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November 26, 2015

Subject: Objection to Vinemount Quarries Application for a Rural Hamilton Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment for lands located at 1051 Green Mountain Road East, Stoney Creek

In response to the application by Waterford Sand & Gravel Limited for a Class A, Category 2 Licence to excavate aggregate material from a quarry of 45.1 hectares, located at Part of Lot 6, Concession 5, in the City of Hamilton, and for a Rural Hamilton Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment for lands located at 1051 Green Mountain Road East, Stoney Creek, we submit the following objections.

We object on the grounds that we find that Waterford Sand & Gravel Limited has not maintained the vegetation on the existing Vinemount Quarry licence no. 5463 and 103931. We request that they be required to replace all dead vegetation in a timely manner and do what is required to ensure their survival, along the entire perimeter of the existing quarry as well as the new quarry.

We also suggest that Waterford Sand & Gravel Limited would be a responsible business to minimize their impact on all the neighbours by building attractive berms along the entire perimeter of the existing and new quarry. This would go a long way to facilitate co-operation with the community, if they seek to double the quarry size, and expand even more in the future.

We request the vegetation on the berms along Green Mountain Road and around the quarry perimeter to include some deciduous trees as well as shrub clusters to further enhance the view for the neighbourhood.

We have concerns about the possibility of a car going off the road at the corner of Green Mountain Road and Tenth and into the depths of the quarry. A proper berm needs to be built here. This hazard to the neighbourhood needs to be addressed.

We object that a dust monitoring and mitigation study has not been included in the site plan notes. We request that provision be included that a dust monitoring and mitigation study will be

undertaken by Waterford Sand & Gravel Limited if a complaint is made regarding dust and upon request by an affected neighbour.

We require the steel grating system on the internal haul road be cleaned out whenever the accumulated debris reaches the bottom of the grating.

We request more information about what kind of scrap will be allowed to be stored within license 5463 annually.

Given that the site plan notes of the existing quarry requires Waterford Sand & Gravel Limited to hold annual meetings in order to operate the current quarry, we object to cancelling the annual meetings three years after extraction begins on the new quarry. If the purpose of these meetings is for the exchange of information, then the meetings should continue, especially considering Waterford Sand & Gravel Limited has purchased other lands in the vicinity presumably for future expansion. As well, all homeowners located within a kilometer of the perimeter of the entire operating quarry ought to be invited to the meeting. This would allow new property owners who have moved into the community to be informed as well. Considering the size of all the lands Waterford Sand & Gravel Limited owns and the potential for impact on our community, we request an independent conflict resolution committee be formed. This would allow the neighbourhood to have some assurance that issues will be resolved fairly and help us to accept this business expanding in our community.

We request that we would be allowed to openly discuss these issues and other issues as they arise out of this process.

We wish to be notified of the adoption of the proposed Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment, or of the refusal of a request to amend the Official Plan and Zoning By-law and will make a written notification request to the Coordinator.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please call us at 905-643-7891 if you have any questions.

 *Cathy Ferrier*

Ross & Cathy Ferrier

VINEMOUNT QUARRY EXTENSION LICENCE APPLICATION

I object to the new licence application for the Vinemount Quarry Extension due to the following reasons:

- The noