since 1991. We have enjoyed the superior quality of life provided by Wilmot Township over the last 28 years. We love the quiet and wide open spaces of rural life balanced with the convenience of being close to the culture and shopping convenience of the city. I am afraid that this quality of life is about to be seriously jeopardized if the proposed Hallman gravel pit on Witmer Road is approved..

This letter is intended to identify my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above, based on information provided at the November 26th Information meeting for the public at the Wilmot Recreation Complex.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

1) At the November 26th meeting, the engineer responsible for the Hydrogeologic Impact Assessment, Stan Denhoed, agreed with one questioner's suggestion that it would be safer to extract the water from the top layer of the groundwater aquifer, rather than the bottom layer, as proposed in his report! This was a red flag for me that puts the integrity of his report in question.

2) It was stated that groundwater quality testing would be performed hourly and an annual report sent to the Ministry of Natural Resources. I do not think that an annual report would be frequent enough to enable the MNR to respond to and mitigate any potential problems with water quality before it had done irreparable harm.

3) The question of legal liability for potential problems with the private wells was raised and no one would answer the question or admit to having any responsibility. Is it the owner, Jackson Harvest Farms (Rick Esbaugh) or Wilmot Township or the individual well owner who would be responsible for rectifying any water quality or quantity problems caused by the gravel pit? This question needs to be addressed.

4) Regarding safety risks caused by gravel trucks on Witmer Road, you only need to experience the aggressive, inconsiderate gravel truck drivers emerging from the gravel pits on Snyder's Road, turning left towards Trussler Road, right in front of cars going 80 km to realize what a risk to public safety they are. They don't wait for cars

to pass which causes the cars to have to slam on their breaks and slow down to a snail's pace while the trucks grind their gears trying to get up the hill! They can get away with this unsafe behaviour because of their size. I have no doubt that this unsafe behaviour would be replicated on Witmer Road.

5) We were told that there would be an average of 11 trucks per hour but a maximum of 44 trucks per hour going in and out of the gravel pit using Witmer Road. This is a road that is used by pedestrians and children riding bicycles and it has no shoulders! It sounds like an accident waiting to happen!

Apparently, Rick Esbaugh would be responsible for paying for upgrades to Witmer Road and the Township is responsible for approving any upgrades. If this gravel pit were to be approved, I would recommend the installation on Witmer Road of the same type of sidewalk that was added to Gingerich Road between Sandhills Road and Foundry Street in Baden this year, to make it safe for local residents.

6) We were told that the regular hours of operation for transportation of gravel would be 6 am to 7 pm on Monday to Friday and 6 am to 6 pm on Saturdays! And they would be allowed to operate at night, if necessary. This would cause an incredible decline in the quality of life for the residents of Shingletown as well as for the environment!

7) Since the meeting, I have learned that there are several potential gravel pits across Witmer Road from Jackson Harvest Farm that are already licensed for aggregate extraction but aren't being used! Why would the township approve this application to create more gravel pits when the current ones are not even being used?

8) In October 2019, Wilmot Township council declared a climate emergency and they are looking for projects to reduce carbon emissions. By denying this application for rezoning they would be saving our planet from tons of greenhouse gas emissions caused by fossil fuel-consuming pit machinery and gravel trucks operating 12 hours a day, for 6 days of the week, for more than 30 years!

9) In the 2019-2022 Wilmot Strategic Plan update the residents are currently being asked for their feedback "on what makes Wilmot a community of caring people, working together to build a sure foundation." Denying this application for a zone change from agricultural to gravel pit would be a clear example of the township's caring for its people.

Finally, on a personal note to Rick Esbaugh: Losing your temper and threatening to cancel the meeting and walk out because of an emotional resident who was speaking quietly and respectfully from her heart about the prospect of losing her "paradise" in Shingletown, was not helpful and showed a troubling lack of empathy.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our quality of life.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Brown

Date Dec. 2, 2019

Name. David Prong and Cheryl Witzel-Prong

Address: [redacted] Bleams Rd.,RR # 2

Petersburg, On. N0B2H0

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

1 Stone Road West

Guelph Ontario, N1G 4Y2

% Seana Richardson

Aggregate Specialist

Seana.Richardson@ontario.ca

Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd.

2879 Hergott Road

St. Clements, ON N0B 2M0

% Rick Esbaugh

rickesbaugh@outlook.com

Township of Wilmot

60 Snyder's Road West,

Baden ON, N3A 1A1

% Andrew Martin

planning@wilmot.ca

Dear Ms. Richardson / Mr. Esbaugh / Mr. Martin

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1920 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate our concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above as our farm is on the east side adjacent to the proposed site. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking we would like to identify our concerns as follows;

We are opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

1-We are concerned that aggregate extraction will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of our groundwater as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source Water Protection Plan.

2- Our property value will be negatively impacted.

3-We are concerned about the environmental issues related to the joint owned wetland.

4-We are concerned about our quality of life

A-Noise (from extracting gravel, crushing and hauling does carry regardless of berms.)

B-Air quality (dust and fumes from extraction and moving of product.)

5-We are also concerned about the hours of operation which seem excessive, 12 hours a day 6 days a week and possibly extended hours including Sunday.

6- Proposed asphalt and concrete recycling will increase the concerns we have for noise, dust and traffic.

7-We are also concerned about our access onto Witmer Road with slow moving farm equipment up against fast moving dump trucks trying to share a narrow hilly road with blind spots and no shoulders.

8- We are also concerned about the rehabilitation plan which is in the future but still very important. This land cannot be rehabilitated as farm land as it is due to the ground level being too close to the water level. Farmers will not be allowed to spread manure or fertilizer to raise crops.

9- Who will Police and monitor the activities of this operation from start to finish?

P.S. Show us another Gravel pit operation that is close to a community relying on clean ground water for their wells and protected ground water the region relies on for their wells. Almost half of this application is in a protected ground water area.

Thank you for your time addressing these concerns as we consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted by

David Prong.

Cheryl Witzel-Prong

Andrew Martin

From: Rachel Rennie
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2019 9:10 PM Planning
To: Property values near proposed Hallman Gravel Pit
Subject:

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

Most importantly what I am most worried about, is the safety of our children. I have two children, Paisley, age 4, and Nash, age 2. To see our neighbours we walk down the shoulder of the road, we don't have sidewalks. My children also wait for the bus on the shoulder. I am concerned about the safety of our roads with the thousands of tonnes of aggregate being extracted to move and the increase of large dump trucks going through our town. I see how many dump trucks drive in and out of Mr. Esbaugh's other Tri City Materials locations, how they drive over the shoulder, their speed, and this causes me to worry about our safety. Please think of our children in this decision.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt and Rachel Rennie
bleams rd

Andrew Martin

From: Richard Reist
Sent: Sunday, December 8, 2019 3:42 AM
To: Planning
Subject: Water Quality in Wilmot Township

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

I'm very concerned about the effect of gravel pits on the water quality and availability for the entire region of Waterloo and surrounding areas. Especially since changes by the Ford PCs to "cut red tape" would allow such sites to extract even below the water table. As an area of Ontario reliant on ground water it's absolutely essential we protect the aquifers we get our water from to ensure both quality and quantity for future generations.

The entire economy and environmental wellbeing of the region is dependent on its ability to not only meet current water needs but future ones as well by protecting critical areas like this. As climate change accelerates protecting our water supply for the future is absolutely essential. There are other sources for aggregates needed for construction that can be produced in an environmentally sustainable way. Our aquifers and recharge areas cannot be replaced.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community's future and our environment.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Reist

Date	December 15th 2019
Name	Richard Stevenson
Address	Bleams Road PetersburgON N0B2H0

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 1 Stone Road West Guelph Ontario, N1G 4Y2 c/o Seana Richardson Aggregate Specialist Seana.Richardson@ontario.ca	Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd. 2879 Hergo Road St. Clements, ON N0B 2M0 % Rick Esbaugh rickesbaugh@outlook.com>	Township of Wilmot 60 Snyder's Road West, Baden ON, N3A 1A1 c/o Andrew Marn planning@wilmot.ca

Dear Ms. Richardson / Mr. Esbaugh / Mr. Marn

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extracon at 1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This le er is intended to demonstrate my grave concerns regarding the proposed aggregate operaon noted above. As a member of the community that will be negav ely impacted by this undertaking I would like to idenf y my concerns as follows:

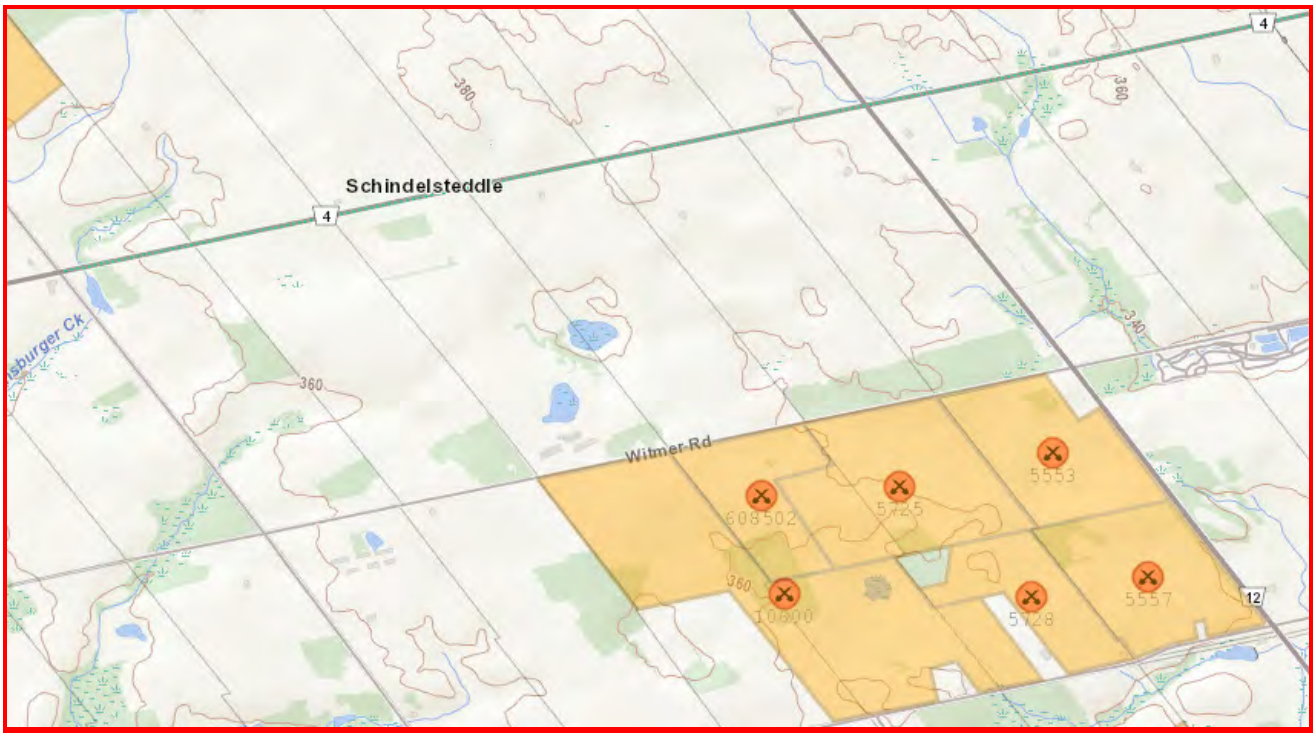
<u>Concern 1: Water</u>

According to the expert represenng Jackson Farms, the pit will not represent a risk to the well heads and the water flows north to south.

There several things to me on this that need to be clarified or addressed:

1) This pit will be located on a water source protected area. According to the comments from the expert this does seem to be true, yet the expert made this sound like we do not need to be protecng this area at all. We need to clarify if this a protected source area or not. If a gravel pit is not a concern how is a sepc tank? It is not as deep as the gravel pit but I am required to have it pumped and inspected on a regular basis.
2) If gravel trucks are to run year round in the pit as per the applicaon they will become contaminated with salt from the roads and this salt will transfer to the pit roads. When summer comes and water is applied to the pit roads will the salt not wash down into the water system?
3) There was menon of calcium chloride being used to keep dust down on the pit roads. Can this wash into the water supply?
4) The expert stated that the pit operator would be responsible if any wells went dry. This should be clearly outlined in the operaons summary.
5) According to the provincial site hp s://www.gisapplicaon.lr c.gov.on.ca/SourceWaterProtecon/Inde x.html?site=SourceWaterProtecon& viewer=SWPViewer&locale=en-US it shows that pit area can affect the water being supplied to the pit. Why does this disagree with the experts opinion?

6) Below is a picture if the pits already licensed for Witmer road,



Do we want this area to end up ;looking like this?

This aerial photo shows aggregate pits in Puslinch, said North Dumfries Mayor Sue Foxton. Regional council must now decide if a report will be sent to the province outlining concerns about changes to mining and other aggregate extracon that could endanger local water and wildlife areas. (Submi ed by Sue Foxton)

hp s://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/province-s-plans-to-change-gravel-pit-rules-could-harm-local-water-natural-areas-report-1.5338478

The key potenal problem that can arise would happen if surface water were allowed to seep directly into the deep aquifer without having first been filtered through the layers of gravel, sand, and clay that exist in both the covering soil or the moraines surrounding Guelph. Consider, for example, a situaon where there was some sort of ruptured pipeline, agricultural run-off, or industrial accident that led to contaminated water flowing across the surface and ending up in the quarry pit. It would end up flowing directly into the lower aquifer---and from there possibly into the city's wells. Once it is in that aquifer it is essenally beyond the ability of the city to ever remove it.

hp:// guelph-back-grounder.blogspot.com/2017/08/water-quarries-construcon-gr owth-and.html

7) What is the plan if the pit does contaminate the well? What is the compensaon?

Concern 2: Community -

Dust:

Dust is a tremendous concern for me as my property is only 150m from the pit border. We are subject to southerly and south west winds quite a bit in the summer months. The dust and fumes from the pit will affect the ability of myself and my neighbours from enjoying our properes in the summer.

From Best Management Pracces Plan for Control of Fugiv e Dust Emissions

The residences in the Shingletown area would be subject to minimal fugive dust impact without implemenng the best management pracc es presented herein, as there are infrequent winds coming from the south and the majority of them are of low wind speed.

The above statement raises many quesons. Who will enforce the dust control measures? Will there be actual audits done? Will there be logs completed to prove that the dust control is being acv ely done? One of the measures to reduce dust will be to keep the speed down in the pit, is this even reasonable to expect as drivers are paid by the load? Who will be enforcing any of this?

One of the ways menoned in the report to reduce dust is “Reducing the dump height of the dumping of loads” How will this ever be monitored or enforced? Is there an actual training or operaon instrucon that shows this? A lot of what is in this report does not seem realisc.

Will there be follow up studies down to ensure that dust is not affecng the residents of Shingletown?

A major missing item in the study is what percentage of Southern wind comes in the summer? I imagine a majority of the me the wind is blowing from the south will be while while the pit is in operaon. How will this affect the residents of Shingletown?

Please be aware that all of Shingletown falls within 500m of the Pit Border.

One of the dust mig aon steps is to spray water on the roads. This water will then pass the final clay barrier and into a water supply. The spray water will be up liquid contaminants from the gravel surface (salt,fuel, hydraulic oil) and carry them into the water table. How can this pracce be acceptable?

Will there be a follow up study once the pit is in operaon to ensure that is correct? We do not want the ciz ens subject to related illness.

Please see the story below where a pit in Wilmot operated that made lives of the neighbours awful. Please note that that applicaon was lead by David Sisco who said it would not affect the neighbours.

hp s://www.newhamburgindependent.ca/news-story/5900379-neighbours-of-a-bean-road-gravel-pit-say-enough-is-enough/

The dust study seems superficial at best and should be peer reviewed.

Noise:

After reviewing the noise study I see several discrepancies between the study and the accompanying applicaon:

	Hours of operaon in the Study secon 4.1	As per Sheet 3 of 7 in the Applicaon
Weekly Operaon Hours	Monday to Friday 07:00 to 18:00, Saturday 08:00 to 12:00	Monday to Friday 07:00 to 19:00, Saturday 08:00 to 18:00
Shipping Hours	06:00 to 18:00 Monday to Friday, 06:00 to 12:00 Saturday	06:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday 06:00 to 18:00 Saturday
Evening Work	None	With no evening or night me operaons expected.
Maintenance Work	Not Menoned	Maintenance work will occur outside operaonal hours

Why are the hours of operaon so different? Does the study account for the differences in noise? Should the study not be updated to reflect these differences?

Night work of loading trucks may be required

The noise generated from loading of trucks at night would include the noise of the loaders and trucks, backup beepers, sounds of the aggregate being moved. This will not doubt travel for kilometres on a quiet night. Why was this acvity not included in the study? It will affect the sleep of everyone in Shingletown and Witmer Road, especially on a summer night with a south wind.

Will the truck high count of 34 per hour occur at night? How will this traffic affect people who live on Witmer Road?

How will the Shingletown residents by protected from Noise at stage 2 with no protecv e berm in place? Trucks traveling on Witmer Road can easily be heard in the morning and night.

On secon 5.14 there is an indicaon of addional acousc baffling that is 8m high? What is this? If it just addional earth as suggested in 5.23 why aren't the berms 12m tall to start with? If not what will it be? Who will check to see if it works? Who will inspect and enforce any of the rules that study sets out?

Has there been any consideraon for the effect of the exhaust from all the trucks and equipment on the ciz ens of Shingletown when there is a south wind? Or for the people living on Witmer Road how can 50,000 trucks a year not affect lives?

I do believe with a pit in full operaon that the residents in Shingletown on the south side will struggle to enjoy their backyards. I also believe the Noise Study should be updated to reflect the hours in the applicaon. Many residents will also have their sleep disrupted by the early start me starts every day. During the summer on a hot a. ernoon as I sit on the deck with friends we will likely be required to talk over the noise of the pit.

As per the traffic study page 14 this will be a year round operaon. Was there any consideraon in the noise study for how much farther noise travels in the cold?

Vibraon:

Why was there no vibraon study done? The pit will be approximately with 150m of houses in phase 3. We believe this should be addressed. This truly affects the homes on Witmer Road. On the news story above the residents talk about vibraons affecng their house 100m away.

(repeated link from above)

hp s://www.newhamburgindependent.ca/news-story/5900379-neighbours-of-a-bean-road-gravel-pit-say-enough-is-enough/

Financial:

Not only will the residents of Shingleton and Witmer Road be affected by the introducon of the pit but so will the Township of Wilmot. Gravel pit land is taxed at a reduced rate as well the property values of Shingletown will be reduced by MPAC. The residents of Shingletown will likely suffer an incredible loss of property value in the neighbourhood of 30%. Some residents may struggle to renew their mortgages because of the property value drop.

Please read the attached story of the negav e effect that the Ross pit had on the people nearby. They are much farther away from the pit than we are.

(repeated link from above)

hp s://www.newhamburgindependent.ca/news-story/5900379-neighbours-of-a-bean-road-gravel-pit-say-enough-is-enough/

The devaluaon of our homes and properes: From the 4 studies I have reviewed on gravel pit operaon' s effect on property value, the devaluaon can range from 39.36% to 8.5% (Lansink 2014) depending upon the distance you are from the gravel pit (abung to 3 Km - Erickcek 2006). Properes within 0.5Km would be highly impacted. Because of its " community nature", properes in Shingletown would all be considered as "abung " (MPAC). Our homes and property are our lifeme investments and potenal rer ement fund.

Who reimburses homeowners for devaluaon of property value, the Township, the Region, the Province or the gravel pit owner?

Trucking

As per the noise study 4.1.7 the expected high of trucks is 11 per hour but the traffic study states 36. That is quite a bit of traffic to introduce to Queen Street and Bleams Road. Who will pay for the expected repair costs of the roads, plus the extra sweeping of the roads? This will greatly add to road congeson. How will this affect the recreaonal users of the roads (walkers, cyclists, etc)? How will this affect the long term plans of Wilmot Township?

As per the study a majority of the trucks are expected to be Tractor trailer style trucks at 40 tons. I do not believe this to be correct. I would like to see audited data from another pit to prove this. I have recalculated the values to show a split an even split of 40 and 21 tonne trucks. Can we get audited data to prove the truck split?

I do not believe the days of operaon are correct. They did not include stat holidays, weather loss days or winter shutdown. I do believe the traffic report should have the hours of operaon, truck quanty and peak numbers reviewed.

Measure	Units	Input	Calculaon
Annual Rate of Extracon	tonnes/year	750,000	
Operang Days per year	day/year	223*	
Average Extracon per day	tonnes/day		3363.2
Average Payload per truck	tonnes/truck	30.5**	
Average Number of Trucks per day	trucks/day		110.3
Operang Hours per day	hours/day	12.8***	
Average number of trucks per hour	trucks/hour		8.6
Peak Hour factor	dimensionless	2	
Peak Hour Truck Volume	trucks/hour		17.2
Passenger Car Equivalents per Truck	PCE/truck	3.2	
Peak Hour Entering Volume	PCE/truck		55.0
Peak Hour Exing Volume	PCE/truck		55.0

*Days of operaon calculaon based on operang 38 weeks, (March to November) x 6 days minus 5 statutory holidays (removed Dec 25th, 26th, Jan 1 and Family day)

** average load based on 50% 40 Tonne, 50% 23 Tonne

*** hours per calculated at (13*6 + 12)/7 =

This is a 50% in trucks over the number shown the traffic report.

Please note the above numbers do not include recycling trucks.

I appreciate the traffic shows that there will be no effect on Queen Street, but I struggle to understand how adding a truck every 4 minutes to that will have no effect. I would expect it will affect the intersecon at Queen and Bleams at

that amount. Plus with a majority of the trucks turning le`  at the  intersecon` of Witmer and Queen, how can there not be issues with slow accelerang` on to an 80 km/hr roadway?

The effect that this will have on the lives of the people of Witmer road will be substanal.`

Why hasn't there been consideraon` for the speed limit to be reduced to 60 km/h on Witmer road to help ensure the safety of the people pulling in and out of their driveways?

The proposal is looking at adding over 50,000 truck trips per year to streets of Wilmot. How can this many trucks not effect on the lives of people on Witmer Road and Queen Street? That is a lot of addional`  noise and air polluon.` Plus a southerly wind will blow that exhaust from the pit and Witmer road right into Shingletown.

Please the a ached story for the effects of truck exhaust on people by the UofT

hp s://news.engineering.utoronto.ca/large-trucks-are-biggest-culprits-of-near-road-air-pollution-u-of-t-engineering-study/

There has been discussion of asphalt and concrete recycling done on site. I don't see any informaon` on how it will be handled or done. Shouldn't there be studies done for noise, dust and trucking for this process?

Thank you for reading this. I consider this pit a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respecully` submi ed by

Richard Stevenson

December 18, 2019.

Ron, Mary and Graham Deitner
[redacted] Bleams Rd.
Petersburg, On. N0B 2H0

TOWNSHIP of WILMOT
60 SNYDER'S RD. W.
BADEN, ONT. N3A 1A1

ATTN: MR. Andrew MARTIN

Dear Mr. Martin

Re: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1920 Witmer Rd. Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate our concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As members of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking, we would like to identify our concerns. We are opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

We are concerned that aggregate extraction will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of our water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection plan.

Are you aware that all households in the water protected area, and for some distance beyond, are required by the Township of Wilmot to further protect this protected area at the proposed gravel pit site, by requiring us to have our septic tanks emptied and inspected by the township every five years whether it is necessary or not? This is at the expense of us residents.

The pit on the other hand appears to be a much greater safety concern. We feel this is a total contradiction to protecting the water. It has become our belief that it is by God's design that gravel and water are found together. The more filtration above the water, the better the quality of the water will be. Clear, pure water such as is drawn from the aquifer in question should be considered sacred. It is a gift from our Creator! Nothing lives without water! The greatest filter next to the human kidney is the earth itself. Why would anyone risk contamination of high quality water when aggregate can be found in many places where the water is not protected? There is much, much more to be considered here than the personal greed of one. Baden and Elmira wells have already been closed due to contamination. Risking the water needs to stop now. Once wells are contaminated, they cannot be restored. The world is looking to Canada for pure water. It has been said that one day water will be more valuable than oil. Reference KW Record Article of August 19, 2019, attached.

KW RECORD AUG 19, 2019.

The case for selling our water to the United States

Most Canadians don't want to sell water that's not contained in something else

BRIAN GIESBRECHT

"Water is more valuable than oil." — former U.S. president George W. Bush

Canada exports huge quantities of water to the United States and all over the world. As the world's fifth largest exporter of agricultural products — which are composed mainly of water — huge amounts of Canadian water leave the country every day.

Whole lakes are shipped in every direction by means of our vast and efficient agricultural system. And the world is a better place because of it.

International customers get quality food to feed hungry populations. Canadian farmers prosper — and so does the rest of the country.

Early explorers were simply astounded at the endless plains, fertile soil and the relatively predictable rainfall we are blessed with.

Improved farming techniques and farming science have meant that each year there is more crop available for export. New crops come on — like canola and soybeans — and this means even more business for our agricultural export business. The more crop there is for export, the more water goes overseas or down south.

Canada owes its success in large part to its agricultural sector, and no matter how much new technology comes on the scene, people will always need good food.

The fact that so much water leaves our country every year in our agricultural exports troubles no one, nor should it. It's part of a natural cycle. Eventually that water comes back.

Water leaves our country every day in thousands of other products as well.

So if a politician announced a sale to a foreign nation of four trillion litres of water locked in agricultural products, he would be praised. But just let that politician propose that the same amount of bulk water be sold to a foreign country — especially to the United States — and they would have to run for cover. It would be the end of their political career.

Most Canadians are perfectly happy to sell our water to the highest bidder when that water is contained in agricultural products or the thousands of other export products that contain water. But we have some kind of visceral reaction when anyone dares to suggest we sell water that's not contained in something else.

Over the years, many schemes have been proposed for the large-scale sale of water. Massive diversions, dams, container ship transport — almost all of these plans have been shot down.

The world is getting hotter, drier and thirstier. Demands for freshwater are growing louder all the time. Wars have even been fought over water.

The American southwest is getting drier by the day. Water is being drawn from the Ogallala Aquifer, from which the southwest takes so much of its water, at a rate eight times faster than it is being replenished.

Anyone looking over at the Glen Canyon Dam water level knows how far down the overused Columbia River sinks every year.

Americans need water, and we have it.

Canadians should begin to look at water as a commodity — the blue gold that it is.

It goes without saying that the ecological and environmental impediments to any water export plan must be dealt with intelligently. In some cases, those plans will make no sense.

But in some cases they will. Much of our national aversion to selling water to the U.S. southwest is just thinly disguised anti-Americanism.

We should put such trivial emotions behind us and look at the big picture. Our water could help those incredibly productive places, like Silicon Valley, keep boosting our standard of living. Our water could turn that southwest desert into a garden that can grow food for the world.

And our water — our blue gold — can make us rich.

Brian Giesbrecht is a retired judge and a senior fellow with the Frontier Centre for Public Policy.

3)

Further, we do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long standing community. Rick Esbaugh has been heard to state more than once that "gravel is where gravel is". Well, people live where people live; and the residents of Shingletown and area, came here long before you. We are a very established community of high quality homes, not a gypsy wagon camp that can pick up and move out wherever they please. A gravel pit near here would negatively affect hundreds of people.

No one should be able to invade an established community and be allowed to rape prime agricultural land to the point of no return, turn our environment into a living hell with noise and pollution, risk contaminating our air and water, and land, and thereby our health also and devalue the properties that we earned through great sacrifice, blood, sweat and tears and darn hard work. Your actions will make living in our homes and yards intolerable. We are not willing to risk our health through cancer causing silica from gravel dust either.

We are also concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road with limited line of sight, no shoulders or guard rails, hidden driveways children waiting to embark and disembark from school buses, 4) and dangerous intersections.

We are further concerned about environmental issues related to all of the land included in this proposed pit. The land on the proposed gravel pit property and the adjacent farm contain a wetland and woodland on which we have personally witnessed trumpeter swans using the wetland during their return migration.
As we undergo the effects of climate change, we have watched from our property as this wetland swells with water at certain times of the year. It is only becoming bigger. We are also concerned about the lack of proper rehabilitation plans. An ugly crater left behind is unacceptable. The loss of prime agricultural farmland is extremely concerning also. Where do you think food comes from? After aggregate builds, how will the people moving in be fed?

Thankyou for your time addressing these concerns as we consider this a very serious threat to our community, our health, our lifestyles and everything that our lives should and should not be.

Respectfully submitted by

Mary Deitner
Mary Deitner

Ron Deitner
R. Deitner

Graham Deitner
Graham Deitner

Letter of Objection

Rory Farnan, Mannheim Road, Petersburg, ON, N0B 2H0

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 1 Stone Road West Guelph, ON, N1G 4Y2 % Seana Richardson Aggregate Specialist Seana.Richardson@ontario.ca	Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd. 2879 Hergott Road St. Clements, ON N0B 2M0 % Rick Esbaugh rickesbaugh@outlook.com	Township of Wilmot 60 Snyder's Road West, Baden, ON, N3A 1A1 % Andrew Martin planning@wilmot.ca

Dear Ms. Richardson / Mr. Esbaugh / Mr. Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894 - 1922 Witmer Rd., Wilmot ("Hallman Pit").

This letter is intended to demonstrate my severe concerns regarding the proposed aggregate application. As a Citizen of Wilmot Township, Regional Municipality of Waterloo, that will be negatively impacted by this proposal, I would like to identify my concerns as follows:

Water Concerns:

- Concerned this application is operating within a "Source Water Protection Area", providing vital groundwater to the Regional Municipality of Waterloo's integrated drinking water system, affecting tens of thousands.
- Concerned with the high amount of water the applicant will draw from a significant water source to the Region of Waterloo, and private well users in the area.
- Concerned of the cumulative effect to the water table given the amount of gravel pits in the immediate area of the applicant.
- Concerned with the Region of Waterloo's Shingletown wells iron/manganese study that encompasses a portion of this property, and the Region's ability to assess the effects of a gravel pit.
- Concerned with the private owners (Citizens/Businesses) wells in the area, and the ability to monitor, (quickly) mitigate contamination, or loss of water supply.
- Concerned with the aggregate wash ponds being so close to the wetland that is adjacent to the neighbouring property, as well as the Source Water Protection Area. Extremely concerned about wash ponds, period.
- Concerned that the proposed used, contaminated concrete/asphalt recycling area will contaminate the soil, into the aquifer, and wetland.
- Concerned with the wetland being on a lower contour for contaminants.
- Concerned how the pit will affect the water levels of the wetland throughout the life of the pit, and after.

- Concerned there are not enough wellheads drilled strategically across the property for the purposes of proactive monitoring, and early detection.
- Concerned this application is in breach of the Provincial Governments “Safe Drinking Water Act”.
- Concerned that contamination of the upper aquifer will contaminate the lower aquifer.
- Concerned that a used concrete/asphalt recycling area near a significant source water protection area.
- Concerned with water usage in the summer months, when water usage restrictions are imposed on everyone else in the community.

Road Concerns:

- Concerned with the current narrow road design, with no shoulders in the event of 911 service emergencies.
- Concerned with waste management interference, and safety/wellbeing of those affected.
- Concerned with the blind spots due to the various road contours, and private driveways.
- Concerned with no guard rails in sensitive areas.
- Concerned with the school bus (children) activity in the morning, and afternoon.
- Concerned with the lack of shoulder space for cyclists, or for pedestrian traffic.
- Concerned a “seasonal” road (Witmer) suddenly becomes yearly, without (significant) road upgrades that are agreed upon by the Township, AND the residents directly affected.
- Concerned with the lack of street lighting for winter months (especially early morning/late evening - “rush hour” traffic).
- Concerned with the increase of heavy truck traffic at the intersection of Witmer Road/Queen Street. Also, concerned about the intersection of Queen/Bleams Road.
- Concerned with the potential increase of truck traffic to the Village of Shingletown.
- Concerned with the gravel pit traffic, along with other seasonal business peak traffic, in the “fair weather” months (i.e. cumulative traffic for all sources of activity) in the area.
- Concerned with the increased traffic in front of “Our Lady of Mount Carmel Academy” (school, dormitory), both from Witmer to Sandhills to Bleams, as well as Witmer to Queen to Bleams, vise versa, etc.
- Concerned with the size/weight of the trucks proposed, and their ability to react.

- Concerned with the cumulative traffic effects at Queen/Beams intersection (Ray of Hope, Country Gardens, Two Campgrounds, New Dundee Country Club (Golf Course), Church(s), Shantz Farm, all gravel trunk traffic (from all the pits in the area).

- Concerned with the potential of truck traffic turning right onto Witmer, to Sandhills, and using Sandhills as an alternative. As well as general Township road usage (hard to enforce without additional WRPS, or Bylaw resources).

- Concerned with the constant two-way traffic (outbound/inbound) to the property, with the addition of unreported (inbound) trucks that are transporting dirty used asphalt and concrete.

- Concerned with trucks driving through Mannheim to reach Trussler Road.

- Concerned with the added ongoing operational costs to the Region of Waterloo, Wilmot Township, and Ministry of Transportation, for road upkeep, and repair.

- Concerned with both the "average" number, and "top end" number of truck usage proposed, creates a lot of uncertainty.

- Concerned with the lack of turning lanes for Witmer/Queens, as well as Queens/Bleams (need to convert to traffic light, or roundabout intersection at Queen/Bleams).

- Concerned this will interfere with Wilmot Township's strategic trails strategy, and its ability to use Witmer Road, given Witmer's popularity with hikers, cyclists, runners/joggers, summer tourists, campground users.

- Concerned with the lack of permanent speed radar signs on Witmer Road, going in both directions, for truck traffic to observe speed limit. Concerned with speed on Witmer Road.

- Concerned with the upfront capital cost to taxpayers to upgrade the road to a (safe) and (acceptable) standard, with concerns of ongoing operational costs to the Township (taxpayer).

- Concerned with the lack of Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) presence in this area to enforce potential traffic violations, or accidents.

- Concerned with trucks using other Wilmot Township roads as a form of "short-cut", alternative route to Regional Road(s), or detour.

- Concerned with the violation of the terms of the "Cattleands" agreement restricting this type of truck traffic on Witmer Road, and the legal ramifications to the Township, Citizens located on Witmer Road (i.e. legal action, compensation for breach of contract by the Township to its residents).

Noise Concerns:

- Concerned with the proximity of the gravel pit to the people of Shingletown, and noise.

- Concerned that all residents in Shingletown will have a severe negative affect by noise.

- Concerned with the noise to the “Our Lady of Mount Carmel” Catholic school, as well as other local businesses in the area (i.e. Campground(s) on Witmer Road).
- Concerned what the noise will do to wildlife that uses the woodlot, agricultural lands, and wetland.
- Concerned with noise caused by potential night loading to residents of the Village of Shingletown, area.
- Concerned with the noise effects to neighbouring animal farms.
- Concerned with the level of vibration to residents, businesses, schools, campgrounds, etc.

Environmental Concerns:

- Concerned with the dust, and the proximity of properties in the Village of Shingletown, given its proximity to pit operations.
- Concerned with harmful dust particles, and human/wildlife consumption (youth, adults, elderly).
- Concerned with the preservation of the wetland that sits on the adjacent property.
- Concerned with the added vehicle pollution (trunks, vehicles, machinery, etc.) to the area.
- Concerned with the dust particles on neighbouring agricultural crops.
- Concerned this contradicts the “*Climate Emergency*” unanimously approved at Wilmot Township Council.
- Concerned with the current levels of resources within the Ministry of Environment, as well as MNR-F for proactive inspections.
- Concerned with the impact of salt use, oils/gas from trucks/equipment on Witmer Road, as there are no proper runoff mechanisms in place to mitigate.
- Concerned what materials would be used to keep the dust under control outside of water.
- Concerned with the lack of mature trees/natural features around the entire perimeter of the property.
- Concerned with the effects of all wildlife in the area.
- Concerned with the fumes, smell, to neighbouring properties, and the Village of Shingletown.

General Concerns:

- Concerned the berms are not high/wide enough, and do not encompass the entire property (i.e. there are gaps with no berms.
- Concerned with the applicant’s suggestion of night loading operations.
- Concerned with receptors.

- Concerned with the loss of “quality of life” to the people of the Village of Shingletown, as well as neighbouring communities, businesses, and places of Worship.

- Concerned with the hours of operation (extreme hours), as well as being open 6 days a week (especially “weekend” days where large amounts of human population are present in the area).

- Concerned with the response time of EMS (fire, ambulance, police) to the site.

- Concerned with the response time of tow-trucks (especially large truck) for breakdowns.

- Cattleands agreement was put in place in partnership between Citizens, and the Township of Wilmot, to ensure the safe, well being, quality of life (deserving) for those who are living on Witmer Road.

- Concerned with the proposed vs. actual lifecycle of this proposed gravel pit, the life of the pit has been understated, as well as the plans for restoration to current state.

- Concerned that the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, and its members, were not asked to provide consultation outside of what is “required” by law.

- Concerned with the loss of property value, both to residents, businesses, schools, churches, etc. Concerned not only with values, but also with marketability. Who honestly wants their backyard facing a gravel pit.

- Concerned of applicant experts bias towards their client.

- Concerned with any personal, or business relationships between the applicant, the Township of Wilmot Staff, elected Councillor(s)/Mayor, that would provide bias to the process, the application, or decision by Council.

- Concerned with the large number of citizens that are opposed to this application, and the lack of inclusive consultation by the Township.

Thank you,

Rory Farnan

Andrew Martin

From: Rosemary Off
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 11:23 PM Planning
To: Negative impacts of proposed Hallman Gravel Pit
Subject:

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan. Protecting our water should be enough for you to stop this application. Our entire communities water source is at risk. Enough already.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections. I live on Huron Road which is now a direct route for trucks and haulers from the gravel site running now as well as other businesses. Traffic noise and the dangers of speed and inability to pull off the edge as there are no boulevards or easements sufficient to respond to distractions. I have lost two dogs and I no longer even walk on my own road because daily regular truck traffic prevents me from doing so. More trucks and more haulers will put our community health from higher noise levels, safety of our children, families and pets as well as our peaceful rural community living is at risk. The impact is negative for these and so many more reasons. This application should not be approved.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Off
RR2
Petersburg, ON
N0B2H0 Canada

November 14, 2019

Mr. Rick Esbaugh (Jackson Harvest Comp) has submitted an application for an aggregate operation in Wilmot Township at [redacted] Witmer Road.
I am writing in opposition to this proposal. I live near the proposed site and am a member of Citizens for Safe Ground Water in Wilmot Township. I have personal concerns about the proposal (i.e. noise, dust, loss of natural habitat and farm land, possible contamination through aggregate operations and/or from previous insecticides/fertilizers used in farming etc.) However, there are also important issues for the local and regional community.

The proposed site is currently used as agricultural land. Under this land lies a large underground lake called an aquifer. Two near by wells, K50 and K51 provide 7% of the water distributed through the Municipal Integrated Urban Water System. Communities, such as Mannheim, New Hamburg, Baden, New Dundee, Kitchener and others receive water from these wells. The wells draw water from the lake under the proposed site. This property is supposedly protected because it lays within both Protected Countryside and Protected Water designations. One policy states "the intent is to permanently protect these valuable areas (water sources) since they are considered 'recharge areas' and are needed to replenish the region's water supply." (See Region of Waterloo document September 18, 2009.)

An aggregate operation, (across the road from this site), has sufficient gravel sources for the foreseeable future. However, Mr. Esbaugh has made it known to local residents that he plans to extract 750 thousand tonnes of aggregate annually, transported by 37,500 20 tonne trucks 6 days a week on rural roads. An increase of carbon emissions in the area is inevitable with this traffic!

At the same time, Wilmot Township Council (as of October 2019) has declared a climate emergency in the township and said they are looking for projects to reduce carbon emissions. I quote Mayor Armstrong, "Council and I are proud to support the continued efforts in making progress toward reducing our carbon footprint."

By the council voting 'NO' to this aggregate proposal, they are indeed reducing Wilmot's carbon footprint and protecting ground water!

Ruth Rosner RR Petersburg

Ruth Rosner

Monday December 16, 2019

Samantha (Stephens) Lernout

Witmer Road

WilmotONN0B2H0

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 1 Stone Road West Guelph Ontario, N1G 4Y2 % Seana Richardson Aggregate Specialist Seana.Richardson@ontario.ca	Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd. 2879 Hergott Road St. Clements, ON N0B 2M0 % Rick Esbaugh rickesbaugh@outlook.com>	Township of Wilmot 60 Snyder's Road West, Baden ON, N3A 1A1 % Andrew Martin planning@wilmot.ca

Dear Ms. Richardson / Mr. Esbaugh / Mr. Martin

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

Thank you for the opportunity to present my objections and concerns to the aggregate extraction proposal at 1894-1922 Witmer Road (to be referred to as the "Hallman Pit" going forward).

I am a proud resident of Wilmot Township. My husband Jeff and I got married on our beautiful property and our children have enjoyed their formative years here on Witmer Road to the fullest. We truly love Wilmot Township and the initiatives and direction the township is taking as Wilmot recognizes the Climate Emergency and the need to protect our environment for our survival and that of future generations. Despite vigorously and extensively searching elsewhere for a replacement property (after we heard of this application); we have decided to continue to call this home and consequently require our concerns to be addressed regarding the proposal for an aggregate extraction operation at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot.

I recognize and appreciate the need for aggregate in our developing region. As a resident, I recognize and appreciate those who work incredibly hard to build and maintain the infrastructure of our homes and communities and of course recognize the need for aggregate as a means to reach these needs. As a mother and wife, I also appreciate the business my husband has developed and recognize our reliance on access to aggregate in order to operate. However, as an informed citizen, mother and teacher I recognize the impracticality and risk involved in this particular application now and for the future. I respectfully object to the Hallman Pit and it is my position that it's impacts CANNOT be mitigated unless the following

concerns/questions/omissions are fully addressed and the suggestions/mitigations are entirely incorporated into the application.

I recognize that each party involved here has a different part to play in the acceptance of the Hallman Pit. With that consideration, I chose to send the same letter of objection to each party for transparency and in respect to the overlapping concerns. I apologize ahead of time for sharing concerns with some that may be out of their jurisdiction but hope that it is enlightening for each party to have an understanding of the whole myriad of concerns and mitigations required.

Please also note that the concerns and mitigations listed below have been developed without a thorough review of all the reports pertaining to this application. Once expert letters of opinion and reviews from Citizens for Safe Ground Water (C4SGW), Township of Wilmot and Region of Waterloo's external experts have been received and reviewed by the public, we may have additional concerns and mitigations to address.

1.) Road Safety

<u>Questions/Concerns/Omissions</u>

Traffic Impact Study

- Recreational (cyclists, walkers, joggers) use of Witmer Road and this impact must be considered. They were not included in the existing Traffic Impact Study
- Impact to emergency services, waste management and school buses must be investigated
- Impact to hidden driveways on Witmer Road were not included or considered in the existing Traffic Impact Study. Will there not be an increased safety risk to these residents when considering the nature of the road (no shoulders, guard rails or line of sight) and current use with proposed increase of heavy trucks? While these trucks do sit higher allowing drivers to see a bit further, they are heavy and can take longer to stop for obstructions in hidden area of the road. How can this increased traffic impact and associated risk on this township road be mitigated?
- Trucks entering with asphalt and concrete recycling was not included.
    - Please include impact of trucks entering and exiting the pit to deliver asphalt and concrete recycling.
- 70% of the trucks are expected to be a tractor trailer style trucks at 40 tons. There are zero tri axle trucks included.
    - Please ensure that the traffic impact is based on the type of trucks entering and exiting a comparable gravel pit
- 300 operational days a year
    - Please use a number of operational days which is based on a comparable gravel pit to calculate traffic impact during peak times in the summer (when traffic impact will be of greatest concern)

    - Ritch Stevenson has reworked the truck calculations to what I believe are more realistic numbers.

Suggested mitigation resulting from full consideration of above:

- Paving upgrade of Witmer Road from Queens to Sandhills (10% of traffic is anticipated to go west on Witmer according to Traffic Impact Study)
- Shoulders and/or bike lanes and guardrails as determined by external peer review
- Turning lanes at pit entrance as suggested by Township of Wilmot in earlier correspondence noted in Traffic Impact Study
- Line of sight improvements (carve out hill to improve sight lines for hidden driveways) OR relocation of hidden driveways with appropriate compensation to landowners due to loss of cash crop farming for alternate laneways at expense of applicant
- Improvements to regional intersection (Queen Street and Witmer Road) as suggested by external peer review
- 60km/hour with police enforcement
- Hallman Pit Owner/Operator to complete maintenance and replacement of the Witmer Road at the 20 year mark. Township (tax payers) shall not cover maintenance of the road. The proposed traffic increase far exceeds the road's current use.

We consider the above necessary for the safety of residents and road users (school bus, cyclists and other road users)

Questions:

- How will it affect the long term plans of Wilmot Township? What about the 15 year plan for a multi-use trail system and cyclist destination?
- The Cattleand Agreement secured the safety and quality of life of the residents of Witmer Road from the impacts of the Aggregate Licence owned by Lafarge to the South. Does this application not present just as great of a safety concern and negative impact to residents?

2.) Water Quality, Quantity and Safety

This pit is proposed in a Source Protected Area (WHP and Regional Recharge Areas)

Stan Denhoed's presentation left many residents with the understanding that we do not need to be protecting this area as there is a layer of 'clay' that protects the lower aquifer, water flows south, and and that nitrates 'don't stick around.' I feel inclined to remind everyone involved in this review process that a great portion of this property has been mapped out (as a result of 15 years of data collection and study) as a sensitive recharge area for the recharge of drinking water in accordance with the Clean Water Act. We must move forward with this understanding at the forefront. Residents in Source Water

Protected Areas are required to follow stringent practices in order to protect the safety, quantity and quality of OUR drinking water.

Questions/Concerns/Omissions

Hydrogeological Report

- Impact to the Provincially Significant Wetland (i.e. water level affected by change in topography of land) must be considered DURING the Hallman Pit's life-time. Is a 30 year lifetime realistic? If we can not be sure this will be the actual lifetime of the pit, we must take a conservative estimate of 80-100 years (or a comparable gravel pit)
- Does the clay layer/aquitard layer permeate the entire property? Are there holes? Where the bore holes for samples taken sufficient to map out this protective layer? The water gets to the lower aquifer. Where does it get through?
- Does the water always flow South of the municipal wells? I was told by Allan Rodie (of Harden Environmental Services Ltd) that the flow was "hard to track" and that at times (i.e. "when the municipal wells pull their water") it changes direction. I recognize that the upper and lower aquifers may flow differently, but couldn't changes in one affect changes in the other?
- What about the residents on private wells to the south? The Region states that there may be an "acceptable risk" to the municipal wells because they are up stream; this risk is therefore not acceptable to private well owners downstream of the aggregate extraction and related activities.
- How will asphalt recycling impact the groundwater and wetland? This was not addressed in the report
- How will a permit to draw water impact the groundwater and wetland? Will 614 L/min* during the summer months (particularly during a time of drought) not impact the quality, quantity and ultimately the safety of our drinking water now and in the future?
    - An analysis of this impact must be considered with at the very least a 50 year growth projection in mind
- How will the introduction of wash pond impact the groundwater and wetland?
- How will run off of nutrients applied to neighbouring farms and continued farming on site (in the south end of the property) affect the safety of the groundwater below the Hallman Pit that already has elevated levels of nitrates with no overburden, sand or gravel left to filter (other than the 1.7m)? This will be a low elevation area once natural capital is removed.
- Consideration of salt contamination during winter operations with natural capital removed.
- No chemicals applied or introduced to the Hallman Pit due to its' water recharge sensitivity designations. There was mention of calcium chloride being used to keep dust down on the pit roads. Can this wash into the water supply?
- Has the impact of asphalt recycling (risk of contamination - salt, fossil fuels, etc.) been adequately considered as a risk to our groundwater in a Source (Water) Protected Area? I formally request a thorough investigation (by the Region of Waterloo) of this risk (along with the cumulative impacts of such activities in a

regional recharge area designated by the SPP) before we consider permitting asphalt recycling in a sensitive water recharge area.

**Based on 66,750 m3 of water per year on pg.16 of Hydrogeological Study. Average water consumption based on a 12hr day and April-November operating season*

- Has the impact of wash ponds and a permit to draw water been adequately addressed?
    - Formally request the Region of Waterloo to complete study of effect of wash ponds in areas such as this (consider existing atrazing and nitrogen)
        - Please see: http://ccob.ca/get-informed/water/effects-of-gravel-extraction-on-groundwater/
    - Formally request the Region of Waterloo to determine how much water can be drawn in the dry season to ensure there are NO NEGATIVE IMPACTS to residents with shallowest wells.

Suggested mitigation resulting from full consideration of above:

- Provided my understanding of the sensitivity of this property, my family requires the following:
    - Test wells (120 M deep) drilled in far NW corner of our property with monthly Nitrate and Bacteria testing.
    - With the flow of the groundwater suggested to flow in our direction, I see this as necessary for the safety of our growing family.
- Vertical zoning <u>above the water table</u> to ensure full hydrogeological reports be conducted for a "below the water table" application when/if the time comes. Recognizing Bill 132 has taken this away from municipalities, there must be an exception made for an aggregate application such as this (in a SPP). If this is not possible, I formally request the requirement of below the water table hydrogeological study at the expense of the applicant in order to fully understand the impact this application could ultimately have on the Township of Wilmot and the Region of Waterloo.
    - Please see the short article through the link below for our perspective on the changes to the PPS through Bill 132 and our concerns: https://www.therecord.com/opinion-story/9751995-we-must-retain-vital-powers-to-regulate-gravel-pits/
- What happens if my private well is contaminated or runs dry or is contaminated?
    - Formally request an agreement between owner/operator of JHF and my family that the owner/operator will be held responsible if we experience a loss of drinking water. It is my understanding that other private well owners would require same. In the event this application is approved we request an agreement to be made as a condition of operation.

Questions:

- Based on pit activities in surrounding areas the protective layer can be breached. What is the plan if this happens?
- What is the plan if activities related to the Hallman Pit contaminates our water?

3.) Noise and Dust Pollution

<u>Questions/Concerns/Omissions</u>

Noise and Dust Reports

- Formally request a vibration (from traffic) study in order to consider the impacts to those living on Witmer Road
- Formally request a study to consider the effect of the exhaust from all the trucks and equipment on residents within 150m of Hallman Pit AND along haul route
- Consideration of noise impacts at night must be considered.
    - The noise generated from loading of trucks at night would include the noise of the loaders and trucks, backup beepers, sounds of the aggregate being moved. This will no doubt travel for km's in a quiet night and degrade the sleep of everyone in Shingletown and on Witmer Road, especially on a summer night with south/west winds.
- As per the traffic study page 14 this will be a year round operation. Formally request consideration of temperature in the Noise Report (sound can travel further in the cold)
    - Formally request Noise Report to include ALL proposed operations in ALL conditions. Mitigations must be made for all times and in all conditions.
- Hours of operation are different in different studies. During what hours can we expect to experience a change in the dust and noise levels we currently experience?

Suggested mitigation resulting from full consideration of above:

- We require hours of operation as follows: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm and NO OPERATIONS on weekends or nights.
- Formally request two staggered rows of mature (20 years) coniferous tree mix along road side of property line and along the west side of property line. Replacement trees for life of Hallman Pit completed by owner/operator of JHF
- Formally request a follow up study once the pit is in operation to ensure that it is correct
- Who will enforce the dust control measures? Will there be actual audits done? Formally request this responsibility be granted to the Township with appropriate compensation.

- 12’ berm along the entire east side of Hallman Pit to protect my family and other properties to the east and northeast from dust and noise carried by the prevailing west wind

We require each and every one of these mitigations in order to continue to enjoy our present quality of life, health and ensure the safety of our family.

4.) Rehabilitation and Existing Dormant Pits

<u>Questions/Concerns/Omissions</u>

- Rehabilitation in the WHPA:
  - with much of the natural capital removed leaving only 1.5-1.7m to the water table; what grade of fill will be accepted and can you currently source it and will the overburden be acceptable to return?
  - Formally request the progressive rehabilitation plan to be guaranteed and enforced by Wilmot Township/Region of Waterloo.
- Progressive Rehabilitation in a WHPA and Regional Recharge Area
  - Please provide an example of rehabilitation of a gravel pit back to farmland in a source water protected area that was considered a success by the Ontario Federation of Agriculture
  - Formally request study by Region of Waterloo and the OFA on rehabilitation of gravel pit back to farmland in a source water protected area to ensure the plausibility of such and considerations which must be taken throughout the process in order to protect the safety of our groundwater
- Who will ensure that the rehabilitation plan will be followed? The Rehabilitation Plan of the Lafarge Pit on the south side of Witmer has not been followed. It is my understanding that the MNRF is responsible for enforcing this. How can we be sure that the Hallman Pit will not become an abandoned pit that is a liability to the Township and safety hazard for the community of Shingletown (i.e. standing water such as that at the Lafarge pit south of proposed Hallman Pit).
  - Formally request Wilmot Township/Region of Waterloo have authority to ensure progressive rehabilitation (and enforcement of rules) and receive compensation for doing so. This idea has been tabled by Mayor Sue Foxton.
- Formally request the Region of Waterloo conducts a cumulative impact study/review with regards to the past, present and future aggregate licensed areas between Queen Street and Sandhills Road and Huron Road and Bleams Road.
  - Cumulative impacts of aggregate extraction on water quality, quantity and safety
  - Cumulative impacts on dust and noise
- Formally request that the licensed pits in the area mentioned above be vertically zoned to above the water table (with the exception of pits already zoned below the water table)

until the study on cumulative impacts has been concluded and results can be used to ensure the protection of our groundwater in this regional recharge area.

5.) Property Value

Without fully incorporating ALL of the above requests, the negative impacts to our property value/quality of life cannot be mitigated. This application seems to present an aggregate operation which will generate massive revenue and some will prosper while others lose the value of their home. Who reimburses homeowners for devaluation of property value? Wilmot Township, Region of Waterloo, the Province or owner/operator of JHF?

As per a home assessment by a local real estate agent, my family will experience a loss of approximately 30% (which equals $325,000). Some new residents may even struggle to renew their mortgages because of the property value drop if residents decide to move, and we see a drop in property value surrounding this pit as anticipated by real estate agents, MPAC, etc. Citizens for Safe Ground Water (C4SGW) will cite this at our coming presentation to council January 13th, 2019.

Not only will the residents of Shingleton and Witmer Road be affected by the introduction of the pit but so will the Township of Wilmot. Gravel pit land is taxed at a reduced rate as well the property values of Witmer Road and Shingletown will be reduced by MPAC.

Thank you for your time and investment in my Letter of Objection as I consider this a serious threat to my family and community.

Respectfully submitted by,

_____

Samantha Lernout

Andrew Martin

From: Samuel Nabi (on behalf of Hold The Line Waterloo Region)

Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 10:34 AM
To: Planning
Subject: Re: Proposed Hallman Gravel Pit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate our concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As an organization that seeks to protect Waterloo Region's vibrant farmland and essential groundwater resources, Hold The Line Waterloo Region would like to identify our concerns.

We are opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● Aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of groundwater as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan. It is especially important to consider the cumulative impact of quarries on our groundwater.

● The provincial funding model for aggregates does not provide enough royalty revenue for municipalities to ensure proper rehabilitation of the wetland and woodland surrounding the proposed quarry. Once we lose these habitats, along with the prime agricultural land, we cannot get them back.

● We are concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections. As mentioned before, the limited royalty revenue does not begin to cover the costs that the Township would need to undertake to make sure the road remains safe and in good repair.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to the Region's countryside and to our groundwater.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel Nabi (on behalf of Hold The Line Waterloo Region)

Andrew Martin

From: Sandra Bray
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 9:44 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Negative impacts of proposed Hallman Gravel Pit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

Lack of government oversight of industry in Elmira, caused us to lose our precious aquifer and now depend on Waterloo for our water. This has cost the province millions over the last 30 years. Please pay attention in this instance.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding. I am concerned about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I do not feel that the home owners will be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I am concerned that Wilmot residents' taxes will have to cover road repairs and lost value in property.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Bray

Andrew Martin

From: Shelley Stevenson
Sent: Sunday, December 1, 2019 6:20 PM
To: Planning
Subject: Negative impacts of proposed Hallman Gravel Pit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Andrew Martin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is sent to register my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above. As a member of the community that will be negatively impacted by this undertaking I would like to identify my concerns.

I am opposed to the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● I am concerned that aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● I am concerned about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● I am particularly concerned that the myself and my neighbours in Shingletown will not be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the operation of such a gravel pit in close proximity to a long-standing community. I have had a local real estate agent assess our property today vs. if a gravel pit goes into my backyard, and there is a $250K loss projected.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and our lifestyles.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Stevenson

Andrew Martin

From: Susan McSherry
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 7:59 AM
To: Planning
Subject: Environmental Problems for Hallman Gravel Pit?

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Arnott & Mr Msrtin,

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

This letter is intended to demonstrate my concerns regarding the aggregate operation noted above.

As a citizen of Ontario who continues to see the irreparable damage the aggregate industry has inflicted on wetlands, woodlands, agricultural land, moraines, ecosystems, wildlife & people's quality of life, I worry about the volume of water used in quarrying operations and the possibility of contamination.

5 minutes from where I live, the corporation mining the Dolime quarry breached the aquitard over the aquifer that feeds water to private, municipal and industrial properties. That quarry ceased operations, but contamination concerns continue to exist.

5 minutes in the other direction, another corporation is indicating they intend to use 27 million litres of water every day - about HALF of what the entire City of Guelph uses daily- to mine sn extended aggregate quarrying operation.

If it is correct that Ontario has enough aggregate inventory to last for another 50-100 years, we need to stop both new proposed quarries - which financially benefit the one or very few - and take a serious look at the cumulative impact on our water, environment, and communities. This is as true in Wilmot as Guelph Erqmosa Township and many other townships in our province.

It's time the Ford government and municipalities listened to their constituents - the citizens of Ontario, and stopped letting the aggregate industry 'run the show'.

I support the people of Wilmot Township who oppose the Hallman Pit for the following reasons:

● That aggregate extraction and related activities (permit to draw water, wash ponds, asphalt and concrete recycling) will inevitably affect the quality and quantity of my water as this pit lies in a regional recharge area and a wellhead protected area according to the Source (Water) Protection Plan.

● Concern about environmental issues related to the wetland and woodland on the property and surrounding area.

Concern about the rehabilitation plan and question the loss of prime agricultural land.

● Concern about the safety risks related to the haul route on a township road (with limited line of sight, no

shoulders, guard rails, hidden driveways, school bus route) and connected regional roads along with dangerous intersections.

● Concern that the home owners will not be properly compensated for their loss of property value and quality of life and safety because of the close proximity of the proposed gravel pit operation. Will Wilmot residents' property taxes have to cover road repairs and lost value in property?

Thank you for taking the time to address these serious concerns.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan McSherry

RR6 Guelph, ON
N1H 6J3

Ontario

Catherine Fife
MPP Waterloo

Chair Karen Redman
Region of Waterloo
150 Frederick St.
Kitchener, Ontario
N2G 4J3

March 19th, 2021

RE: Aggregate extraction in Waterloo Region (Hallman Pit)

Dear Chair Redman,

I recently met with members of Citizens for Safe Ground Water, a non-profit organization in Wilmot Township organizing to protect our ground water from aggregate development. They raised serious concerns about the aggregate development application at 1824-1922 Witmer Road.

I understand that the Region is currently reviewing the cumulative impact study submitted by Jackson Harvest Farms at this site and Citizens for Safe Ground Water wanted to share some of their concerns with this application. They feel it should be peer-reviewed. They feel the cumulative environmental impacts of a project like this are not being adequately addressed.

This group quite rightly points out that this site is environmentally sensitive abutting a wetland and woodlot and in a regional recharge area. Wetlands provide tremendous value to our communities, filtering water and providing habitats for endangered species, among other contributions. With most of Ontario's pre-settlement wetlands already lost, it is even more important to protect the few wetlands we have left.

Additionally, there are already 92 approved aggregate extraction sites in Waterloo Region. Many of these sites have yet to be used. In fact, one pit near the site in question is not slotted to be developed for over 100 years, according to the developer. If other sites are already approved, then why the urgency to designate yet another site?

During our years of public service, we have both had countless conversations with constituents about groundwater and drinking water supply. Based on these discussions, I believe there is strong support for the Region to take a firm stance to protect our groundwater from the accumulation of potential contamination in one area. The community has demonstrated strong opposition to developments that risk contaminating groundwater or damaging environmentally sensitive areas.

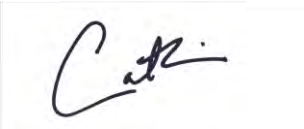
Constituency Office
100 Regina St. S., Suite 220
Waterloo, ON N2J 4A8
Ph: 519-725-3477| Fax: 519-725-3667
Email: cfife-co@ndp.on.ca

Queen's Park Office
Room 154, Main Legislative Bldg.
Queen's Park, Toronto ON M7A 1A5
Ph: 416-325-6913| Fax: 416-325-6942
Email: cfife-qp@ndp.on.ca

Has Regional Council considered proactive policies that would protect our natural resources from unnecessary aggregate developments? I understand recent changes by the provincial government may undermine councils who are looking to mitigate environmental degradation, but please let me know if I can be of any assistance in working to protect our groundwater and environmentally sensitive areas.

I would be happy to facilitate a meeting with Citizens for Safe Ground Water to further discuss these concerns. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Catherine Fife, MPP
Waterloo

CC:

Citizen's for Safe Ground Water
Mayor Les Armstrong, Wilmot Township

April 5, 2021

Attention: Amanda Kutler, Regional Planning Manager, Township of Wilmot

Good afternoon Ms. Kutler,
Hope you had a pleasant long weekend. As per our discussion of March 31st, below are the items that *Citizens for Safe Ground Water* (CSGW) believe are still outstanding with the *Region of Waterloo* (RoW), as it relates to the review of the *Jackson Harvest Farms* (JHF) application for zone-change (Wilmot), and subsequent aggregate licence (MNRF). It is the position of CSGW that until these items are addressed, the Region should not submit its "commenting" report to the Township of Wilmot Planners. The RoW has taken an active role in this application, and CSGW is requesting that the following items be addressed:

Air Quality:
The absence of an air quality assessment by the applicant.

- Air Quality Assessment provided by applicant (Capital Paving), and Peer Review (RoW) was commissioned for the Stantz Station application. https://www.woolwich.ca/en/township-services/Ongoing-Planning-Items.aspx#
- CSGW air quality expert, Franco DiGiovanni (PhD, Physical Geography), has provided written comment, and has also delegated his concern directly to Wilmot Council in a live session on March 1, 2021. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iyfMqJvMpyI
- Please note: Mr. DiGiovanni is the author of the 'International Standard Guideline on Air Quality Impact Assessments', and was a NSERC Visiting Fellow, Environment Canada.

The JHF property abuts the established community of Shingletown (with approximately 50 homes), identified sensitive receptors, and residents along the proposed haul route on Witmer Road. The 120-meter setback proposed by the application runs directly through resident *backyards*, and in some cases directly through, and sometimes encompassing resident's *homes*.

The expectation of CSGW is to see the level of detail that is present within the Shantz Station application process (as well as cumulative impacts accounted for), in which the Region of Waterloo was an active participant. This includes the applicant submitting a proper assessment in accordance with the Provincial Policy Statement, as well as a peer-review by RoW third party including the consideration for cumulative impacts.

Cumulative Impacts (CI):

- Numerous meetings with the Region's planners indicated this was a newer process, with no real benchmarking for comparison.
- Applicant provided a rudimentary CI study.
- No peer review was conducted to obtain 3rd party review of the cumulative impacts (water, air quality, noise, transportation, agricultural, environmental impact, etc.) to the area.

The expectation of CSGW is for RoW Planning to commission a 3rd party peer review for each report for which they have assumed responsibility. CSGW comment, as well as CSGW expert data, could also be provided to this 3rd party peer if requested, subject to review.

Noise:

- CSGW commissioned a study of existing noise levels (John Coulter).
- Mr. Coulter's report identified a significant base level difference (different noise class), indicating that the existing actual level is lower (quieter) than suggested by the applicant.
- Missing data related to auxiliary activities, haul route noise, was not made available.
- Mr. Coulter has 30+/yrs of expertise, working in the private sector, public sector, including the Noise Pollution Control section of the Ontario Ministry of Environment.
- Mr. Coulter has assisted in the preparation of various MOE noise/vibration guidelines.
- Mr. Coulter has also delegated his concern directly to Wilmot Council in a live session on March 1, 2021.
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iyfMqJvMpy

The expectation of CSGW is that the applicant will come back with a revised noise impact study that provides modelling based on actuals, as well as providing data related to auxiliary, and haul route, that is currently not available. Cumulative Impacts should also be included in the scope of noise.

Regional Road(s):

- The road report was signed off almost instantaneously (approx. a month). How is it even possible to conduct a review in that short of a timeframe?
- CSGW road safety expert (peer recognized cross Ontario), Russell Brownlee, expressed concern with the safety of Queen (Regional)/Witmer (Township) intersection, as well as additional traffic impacts to Queen & Bleams Road (both Regional).
- Mr. Brownlee, Masters, Applied Science in Civil Engineering (University Waterloo), is also a Transportation Safety Council award recipient for leadership in traffic safety.
- Mr. Brownlee has also delegated his concern directly to Wilmot Council in live session on March 22, 2021
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JjBlbJnf6ww
- There was no response to an email dated March 18, 2021 from Samantha Lernout, President of CSGW, to the RoW Transportation and Planning, in an attempt to obtain clarity to her questions about the RoW report, and CSGWs identified issues.

The expectation of CSGW is, at a minimum, to obtain a written response to the questions posed in the email of March 18, 2021 This email can be re-sent if required. That being said,

the fact that a report issued by a top safety expert in Ontario, and not being adequately addressed by RoW Transportation Planners, is significant. This application will add approximately 181 trucks (per day) to a Regional road that currently experiences diverse traffic.

Water:

- The applicant for the Hallman Pit indicated to RoW staff that water would be used for dust suppression.
- In a 20-day official objector response letter (received by Ms. Lernout by applicants Planner) it was stated that the applicant would use dust suppression techniques set out by the province. Which one is it?
- Does conflicting messaging concern Regional staff? This is of particular concern in the SWPA portion of the property where dust mitigation will be essential to protect the established community of sensitive receptors.
- CSGW commissioned expert, Wilf Ruland (M.Sc., University of Waterloo), and University of Waterloo Professor Emeritus Emil Frind (PhD Civil Engineering, M.Sc. Hydrology, University Toronto), support additional monitoring, reporting, and testing measures, which are vital to ensure the safety of residents drinking water, and the protection of the underground aquifer beneath the property, as well as the adjacent wetland.
- Wash ponds, and repurposing of asphalt/concrete (auxiliary uses), in our view, is an unnecessary risk to possible contamination, and it is our position that it should have heightened safeguards in place at a minimum, although our position is that they are not to be permitted to begin with.
- GRCA comment is (missing) for the sensitive wetland that is adjacent to the property.

CSGW is adamantly opposed to any industrial extraction, or axillary uses, in designated SPP 'Sensitive Recharge Areas', and has concerns with the safety and feasibility of progressive rehabilitation back to 'Prime Farmland' in these sensitive recharge areas.

The expectation of CSGW is that the cumulative impacts of all water taking operations (i.e. to include non-aggregate related operations), as well as existing/and future gravel pit licenses in the area, be considered in the Region's 3rd party peer review of the hydrogeological cumulative impacts.

The expectation of CSGW is that if the Region of Waterloo is going to "sign-off" on this industrial extraction activity, and assume the risk of contamination to the *Waterloo Moraine*, that supplies three highly valued RoW wells of up to 40.9 million liters of water per day, that the highest standard of monitoring, reporting, and testing should be required along with recommendations for restrictions (i.e. auxiliary uses on-site, holding provisions to depth of extraction) to ensure minimum risk be accepted.

Also, GRCA written comments should also be provided (before the RoW comment can be finalized) as it relates to the sensitive wetland.

Natural Environment Report:

- No 3rd party peer review was conducted to review the applicants report.
- Two woodlots (one Provincially significant), sensitive wetland, are features that are included with, or abut to, the property.

The expectation of CSGW is that the Region of Waterloo commissions a 3rd party peer review to ensure that the natural environment of these core features is not impacted, and that the natural environment be included in the cumulative impacts.

Warrant Extraction:

- CSGW is questioning the quantity, and quality of aggregate, to warrant a zone change to enable extraction. Has adequate evidence by the applicant been provided to warrant by the Region, Township, and Province?
- Maps appear to show gaps in the property with little to no presence of materials, especially in areas backing onto resident property lines.

The expectation of CSGW is that a review be undertaken, and evidence provided by the applicant, to warrant extraction on the property. Where there isn't evidence of sufficient aggregates, our expectation is that areas of the property not showing warrant (as seen in mapping, for example) be exempt from extraction as to reduce impacts to the community, protect prime farmland, and protect natural capital above our Regional Recharge Area with the possible outright denial of extraction due to unwarranted activity on this property.

Please provide an approximate time period that we may expect a written response to the above concerns submitted in this letter to the Region of Waterloo. In anticipated response to our requests above, we appreciate the time and effort of you and your department.

Thank you,

Rory Farnan
Secretary, Citizens for Safe Ground Water
Wilmot Township (Waterloo Region) Resident

Cc: David Welwood, Michelle Sergi, Samantha Lernout, Ritch Stevenson, Les Armstrong, Angie Hallman, Andrew Martin, Harold O'Krafka.

Sept 24, 2021

Attention: Jane Gurney**,** Amanda Kutler, Regional Planning Manage (stand in Kate Hagerman), Township of Wilmot

Good afternoon,

Below are the outstanding items that *Citizens for Safe Ground Water* (CSGW) believe are still of concern with the *Region of Waterloo's* (RoW) review of the *Jackson Harvest Farms* (JHF) application for zone-change (Wilmot), and subsequent aggregate licence (MNRF). It is the position of CSGW that until these items are addressed, the Region should not submit its "commenting" report to the Township of Wilmot Planners. The RoW has taken an active role in this application, and CSGW is requesting that the following items be addressed:

Air Quality:

The absence of an air quality assessment by the applicant.

- Air Quality Assessment provided by applicant (Capital Paving), and Peer Review (RoW) was commissioned for the Stantz Station application. https://www.woolwich.ca/en/township-services/Ongoing-Planning-Items.aspx# ● CSGW air quality expert, Franco DiGiovanni (PhD, Physical Geography), has provided written comment, and has also delegated his concern directly to Wilmot Council in a live session on March 1, 2021. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iyfMqJvMpyI
- Please note: Mr. DiGiovanni is the author of the 'International Standard Guideline on Air Quality Impact Assessments', and was a NSERC Visiting Fellow, Environment Canada.

The JHF property abuts the established community of Shingletown (with approximately 50 homes), identified sensitive receptors, and residents along the proposed haul route on Witmer Road. The 120-meter setback proposed by the application runs directly through resident *backyards*, and in some cases directly through, and sometimes encompassing resident's *homes*.

The expectation of CSGW is to see the level of detail that is present within the Shantz Station application process (as well as cumulative impacts accounted for), in which the Region of Waterloo was an active participant. This includes the applicant submitting a proper assessment in accordance with the Provincial Policy Statement, as well as a peer-review by RoW third party including the consideration for cumulative impacts.

Cumulative Impacts (CI):

- Numerous meetings with the Region's planners indicated this was a newer process, with no real benchmarking for comparison.
- Applicant provided a rudimentary CI study.
- No peer review was conducted to obtain a 3rd party review of the cumulative impacts (water, air quality, noise, transportation, agricultural, environmental impact, etc.) to the area.

The expectation of CSGW is for RoW Planning to commission a 3rd party peer review for each report for which they have assumed responsibility. CSGW comment, as well as CSGW expert data, could also be provided to this 3rd party peer if requested, subject to review.

Under review, currently applicant working on response to issues identified by Region's consultant

Noise:

- CSGW commissioned a study of existing noise levels (John Coulter).
- Mr. Coulter's report identified a significant base level difference (different noise class), indicating that the existing actual level is lower (quieter) than suggested by the applicant.
- Missing data related to auxiliary activities, haul route noise, was not made available
- Mr. Coulter has 30+/yrs of expertise, working in the private sector, public sector, including the Noise Pollution Control section of the Ontario Ministry of Environment.
- Mr. Coulter has assisted in the preparation of various MOE noise/vibration guidelines.
- Mr. Coulter has also delegated his concern directly to Wilmot Council in a live session on March 1, 2021.
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iyfMqJvMpy

The expectation of CSGW is that the applicant will come back with a revised noise impact study that provides modelling based on actuals, as well as providing data related to auxiliary, and haul route, that is currently not available. Cumulative Impacts should also be included in the scope of noise.

Regional Road(s):

- The road report was signed off almost instantaneously (approx. a month). How is it even possible to conduct a review in that short of a timeframe?
- CSGW road safety expert (peer recognized across Ontario), Russell Brownlee, expressed concern with the safety of Queen (Regional)/Witmer (Township) intersection, as well as additional traffic impacts to Queen & Bleams Road (both Regional).
- Mr. Brownlee, Masters, Applied Science in Civil Engineering (University Waterloo), is also a Transportation Safety Council award recipient for leadership in traffic safety.
- Mr. Brownlee has also delegated his concern directly to Wilmot Council in live session on March 22, 2021
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JjBlbJnf6ww
- There was no response to an email dated March 18, 2021 from Samantha Lernout, President of CSGW, to the RoW Transportation and Planning, in an attempt to obtain clarity to her questions about the RoW report, and CSGWs identified issues.

The expectation of CSGW is, at a minimum, to obtain a written response to the questions posed in the email of March 18, 2021 This email can be re-sent if required. **Awaiting response from CSGW commissioned expert, Russell Brownlee (True North Safety)**

That being said, the fact that a report issued by a top safety expert in Ontario, and not being adequately addressed by RoW Transportation Planners, is significant. This application will add approximately 181 trucks (per day) to a Regional road that currently experiences diverse traffic.

Water:

- The applicant for the Hallman Pit indicated to RoW staff that water would be used for dust suppression.
- In a 20-day official objector response letter (received by Ms. Lernout by the applicant's Planner) it was stated that the applicant would use dust suppression techniques set out by the province. Which one is it?
- Does conflicting messaging concern Regional staff? This is of particular concern in the SWPA portion of the property where dust mitigation will be essential to protect the established community of sensitive receptors.
- CSGW commissioned expert Wilf Ruland (M.Sc., University of Waterloo), and University of Waterloo Professor Emeritus Emil Frind (PhD Civil Engineering, M.Sc. Hydrology, University Toronto), supports additional monitoring, reporting, and testing measures, which are vital to ensure the safety of residents drinking water, and the protection of the underground aquifer beneath the property, as well as the adjacent wetland.
- Wash ponds, and repurposing of asphalt/concrete (auxiliary uses), in our view, is an unnecessary risk to possible contamination, and it is our position that it should have heightened safeguards in place at a minimum, although our position is that they are not to be permitted to begin with.
- GRCA comment is (missing) for the sensitive wetland that is adjacent to the property.

CSGW is adamantly opposed to any industrial extraction, or axillary uses, in designated SPP 'Sensitive Recharge Areas', and has concerns with the safety and feasibility of progressive rehabilitation back to 'Prime Farmland' in these sensitive recharge areas.

The expectation of CSGW is that the cumulative impacts of all water taking operations (i.e. to include non-aggregate related operations), as well as existing/and future gravel pit licenses in the area, be considered in the Region's 3rd party peer review of the hydrogeological cumulative impacts.

The expectation of CSGW is that if the Region of Waterloo is going to "sign-off" on this industrial extraction activity, and assume the risk of contamination to the *Waterloo Moraine*, that supplies three highly valued RoW wells of up to 40.9 million liters of water per day, that the highest standard of monitoring, reporting, and testing should be required along with recommendations for restrictions (i.e. auxiliary uses on-site, holding provisions to depth of extraction) to ensure minimum risk be accepted.

Also, GRCA written comments should also be provided (before the RoW comment can be finalized) as it relates to the sensitive wetland.

Natural Environment Report:

- No 3rd party peer review was conducted to review the applicant's report.
- Two woodlots (one Provincially significant), sensitive wetland, are features that are included with, or abut to, the property.
- Have cumulative impacts been addressed?

The expectation of CSGW is that the Region of Waterloo commissions a 3rd party peer review to ensure that the natural environment of these core features is not impacted, and that the natural environment be included in the cumulative impacts.

Agriculture

- Outstanding issues identified by AgPlan (Michael K. Hoffman)
- Confirm receipt and sharing of materials to Hoffman of below:
  - Robert Geboty's presentation to Wilmot Council April 12, 2021

    (see attached document to email sent September 25th, 2021)

    https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJJfglnfh3lSO7d0GYDJt2zKHMtMcOnY5

from: C Gebotys <cgebotys@gmail.com>

to: DWelwood@regionofwaterloo.ca, andrew.martin@wilmot.ca

cc: Samantha Lernout <SLernout@ugcloud.ca>, AKutler@regionofwaterloo.ca

date: May 18, 2021, 7:04 PM

subject: RE: proposed aggregate extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

  - Linda Laepple's presentation to Wilmot Council April 12, 2021 (see attached document to email sent September 25th, 2021)

Warrant Extraction:

- CSGW is questioning the quantity, and quality of aggregate, to warrant a zone change

to enable extraction. Has adequate evidence by the applicant been provided to warrant by the Region, Township, and Province?

- Maps appear to show gaps in the property with little to no presence of materials, especially in areas backing onto residential property lines.

The expectation of CSGW is that a review be undertaken, and evidence provided by the applicant, to warrant extraction on the property. Where there isn't evidence of sufficient aggregates, our expectation is that areas of the property not showing warrant (as seen in mapping, for example) be exempt from extraction as to reduce impacts to the community, protect prime farmland, and protect natural capital above our Regional Recharge Area with the possible outright denial of extraction due to unwarranted activity on this property.

Please provide an approximate time period that we may expect a written response to the above concerns submitted in this letter to the Region of Waterloo. In anticipated response to our requests above, we appreciate the time and effort of you and your department.

Thank you,

Rory Farnan
Secretary, Citizens for Safe Ground Water
Wilmot Township (Waterloo Region) Resident

Cc: David Welwood, Michelle Sergi, Samantha Lernout, Ritch Stevenson, Les Armstrong, Angie Hallman, Andrew Martin, Harold O'Krafka.

Monday January 25, 2021

Jeffrey Lernout
[redacted] Witmer Road
Wilmot, ON N0B2H0

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 1 Stone Road West Guelph Ontario, N1G 4Y2 % Derek Seim Aggregate Specialist derek.seim@ontario.ca	Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd. 2879 Hergott Road St. Clements, ON N0B 2M0 % Rick Esbaugh rickesbaugh@outlook.com	Township of Wilmot 60 Snyder's Road West, Baden ON, N3A 1A1 % Andrew Martin planning@wilmot.ca

Dear Mr. Seim/ Mr. Esbaugh / Mr. Martin

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

In response to the letter received from IBI Group December 19th, 2020.

While I appreciate your efforts to address my objections, the following objections remain:

1. Concerns with noise impacts on Witmer Road

   Lack of addressing noise impacts to my home located at 1790 Witmer Road along the proposed haul route. Currently traffic on Witmer Road is light. We see approximately 3-5 vehicles an hour during peak periods in the summer months. This road is used recreationally by cyclists, joggers and local residents. The noise impacts along the haul route on Witmer Road are not addressed in your noise reports (see attached peer review by John Coulter and Associates) or the peer review by SLR commissioned by the Region of Waterloo.

2. Concerns with traffic impacts (road safety) on Witmer Road

   Deficiencies in addressing traffic safety concerns on Witmer Rd and the intersection of Queen Street and Bleams Road (see attached peer review by TNS) remain. I believe that the sign proposed in the IBI group response letter (warning drivers leaving the pit that this road is used recreationally) validates my safety concerns with the proposed traffic on Witmer Road. To me, this sign demonstrates a recognized issue. I do not believe this will remove the safety concerns. A sign does not solve this problem.

   Deficiencies still exist in traffic counts noted in the AECOM peer review commissioned by Township. How will the corrected traffic counts impact my safety and noise concerns on Witmer Road?

3. Concerns traffic impacts due to auxiliary operations

   While I recognize the need for aggregate, I object to any additional activities occurring at the proposed Hallman pit other than extraction. Provided its location, the Hallman pit should be an 'extraction only' pit. No asphalt and concrete recycling or wash ponds should be permitted. The impacts to safety and operations of Witmer Road have not been adequately addressed and this additional traffic is unacceptable. There are other locations better suited for these auxiliary aggregate activities.

I look forward to your response to these outstanding concerns.

J.E. COULTER ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Consulting Engineers in Acoustics, Noise & Vibration

PRESIDENT
John E. Coulter, B.A.Sc. P.Eng

VICE-PRESIDENT
Howard R. Patlik, C.E.T.

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www.jecoulterassoc.com

DRAFT

August 11, 2020

Citizens for Safe Ground Water
Wilmont, ON

Attention: Samantha Lernout

RE: PEER REVIEW OF NOISE FEASIBILITY STUDY
PROPOSED HALLMAN PIT
WILMONT , ONTARIO

At the request of Citizens for Safe Ground Water, J.E. COULTER ASSOCIATES LIMITED has conducted a peer review of the Noise Feasibility Study for the Hallman Pit, prepared by HGC Ltd., dated September 12, 2019. We have also reviewed the peer review of the Noise Feasibility Study done by SLR consulting Ltd., dated February 28, 2020.

Background

The Hallman Pit is proposed to be located north of Witmer Road, south of Bleams Road (Regional Road 4) and west of Queen Street in the Town of Wilmot.

Operations at the proposed pit include aggregate excavation, a screening plant, a permanent crushing plant (recycling), a permanent washing plant, and a portable crushing plant. Trucks and/or conveyors may be used to transfer material from the working face to the central plant. The gravel pit will typically operate from 07:00 to 18:00 on Monday to Friday, and from 08:00 to 12:00 on Saturday. No other evening or nighttime operations are expected.

There are existing residences located north of the site along Bleams Road and southwest/southeast of the site along Witmer Road. Based on site observations by HGC, the receptors located north of the gravel pit along Bleams Road were considered by the report's authors to be within a Class 2 environment and remaining receptors were considered to be located within a Class 3 environment.

Criteria

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' (MECP) applicable criteria to a site such as this are found in its publication *NPC-300* "Environmental Guide for Noise, Stationary and Transportation Sources – Approval and Planning."

MECP considers activities generated by fixed or mobile sources of noise within non-transportation facilities to be stationary sources. *NPC-300* basically states the average noise of the stationary source should not exceed the average noise of the roadway traffic during the same hourly time period or the exclusion limits, whichever is higher. The exclusion limit is lowest value of sound level limit at a specific point of reception for the stationary source (i.e., the sound level limit when the background sound level is below this exclusion limit).

For Class 1 areas (Urban), the exclusion limits that apply are 50 dBA L_{eq} during the daytime (0700–1900 hours) and 50 dBA L_{eq} during the evening (1900–2300 hours). For Class 2 areas, the criterion levels that apply are 50 dBA L_{eq} during the daytime and 45 dBA L_{eq} during the evening hours. And, for Class 3 areas, the criterion levels that apply are 45 dBA L_{eq} during the daytime and 40 dBA L_{eq} during the evening hours.

A "stationary noise source," to which the guideline applies, is defined in the interpretation section of the MECP guideline as being everything on a property, with a series of exceptions. The time period over which the sound is averaged is 1 hour.

Methods

Unattended sound monitoring was conducted at 2115 Bleams Road from May 19 to May 28, 2020 and at 2183 Bleams Road from June 5 to June 12, 2020 to determine the validity of the report's statement that the Bleams Road residences were Class 2 in nature in the worst-case predictable required by *NPC 300*. Sound levels were measured continuously in the backyards of the residences shown in the Figure in the Appendix. Hourly L_{eq} sound levels were calculated at both locations. Noise measurements were discounted for periods with precipitation or winds greater than 25 km/h. Noise measurements were also discounted when interfering noise sources (landscaping equipment, other machinery operating close to the monitoring equipment) were the dominant sound source.

Measured Sound Levels

The ambient hourly sound levels measured in the backyards of 2115 and 2183 Bleams Road were between 47 to 50 dBA 1-Hour L_{eq}. The sound levels measured 50 dBA 1-Hour L_{eq} for 4 1-hour time periods at 2115 Bleams Road and for 3 1-hour time periods at 2183 Bleams Road. For the rest of the time periods the sound levels were below 50 dBA 1-Hour L_{eq} at both receptors.

Recommendations and Conclusions

Sound levels measured in the rear yards at 2115 and 2183 Bleams Road were mostly 2 to 3 dB below the 50 dBA 1-Hour L_{eq} exclusion limit for a Class 2 area. The sound levels in the backyards of the receptors along Bleams Road are shielded by the residential structures, which results in sound levels approximately 10 dB lower than the levels in the front yards. Additionally, the sound levels from the gravel pit at these receptors would be the loudest when the wind was is blowing from the south; while at the same time, a southern wind would provide the lowest background sound levels from Bleams Road for the receptors that are located south of the road. It would appear that the rear yards noise criterion point for the houses south of Bleams Road should be 47, not 50 dBA L_{eq}.

The noise report provided neither measured nor calculated sound values for the rear outdoor amenities of these residences. The measured sound levels implies that the rear yards of the

residences located are closer to Class 3, and the appropriate criteria that would apply is the average measured noise of the roadway traffic or 45 dBA L_{eq}, whichever is higher.

NPC-233, one of the report's references, states in Section 8-4 that the sound level analysis should include mapping of the existing level of road traffic in the vicinity of the proposed site and the increase in such traffic due to the plants operation, projected for at least 10 years into the future. The truck routes to/from the gravel pit and the recycling plant have not been considered in the report and no acoustical mapping for the haul routes has been provided as requested in *NPC-233.* The intent of the request in *NPC-233* is to ensure that the planners understand the implications of the new facility at larger distances, in order to encourage a selection of haul routes that minimize the noise impact.

The report mentions that a permanent crushing plant located on site may be used as a recycling plant. However, the report does not consider the impacts of additional truck traffic associated with hauling in and out of the recycling material. Nor does the report provide a detailed plan for the location and estimate of the need for mitigation for such a plant.

Summary

1. The backyards of the residences on Bleams Road north of the gravel pit have been incorrectly assumed to be located in a Class 2 area.
2. Noise monitoring at 2115 and 2183 Bleams Road showed that the ambient sound levels from the road traffic on Bleams Road were mostly 2 to 3 dB below the 50 dBA 1-Hour L_{eq} exclusion limit for a Class 2 area. The measured sound levels imply that the rear yards of the residences in the worst-case scenario are closer to Class 3 area.
3. The truck routes to/from the gravel pit and the recycling plant have not been considered in the report and no acoustical mapping for the haul routes has been provided as requested in *NPC-233.*
4. The report does not provide details about the recycling plant or an acoustic analysis and the necessary mitigation that might be required.

We trust the above will assist in your review of this project. Should there be any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

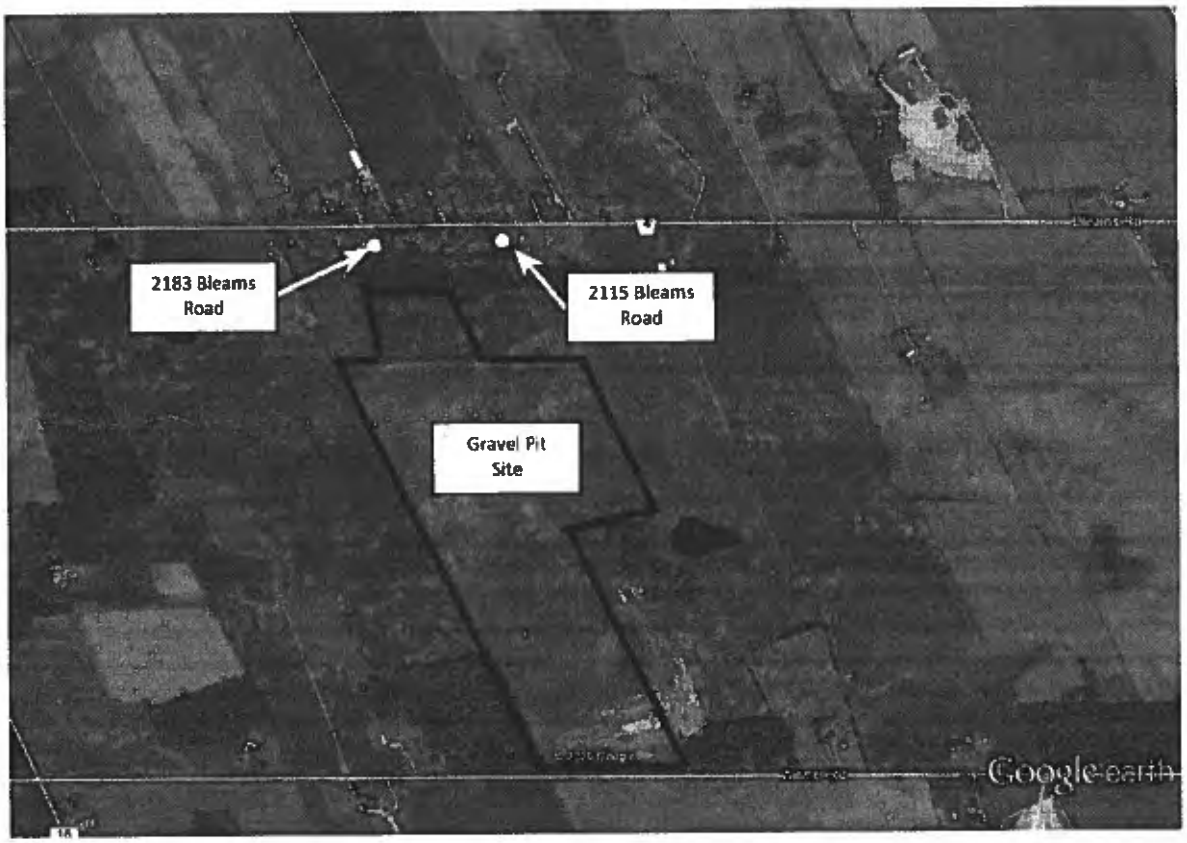
J. E. COULTER ASSOCIATES LIMITED

John E. Coulter, B.A.Sc. P.Eng.

Brendon Colaco, B.A.Sc.

JEC:BC:pt

APPENDIX


2183 Bleams Road
2115 Bleams Road
Gravel Pit Site
Google earth

Samantha Lernout
President
Citizens for Safe Ground Water Inc.
SLernout@ugcloud.ca

March 10, 2020

RE: Jackson Harvest Farms, 1894 Witmer Road - Traffic Impact Study Peer Review
Your File: CSGW
Our File: 190119

Dear Ms. Leanout:

As requested, we have reviewed the Jackson Harvest Farms,1894 Witmer Road - Traffic Impact Study Peer Review, prepared by AECOM, and dated February 4, 2020 (the 'AECOM report'). The AECOM report is a peer review of the aggregate pit proponent's transportation impact study prepared by Paradigm Transportation Solutions Limited and dated February 2019 (the 'Paradigm report').

The following discussion is limited to those issues most worthy of comment. Lack of comment on any particular aspect of the AECOM report does not imply our agreement or disagreement.

Trip Generation Potential

In Section 2.1.3 of the AECOM report the following is indicated:

> "*The TIS Report utilizes a Passenger Car Equivalent factor of 3.2 PCE/Truck. The peer review was unable to find a source and/or justification for use of this value in the analysis.*"

The PCE conversion account for truck to move slow and accelerate at a slower rate through an intersection. A 3.2 PCE indicates that each truck from the subject development is equivalent is 3.2 passenger vehicles. This is a fair value, and I cannot see why the AECOM report is taking an issue with it in relation to intersection capacity.

The greatest impact of the lower truck speeds and acceleration/deceleration rate will be on the stopping and turning sight distances at the site access and adjacent intersections, as opposed to intersection capacity. The Paradigm report does not consider these impacts in their report. We discuss this further in the Road Safety section below.

Peak Hour Factor

In Section 2.2.3 of the AECOM report the following is indicated:

> *"The Synchro analysis utilizes Peak Hour Factor (PHF) values of 1.0 for every turning movement. The collected turning movement count data provided in Appendix B includes PHF calculated from the counts collected by the Consultant."*

The peak hour factor (PHF) accounts for higher fluctuations in travel demand at an intersection during the peak hour of the day. A typical peak hour factor is 0.8 to 0.9 which signifies peak 15-minute travel demands are the intersection that are 10 to 20% higher than the hourly average. The Paradigm report assumes that the peak hour travel demands are constant (PHF of 1.0), which is not consistent with the traffic counts they collected. This assumption underestimates the existing and future travel demands and results in better than expected operating conditions at the study area intersections.

Having said that, given the intersection capacity analysis results showing level of service "A" or "B" under all future scenarios, it is not expected that accounting for the PHF will result in the study area intersections becoming critical with the development related traffic from the pit.

Road Safety

The Region of Waterloo Transportation Impact Study Guidelines (July, 2014) indicate the following in relation to collision analysis components:

> *"The study should include a safety impact analysis to identify the effects of the development on the collision risk of the site and the adjacent road system. The study should recommend countermeasures where warranted and modifications to the site plan and the road system to enhance the level of safety for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians. Designs and recommendations should comply with the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) Geometric Design Standards for Ontario Highways, the Ontario Traffic Manuals, and the Transportation Association of Canada Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads, as well as Region of Waterloo policies and practices."*

Section 5 of the Paradigm report indicates:

> *"Given the operational analyses above, no improvements are required to the surrounding roadway network in order to accommodate the forecast traffic volumes in a safe and efficient manner, from a traffic operational perspective. However, from a safety perspective, the need for auxiliary turn lanes, sight distances, and other concerns relating to the use of the aggregate pit for the study area intersection and access were investigated."*

The AECOM report concluded that:

"Incomplete safety review regarding available sight distance to and from the Pit site access and requirements for auxiliary turn lanes at the site access intersection, especially considering the impact of slow-moving heavily laden vehicles as they exit the property."

Based on our review of Google Streetview™ images, it appears that available sight distances are in excess of 200 or more metres in either direction from the pit access location shown in Figure 5.1 of the Paradigm report.

The AECOM report does not comment on the lack of safety analysis at the intersection of Queen Street and Witmer Road intersection.

Both the Region of Waterloo TIS guidelines and the Paradigm report suggest that sight lines should be reviewed at the study access and intersections. The Paradigm report provides a qualitative comment regarding the sight lines at the proposed pit access, and does not evaluate the sightlines at the intersection of Queen Street and Witmer Road.

Based on a cursory desktop review, it is likely that adequate approach site distances (i.e., sight triangles) are not available on the southwest quadrant of the intersection of Queen Street and Witmer Road. Departure sight distances from the eastbound stop bar may also be deficient to select a gap in vehicles approaching from the south on Queen Street.

Witmer Road is currently a relatively low travelled roadway, which may not fully exhibit the effects of the geometric deficiencies at the intersection due to the low frequency of vehicle conflicts. The additional eastbound left turn heavy trucks from the pit activities may create safety issues at this stop-controlled intersection, due to the poor geometry and additional side street conflicts.

I trust the above meets your needs at this time. If you would like to discuss the provided comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Russell Brownlee, M.A. Sc., FITE, RSP$_1$, P. Eng.

Andrew Martin

From: John Dusterson
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2021 11:08 AM
To: Planning
Subject: I object to the proposed Hallman Pit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Township of Wilmot Planning division,

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d4ufVz8a2XU

Gravel pits are good for farming!!! Seriously!!

Dusty

From:

Full Name	KATHY LOREE
Full Mailing Address	[redacted]
INCLUDING POSTAL CODE	BADEN ON
Email (if possible)	[redacted]

To:

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
E-mail: ARAapprovals@ontario.ca

Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd.
2879 Hergott Road
St. Clements, ON N0B 2M0
% Rick Esbaugh

RE: Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, Wilmot

Tuesday, March 16th, 2021

Dear MNRF / Mr. Esbaugh

Firstly, this feels premature to provide comments on that process until the zoning had been addressed.

Nonetheless, I wish to remain an official objector as I see the following items as outstanding:

- The **noise** impacts to the community of Shingletown and residents on Witmer Road have not been adequately identified or addressed as described in review by J. E. Coulter Associates Ltd. AND the **air quality** impacts to the community of Shingletown and residents on Witmer Road have not been adequately identified or addressed as an air quality assessment report has not been completed. We believe that this must be done to comply with the PPS and requirements for a zone change
- **Safety** of residents, motorists and recreational road users along the haul route have not been adequately addressed
- Removal of sand and gravel increases the vulnerability of the **groundwater** (*) and this is unacceptable so close to a municipal well and private well owners
- **Wash ponds** and **asphalt and concrete repurposing** pose unnecessary threats to groundwater quality and quantity
- We remain concerned about the **rehabilitation** plan and question the possible loss of prime agricultural land as outlined in Michael K. Hoffman of AgPlan Limited review.
- The **history** of this property and existing site conditions has not been adequately considered
- The amended planning report with **cumulative** impacts by IBI Group must be peer reviewed by the various experts to ensure cumulative impacts are addressed.

Please see additional page.

I feel there is no need for a new license in this area. The cumulative impact of the Hallman pit on top of all the pits already licensed in this area is unacceptable to impose on a community in Ontario.

Thank you for taking the time to address these concerns as I consider this a serious threat to our community and Wilmot Township as a whole.

Respectfully submitted by

Kathy Loree

March 22. 2021

Jackson Harvest Farms Ltd.

2879 Hergott Road

St. Clements, ON N0B2M0

c/o Rick Esbaugh

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Email: ARAapprovals@ontario.ca

I fully agree to the concerns submitted by Citizens for Safe Ground Water.

In addition, I would like to make a few comments.

I was raised at [redacted] Wilmot Centre Rd. We had a dug well that had ample supply. It was to have been sufficient for our family as well as several cattle/pigs in the adjacent barn. I now reside next door at [redacted] Wilmot Centre Rd. Both properties now have drilled deep wells.

I vividly remember when the Hofstetters at the NW corner of Bleams and Sandhills drilled a well and it was deemed overflowing and they were unable to cap it due to the amount of water that flowed.

At some point later, the Region started taking water from the area. Our well dried up. We needed to truck water in to be able to have a source for one year at least. Everyday activities involving water were severely rationed. In the Region, we are accustomed to having clean water available when we open our taps. The Hofstetter well slowed.

I am reminded of the water issues in Elmira with the contamination. Once the water supply is contaminated or limited it's too late. It's easier to protect than to try and recover.

Most of the approved gravel pits in the area I think are sitting idle and I don't know of any that have been "returned to farmland".

I remain opposed to the Proposed Aggregate Extraction for numerous reasons.

Today, March 22, 2021, in the USA is "World Water Day, a time to celebrate and protect our clean water"

Sincerely,

Kathy Loree

Kathy Loree

RE. Proposed Hallman Pit- Witmer Road

I am a resident of St Agatha and **not** a member of Citizens for Safe Ground Water. I am retired from St. Mary's H.S. - Kitchener, where I taught Geography and Religion for 35 years.
My area of specialization- going back to Universite de Montreal and McGill University, Montreal, and throughout my teaching career- has been Physical Geography and Social Justice/Ethics. It is my dedication to these disciplines that prompts me to write to you.

As you well know, the Region of Waterloo's water supply is unique in Canada because of its dependence on groundwater stored in aquifers. This is a unique gift bestowed upon us because of geology and hydrology. We are very fortunate to have access to this pure, natural resource which must be protected- especially when they are so rare. Having been brought up in Montreal whose source of drinking water is the St. Lawrence River, I can attest to the superiority of our Region's drinking water. Although Montreal's water is safe, there is no substitute for naturally filtered water stored in aquifers.

The proposed aggregate operation on Witmer Road is located in a water protected area where some of the Region's wells are located. Basic hydrogeology teaches that the water table (the line that divides saturated rock from dry rock) is unpredictable when layers of sand and gravel are removed thus affecting bedrock filtration. Also, studies are woefully lacking in this area adding to my concerns. The monitoring regulations advanced to safeguard against aquifer contamination are not the protective solution that we are led to believe. We are asked to have trust in the monitoring safeguards and current government regulations and standards. The aforementioned do not guarantee that groundwater will not be contaminated if the gravel pit is given approval. Making a decision based on the 'trust me' factor with too many unknowns is called a gamble. We should not gamble with such a precious resource.
Naturally filtered water is a gift. It would be morally reprehensible if we do not do all we can to preserve it. Surface water is renewable; groundwater, free of contamination, is not.

I respectfully urge you to read the December 8 editorial in the Waterloo Region Record.

Respectfully,
Matteo Caccavelli
St. Agatha

The National Farmers Union – Ontario (NFU-O) is an accredited farm organization representing thousands of sustainable family farmers in Ontario, and has advocated for farm families across Ontario and Canada since 1969. Members work together to achieve agricultural policies that ensure dignity and income security for farm families while protecting and enhancing rural environments for future generations. The NFU-O collaborates locally, nationally, and internationally to research, educate and share effective solutions that lead to a better world for farm families and their local communities.

Dear: To Whom it May Concern. Date: 2020-02-28

RE: ZCA-11-19 Zone Change Application at 1894-1922 Witmer Road Wilmot

This is a letter from the NFU Local 340 in support of the position held by the Citizens for Safe Ground Water regarding this issue; that is, to deny the proposed zone change of this property.

The official plan for Waterloo Region notes that it is one of the fastest growing urban areas in the Province with population expected to be at 729,000 by 2031, from an estimated 601,000 at 2018 year-end. With this aggressive population growth, it is not prudent to compromise safe groundwater, something which can take decades to replenish and recharge.

Here at the NFU Local 340 (Waterloo-Wellington), we care deeply about natural resources, and particularly the regeneration of renewable resources such as groundwater. In 1989, Elmira had a water contamination crisis, and almost 30 years later it still cannot use its own groundwater, and receives water, in part, from Waterloo Region's K-50 and K-51 well heads. These two well heads have significant recharge area on the property proposed for re-zoning and supply 7% of Waterloo Region's Integrated Urban System drinking water. Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge, St. Jacobs, St Agatha, Baden, New Hamburg, Mannheim, Shingletown and Elmira all use this water system. A gravel pit does not mean contaminated water, but it introduces unnecessary risk to a system under growing demand.

In the Great Lakes Region, we take fresh water for granted. However, drawing drinking water from the lakes is not the viable option it used to be, with toxic algae blooms poisoning *filtered* water supplies from the late 1990s. It is suggested that climate change will intensify the toxic algae blooms, and the Waterloo Region declared a 'Climate Emergency' on October 9th, 2019. As changing climate is acknowledged, with unknown ramifications in coming decades, rezoning 1894-1922 Witmer for aggregate extraction is a very unnecessary risk to a system under rapidly increasing demand. There are no good alternatives should it be compromised. Loss of 7% of supply would be felt more sharply as population projections show a 20% increase by 2031. Beyond

2031 we will undoubtedly like to grow too. Groundwater may be the last reliable source of safe drinking water, and with a growing population it is definitely worth safeguarding.

If extraction was approved, and the gravel pit ran its useful life, without incident, what then? Can we expect that it would be successfully rehabilitated? Based on the current 20% success rate for extraction sites being rehabilitated, we cannot expect it to happen. There is money in aggregate. There are resources available. The sites should be rehabilitated and put back to productive use. We propose that there be no more extraction sites permitted until the percentage of successfully rehabilitated sites reaches 80%. We want to see responsible, end-to-end management of our region's land resources.

Farmland is also giving way to developments at an alarming rate. In 30 years, we believe we will look back and wish we would have been much more selective in what we allowed. The current rate of prime agricultural land loss is unacceptable. Un-rehabilitated aggregate extraction sites are an equivalent loss of farmland and groundwater recharge area.

Lastly, corporate or third-party ownership of the extraction sites leaves physical stakeholders (adjacent landowners, and drinkers of groundwater in the region) hanging. Absentee landlords should not be permitted in this capacity; their concern is unevenly balanced as they do not live in the region. Ownership of 'Extractive Industrial' land should be limited to *individuals* who live in the Province for transparency and accountability. Our groundwater is too valuable to leave in unknown hands.

We advise that the zone change be denied, due to the unlikelihood of proper rehabilitation, lack of long-term accountability and stewardship, and the growing demand on our groundwater. This property plays a significant role in recharging our aquifers and is also prime farmland which is more beneficial to our community. The aggregate resources will be there in fifty years if they are not extracted now. Our drinking water supply will be there in fifty years too, if we safeguard it now.

Sincerely,

Mike Roth

President

NFU Local 340, Waterloo-Wellington

- committed to achieving and supporting a long-term healthy environment in Wilmot and Wellesley Townships through education, action and collaboration.

nvecoboosters.com

Date: March 20, 2020

RE: Zone Change Application at 1894-1922 Witmer Road Wilmot

The Nith Valley EcoBoosters is a group of local residents who are committed to achieving and supporting a long-term healthy environment in Wilmot and Wellesley Townships. The application for the zone change required to develop the proposed Hallman Pit is the first step toward the extraction of aggregate in an area that must be protected for future generations, not used for short term gain by a small number of individuals.

The members of the EcoBoosters support the position of Citizens for Safe Ground Water to encourage the Township of Wilmot to deny the zone change application for this property. There are many reasons for this, some more immediate than others, but all are crucial to a safe and healthy environment for the residents of Wilmot Township, the Region of Waterloo, and beyond.

Approving the Hallman Pit application would be a direct contradiction of the Climate Emergency recently declared by Wilmot Township. Allowing gravel pit extraction in a Source Water Protection Area would be taking unnecessary risks with the future of our ground water supply. Noise and dust created by the day to day operations of this pit will have negative health effects on the residents of the many established homes in the area. Introducing thousands of heavy vehicles to a secondary road will create not only traffic, but a permanent change to a rural natural landscape prized by citizens and visitors alike.

In the meantime, the Nith Valley EcoBoosters members agree with Citizens for Safe Ground Water in strongly encouraging Wilmot Township to consider as soon as possible the implementation of an Interim Control By-law (Planning Act. Sec.38) to allow the Township to properly review this situation and study the concerns put forward in a reasonable amount of time.

Sincerely,

Tom Knezevich

Tom Knezevich
Chairperson,
Nith Valley Ecoboosters

Letter of Objection: RE Proposed Aggregate Extraction at 1894-1922 Witmer Road Wilmot

To: Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
ARApprovals@ontario.ca

Jackson Harvest Farms
2879 Hergott Road
St. Clements, ON N0B 2M0
c/o Rick Esbaugh

Dear MNRF and Mr. Esbaugh,

We (Robert and Catherine Gebotys of 2052 Sandhills Road Baden Ontario) STRONGLY OBJECT TO THE GRAVEL PIT APPLCATION BY JACKSON HARVEST FARMS(applicant). The applicant has ignored and dismissed our objections which we will briefly summarize using the report titles submitted by the applicant .

Water

The report states the risk/vulnerability of our ground water increases when the overburden is removed. How much does the score increase? You need to know this and it's missing in the report.

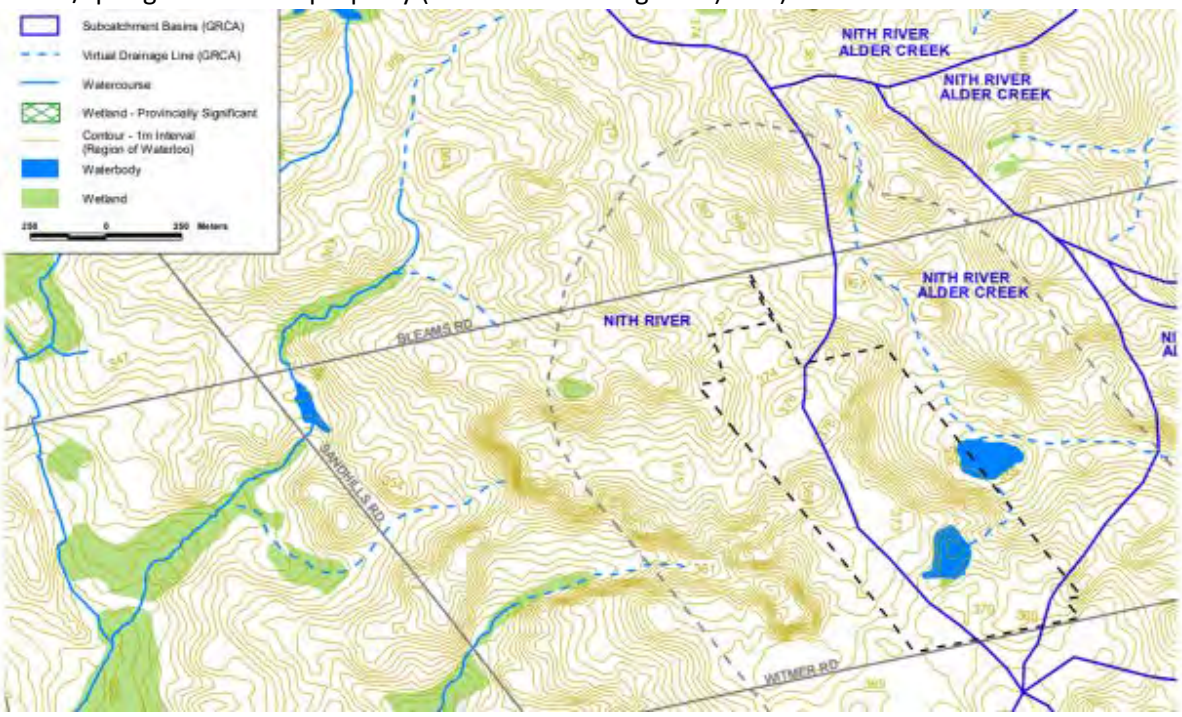
It is estimated that 67,000 m^3 of water is used to wash gravel. This is equivalent to 27 Olympic swimming pools full of water. If the gravel is dirty, you need more water to wash, perhaps double?

We are in a period of climate change, hot dry etc. Water is a valuable asset, why waste it washing gravel, it is important for the future growth of our community and Kitchener/Waterloo.

Central Wetland

Note the wetland and waterbody in the center of the proposed gravel pit/subject lands. This wetland/waterbody is connected by the larger waterbody/wetland on the pit boundry during

overflow/spring runoff from property (see virtual drainage line) line).



Wetlands can be seasonally covered by shallow water (GRCA definition, see below) however after one visit in late summer it was concluded that the wetlands /waterbody on the mappings no longer exists. We should not rush our judgement on the central wetland since next season it may be back.

4.2 Regulated Area

As was noted previously there is regulated area around the open water pond located centrally on the eastern study site boundary.

The historical GRCA mapping (2018) showed a wetland with regulation limit in the central part of the southern portion of the site. This area was reviewed and examined on site by Tony Zammit with Dance Environmental Inc. staff on September 17, 2018. It was indicated by GRCA staff on that site visit that the GRCA mapping was not accurate regarding that feature (due to a lack of key wetland feature characteristics being present). It was therefore deemed appropriate that based on the on site review, the GRCA would remove inaccuracy from their mapping as no wetland was present. GRCA has since

Current information available at our office indicates that the subject lands contain a wetland that is part of the locally significant Schindelsteddle South Wetland Complex. We can confirm that a floodplain associated with the wetland is not applicable to the property and that a second wetland unit previously mapped by the GRCA was deemed not present based on our site visit on September 17, 2018. We have since revised our mapping accordingly.

Environmental Impact Study Guidelines and Submission Standards for Wetlands Grand River Conservation Authority – 2005

Wetlands are lands that are seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water, as well as lands where the water table is close to or at its surface. In either case the presence of abundant water has caused the formation of hydric soils and has favoured the dominance of either hydrophytic plants or water tolerant plants. The four major types of wetlands are swamps, marshes, bogs and fens. Periodically soaked or wet lands being used for agricultural purposes which no longer exhibit a wetland characteristic are not considered to be wetlands for the purposes of this definition (Provincial Policy Statement, 2005, page 37).

Using google earth, history option the subject lands were examined for the presence of a wetland in the center of the property as observed in the GRCA mappings above. In all satellite images from 2006 thru 2018 the central wetland is visible with a green band of vegetation around the area and sumac growth(red circles on left of picture below).

The area was not plowed for planting since this was a wetland area as GRCA maps have indicated. In 2019 the wetland has been plowed and planted. Only the sumacs on the edge remain(red circle on right of picture).

What happened to the wetland? The wetland has existed for years (google earth satellite images).We cannot assume the wetland is gone since the area is dry in the late summer. Wetlands can be seasonal. Before changing the designation on GRCA maps from wetland to no wetland we recommend an investigation of the disappearance in 2019 ,since these wetlands have an important role in the groundwater system.

2006-2018 wetlands existed
2019 – wetland classification gone

The GRCA has concerns about the wetlands on the property as quoted below.

long-term changes to the water balance" are anticipated across the site, however there is no similar discussion of impacts on wetland water balance. The Environmental Impact Study states that there will be a 4.4% increase in the surface water input to the wetland and a 3.9% increase of infiltration to the wetland. It is unclear how these values were calculated. Additional clarification is needed to support the conclusion that extraction will not have an adverse impact on wetland hydrology.

Melissa Larion, MCIP, RPP
Supervisor of Resource Planning
Grand River Conservation Authority
*ML\th

We also share GRCA concerns over wetland hydrology given the questions raised above concerning the central wetland along with the impact along the virtual drainage contours (see map above). We recommend that appropriate measures are taken to see what has disturbed the wetland. We cannot assume the wetland is gone and rush our judgement re the central wetland since the area is dry in the late summer. Wetlands can be seasonal.

Fecal coliform, nitrites , chlorides ,sulphates all significantly higher in gravel extraction areas than natural areas ,see research below

Future Groundwater Resources at Risk (Proceedings of the Helsinki Conference, June 1994).
IAHS Publ. no. 222, 1994.

Effect of gravel extraction on groundwater

TUOMO HATVA
National Board of Waters and the Environment PO Box 250, SF-00101 Helsinki, Finland

Abstract Gravel extraction causes changes in seepwater and groundwater quality as well as in the elevation of the groundwater table and its variation. Acid rain flushes the soil, increasing the quantity of dissolved salts and seepwater and groundwater quality variations. The composition of water in groundwater ponds varies in the same way as that of surface water, seasonally. The great variations in the quality of pond water increase the variations in groundwater quality. Gravel extraction increases the pollution risk of groundwater and may cause difficulties in the treatment of the water abstracted from a groundwater intake. Post-extraction maintenance is recommended.

The report states at least 1.5 meter (minimum) protection layer above the water table however research recommends 4-6 meters(minimum). We quote from above research below

a protection layer of 4-6 m should be left on top of the maximum groundwater table.

In order to guarantee the supply of good groundwater with stable quality it its recommended that gravel extraction be directed to areas where the adverse effects and risks are as small as possible. Gravel extraction and the restrictions put on it are managed through a zoning system based on the need to protect groundwater intakes.

The applicant plans to produce asphalt and cement at the proposed pit. Below is the safety data sheet for asphalt. Note the hazards with this product.

Hot Mix Asphalt

Safety Data Sheet

According To Federal Register / Vol. 77, No. 58 / Monday, March 26, 2012 / Rules And Regulations And According To The Hazardous Products Regulation (February 11, 2015).

Revision Date: 08/02/2018 Date of issue: 04/24/2015 Version: 2.0

Signal Word (GHS-US/CA)	:	Danger
Hazard Statements (GHS-US/CA)	:	H350 - May cause cancer.
		H372 - Causes damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure.
Precautionary Statements (GHS-US/CA)	:	P201 - Obtain special instructions before use.
		P202 - Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.
		P260 - Do not breathe dust, vapors, fumes, gas, spray, mist.
		P264 - Wash hands, forearms, and other exposed areas thoroughly after handling
		P270 - Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.
		P280 - Wear protective gloves, protective clothing, and eye protection.

Hot Mix Asphalt

Safety Data Sheet

According To Federal Register / Vol. 77, No. 58 / Monday, March 26, 2012 / Rules And Regulations And According To The Hazardous Products Regulation (February 11, 2015).

P308+P313 - If exposed or concerned: Get medical advice/attention.
P314 - Get medical advice/attention if you feel unwell.
P405 - Store locked up.
P501 - Dispose of contents/container in accordance with local, regional, national, provincial and international regulations.

2.3. Other Hazards

Exposure may aggravate individuals with pre-existing skin, kidney, liver, and pulmonary disorders. Asphalt may contain trace quantities of benzene (< 0.1%). Elevated temperature conditions may emit hydrogen sulfide, an asphalt decomposition produ stored under heat for extended periods or significantly agitated, this material might evolve or release hydrogen sulfide, a flam gas, which can raise and widen this material's actual flammability limits and significantly lower its auto-ignition temperature. Hydrogen sulfide is a toxic gas that can be fatal. It also has a rotten egg smell that causes odor fatigue very quickly and should used as an indicator for the presence of gas. Risk of thermal burns on contact with molten product. If stored under heat for ex periods or significantly agitated, this material might evolve or release hydrogen sulfide, a flammable gas, which can raise and this material's actual flammability limits and significantly lower its auto-ignition temperature. Hydrogen sulfide is a toxic gas th be fatal. It also has a rotten egg smell that causes odor fatigue very quickly and should not be used as an indicator for the pres gas.

2.4. Unknown Acute Toxicity (GHS-US/CA)

No data available

Many studies concerning asphalt hazards have consistent results. For example see one below from Hazard Review ...serious health effects. Cement manufacture has similar results

HAZARD REVIEW

HEALTH EFFECTS OF OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE TO ASPHALT

Contributors:
Mary Ann Butler, Ph.D.
Gregory Burr, C.I.H.
David Dankovic, Ph.D.
R. Alan Lunsford, Ph.D.
Aubrey Miller, M.D.
Mimi Nguyen, M.P.H.
Larry Olsen, Ph.D.
Douglas Sharpnack, Ph.D.
John Snawder, Ph.D.
Leslie Stayner, Ph.D.
Marie Haring Sweeney, Ph.D.
Alexander Teass, Ph.D.

Milham 1997, United States, road graders, pavers, machine operators, excavators, operating engineers	7,266	1950-1989	Respiratory system	614	PMR 1.1	$P<0.01$
			Bronchus, trachea, lung cancer (ICD 162)	558	PMR 1.20	$P<0.01$
operating engineers, only			Respiratory system cancer	136	PMR 1.21	$P<0.05$
			Bronchus, trachea, lung (ICD 162)	122	PMR 1.21	$P<0.05$
			Bronchus, lung (ICD 162.1, 163)	76	PMR 1.42	$P<0.01$
			Asthma	5	PMR 1.60	NS
			Lymphatic, hematopoietic cancer	43	PMR 1.42	$P<0.05$
			Reticulosarcoma	7	PMR 1.37	NS
			Lymphosarcoma	6	PMR 1.88	NS
			Hodgkins disease	4	PMR 1.58	NS
			Other lymphomas	10	PMR 2.00	$P<0.05$
			Motor vehicle accidents	47	PMR 1.59	$P<0.01$
road graders, pavers, machine operators, and excavators.			Bronchus, lung cancer (ICD 162.1, 163)	288	PMR 1.24	$P<0.01$
			Motor vehicle accidents	249	PMR 1.39	$P<0.01$

Below is information from the safety data sheet for cement,

Portland Cement Safety Data Sheet According To Federal Register /
Vol. 77, No. 58 / Monday, March 26, 2012 /
Rules And Regulations And According To The Hazardous Products Regulation (February 11, 2015).
Signal Word (GHS-US/CA) : Danger Hazard Statements (GHS-US/CA)
: H314 - Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.
H317 - May cause an allergic skin reaction.

H318 - Causes serious eye damage.
H335 - May cause respiratory irritation.
H350 - May cause cancer (Inhalation)

If there is a spill what happens to our water? Plans to prevent and mitigate spills are poor or nonexistent. Plans to prevent and mitigate dust noise and vibration are nonexistent or poor. Clearly hazardous products are going to be produced at the pit. Safety of our community is being compromised by having a gravel pit that ignores community concerns.

Noise Report

From
he Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Guidelines.
for noise we have the following definitions

"Class 1 area"
means an area with an acoustical environment typical of a major population centre, where the background sound level is dominated by the activities of people, usually road traffic, often referred to as "urban hum."

"Class 2 area"
means an area with an acoustical environment that has qualities representative of both Class 1 and Class 3 areas:

- sound levels characteristic of Class 1 during daytime (07:00 to 19:00 or to 23:00 hours); and
- low evening and night background sound level defined by natural environment and infrequent human activity starting as early as 19:00 hours (19:00 or 23:00 to 07:00 hours).

"Class 3 area"
means a rural area with an acoustical environment that is dominated by natural sounds having little or no road traffic, such as:

- a small community;
- agricultural area;
- a rural recreational area such as a cottage or a resort area; or
- a wilderness area.

Clearly Shingletown receptors (R5 thru R9) are a Class three area(45 db criteria) and have been misclassified in the report as Class two(50 db criteria). Shingletown is much closer to a 3 classification than a two classification (it is not a major population center with traffic hum but a small community in a prime, protected agricultural area). See ministry definitions above. **Therefore the noise criteria for a class three area(45db) has not been met for one receptor(R8) and is borderline on the criteria for several others(see table below from report).**

We need the report to include the prediction errors or bounds on these predictions. These are usually 95% prediction bounds with high and low values centered at the point estimate . The prediction bound will give a better picture of the accuracy of the model than just the point values(for example 45 plus /minus 5 db means with 95% confidence the noise can be as high as 50 db and as low as 40 db). This is missing in the report and important in predicting expected noise levels.

Table 3: Predicted Sound Levels at the Residential Receptors [dBA] During Worst-Case Operational Scenarios (With Noise Mitigation)

Receptor	Daytime Criteria (dBA)	Predicted Sound Level (dBA)
R1	45	45
R2		45
R3		45
R4		45
R5	50	45
R6		40
R7		44
R8		46
R9		45

120dB is the approximate pain threshold for hearing. The crusher is rated at 117dB. It will run 12 hours daily. The report assumes all equipment is located on the pit floor. We need to include the measurement of trucks(listed as 102db in report) entering and exiting the pit on the pit access road in addition to the pit floor noise. This is missing in the report. The noise modeling assumptions have only one set of fixed variables. There are errors in predictions of the model. We need the max and min predictions to judge the accuracy of the noise model(see paragraph above). The engineering company that did this analysis did an analysis for the city of Guelph, Stevenson Street, which included noise and vibration analysis. Missing in this report is the vibration analysis for the equipment in the pit (e.g.

crusher, trucks, loaders etc) which in internet reports from residents who live near gravel pits shakes their homes like an earthquake.

Dust Report

The Hazardous Products Regulations Government of Canada (2015) safety data sheet for Sand and Gravel states it may cause cancer, may cause organ damage (lungs), causes skin irritation and causes serious eye irritation. This is missing in the report as are the asphalt and cement safety sheets(SEE ABOVE)and is important in understanding the health risks of living in the vicinity of a sand and gravel pit. Fine dust particles (<5 microns) are most dangerous. This dust aggravates heart and lung disease and impacts most severely children, the elderly, and people with asthma, heart disease, etc. The wind blows in all directions. Using Stokes Law, EPA, for example a wind of 20km/hr blows the fine particles 14.5km thus Mannheim, Kitchener, Baden, New Dundee, etc are affected. The stronger the wind blows, the further the dust travels.

Traffic Report

There are contradictions in the traffic report. The traffic report says 73 tractor trailer trucks and the noise report says 34 trucks. The traffic report says 10% of the trucks use Sandhills Rd(**no traffic study was completed on this route)** whereas the Wilmot planning department letter says 100% of the truck traffic enters and exits on Queen street.

5.2 Agricultural Equipment

The use of agricultural equipment is prevalent in this area. The Agricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) Guidance Document[3], requires aggregate trucks to take the shortest possible route to major roads to reduce the impacts on agricultural vehicles. The direct route to Queen Street for the proposed pit is consistent with the AIA guidelines and will minimize impact on agricultural vehicles.

Therefor all trucks enter/exit using Queen St. is the safest and only route for truck traffic using the gravel pit.

Agricultural Report

This is protected agricultural land. 84% of the rated land is class 1 through 3. The soil is excellent. The report uses a 1km radius of the pit to evaluate agriculture in this study. Why? "**Time and cost**" This is not reasonable and will give poor/false inferences. One needs to expand the 1km radius of sampling area around the pit to get an accurate estimate of agriculture.
There are major investments in agriculture in our area not included in the report. The Witmer Rd

Chicken EGG LAYINGSTATE OF THE ART buildings(in 1km radius, built in 2020 but not included in report-purple circle below) and the Sandhills Rd chicken MEAT STATE OF THE ART buildings(in 1.5 km radius, built in 2019 and not included in report-red circle below) are examples of major investments in agricultural buildings worth millions of dollars. Agriculture is alive and thriving with major agricultural investments and crop activity in a prime , protected agricultural area. The applicants report thinks otherwise.

Pit Rehabilatation History Waterloo Region.
University of Waterloo ,by Catlin Port, Environmental Planning Dept. Below is a quote from the paper concerning the publics perception of gravel pits.

proposed extraction projects. This public contempt towards the aggregate industry is largely due to a legacy of poorly managed operations and countless number of abandoned, un-rehabilitated sites that have resulted in social and environmental impacts (Environmental Commissioner of Ontario [ECO], 2005; Pichette, 1995), such as dust, noise, increased truck traffic, and lowered property values.

Lastly and not included in the Reports submitted by the applicant,

Unfunded Liability

There are no adequate financial instruments such as bonds and liability insurance in place to compensate for:

- Unforeseen consequences from operations on the environment
- Diminution in price of surrounding properties and businesses.
- Protection for the County and Township should the company become insolvent though liability exposure.

In conclusion there is no need for yet another gravel pit in the area (there are several).The impact of these pits as a group on water etc has not been examined and remains a potential tragedy effecting our community. We strongly object to the gravel pit and have briefly listed some of the reasons above. Our concerns have been ignored by the applicant and our objections have not been resolved. WE remain deeply concerned about the lack of information and evidence provided by the applicant. The application is biased, the evidence presented selective and the conclusions deceptive.

Thank you for reading our letter and please address our concerns.

FROM

Robert and Catherine Gebotys

Sandhills Road

Baden Ontario

March 20, 2021

Andrew Martin

From: Rory Farnan
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 11:26 AM
To: Planning; araapprovals@ontario.ca
Cc: Andrew Martin; Harold O'Krafka; Angie Hallman; Samantha Lernout; Seim, Derek (MNRF)
Subject: Agricultural Impact Concerns - Jackson Harvest Farms
Attachments: _CSGW Agriculture April 12 2021 Wilmot Township (1) (1).pdf; PEER REVIEW OF AIA - FINAL LETTER - FEBRUARY 22_ 2021 - 1894-1922 Witmer Road_ Jackson Harvest Farms Pit.PDF

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning Wilmot Planning, MNRF ARA Approvals,
I am following up on last night's CSGW delegation to Wilmot Council with regards to the pending zone change/aggregate license application submitted by Jackson Harvest Farms (Hallman Pit) in Wilmot Township. I would like to recap our delegation, as well as the Region of Waterloo's 3rd party independent peer review of the Agricultural Impact Study. I have attached our delegation presentation, as well as Waterloo Region's 3rd party peer review final letter.

-Prime Farmland comprises less than 5% of Ontario's land base.
-The property of the proposed "Hallman Pit" is classified as prime farmland.
-The Region of Waterloo commissioned an independent 3rd party peer review (Michael Hoffman) of the applicants Agricultural Impact Study.
-Mr. Hoffman is a Professional Agrologist, working in agriculture since 1971, and has been commissioned at both the municipal, and provincial levels of Government.

Mr. Hoffman's report would appear to suggest the following:

- No scientific evidence has been presented.
- That such evidence, either does not exist, or is proprietary (and therefore not available).
- The missing information/limitation is not described within the DBH Harvest Farms AIA.

In the Provincial Policy Statement (2020), Section 2.5.4.1, rehabilitation of an aggregate pit, located on prime farmland, has as a requirement, rehabilitation back to an acceptable agricultural condition. Given the statements in Mr. Hoffman's report, CSGW is concerned that this required rehabilitation standard may not be proven in the application stage, let alone achieved in practice if awarded.

Thank you for your time, and attention to this matter.

--
Rory Farnan
Secretary, Citizens for Safe Ground Water
Wilmot Township, Waterloo Region Resident

Andrew Martin

From: Samantha Lernout
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 11:08 PM
To: David Welwood; Andrew Martin
Cc: Amanda Kutler; Rory Farnan
Subject: Expert Testimony to Consider in your Review of the Proposed Hallman Pit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mr. Welwood and Mr. Martin,

Please consider the following (and share with concerned experts) from Emil and Micheal Frind as you review the proposed Hallman pit:

"The Region seems to have been largely content with following the provincial regulations set out in the ARA. In our opinion, and observing what is happening at both the Hallman pit and the Shantz Station pit, these regulations might be outdated. For example, for above-the-watertable extraction, the ARA requires the bottom of the pit to be 1.5 m above the water table. But where is the water table? Standard practice is to set the water table on the basis of past highs according to existing records. But climate change is now upon us, future conditions may be different from past records, and this may include periods of abnormally high precipitation. If the water table were to rise more than 1.5 m from is presumed high, the pit would flood. This may or may not cause problems - however, the ARA makes no mention of such a possibility.

Another concern is the practice of land banking, which became evident in connection with the Hallman pit. Wilmot has already seven approved aggregate pits in the immediate vicinity of the Hallman pit, and only one of these is being actively mined to its output rate capacity, while the remaining ones are either sitting idle and are only slightly used. The reason seems to be that pits approved for extraction according to today's lax standards are attractive objects for land banking. The argument that is usually trotted out to justify a pit is that aggregate is needed to support the economy of a growing region with its growing population. Thus in some instances, this argument may be false."

"The bottom line regarding aggregate mining is that the ARA is badly in need of updating. There may be an opportunity here for the Region to take a leading role.

- Emil and Michael Frind, May 8, 2021

Gratefully,

Samantha Lernout

President, Citizens for Safe Ground Water Inc

Wilmot Township Resident

Andrew Martin

From: Santa Claus
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2021 10:45 AM
To: Planning
Subject: Jackson Harvest Farms application for an aggregate licence

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Township of Wilmot Planning division,

I whole heartedly support the PIT .... please dig deep!!

HoHoHoHo

Wilmot Horticultural Society

March 30, 2020

RE: Proposed Hallman Pit on Witmer Road, Wilmot Township

The Wilmot Horticultural Society has been a Wilmot Township organization for over 50 years, since 1968. Its members are encouraged and supported not only in gardening, but in their involvement in, and concern for, community issues.

The Mission Statement in the WHS constitution states: "The mission of the Society shall be to provide leadership and assist in the promotion of education and interest in all areas of horticulture and *related environmental issues* in Wilmot Township, as outlined in Article 36 of the *Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter A.9*, hereinafter called the Act."

Promoting the protection of the environment is one of the actions outlined in Article 36 of the Act, and it is for this reason that the Board of Directors of WHS is writing this letter.

WHS supports the actions taken by **Citizens for Safe Ground Water**, encouraging the Township of Wilmot to deny the zone change application for the property at 1894-1922 Witmer Road, directly south of the long established community of Shingletown. Wilmot Horticultural Society supports Wilmot council in taking responsible actions for the well-being and health of the Township's residents and the environmental issues which affect them.

Approving the Hallman Pit application would be a contradiction of the Climate Emergency recently declared by Wilmot Township. Gravel pit extraction in a Source Water Protection Area could put the safety of the ground water supply for the Region of Waterloo in jeopardy; there is no guarantee that an accident will never occur. Day to day operations of a gravel pit would create noise and dust with negative health effects on the nearby residents. The many thousands of heavy vehicles on a secondary road such as Witmer Road would create not only traffic, but a permanent change to a rural nature of this area.

At the present time, Wilmot Horticultural Society joins Citizens for Safe Ground Water in strongly encouraging Wilmot Township council to implement an Interim Control By-law under the Planning Act (Sec. 38) as soon as possible in order to allow a reasonable amount of time for the Township to properly study and review this application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yvonne Zyma, Secretary for Judy Hahn-Yutzi, President
For the Board, Wilmot Horticultural Society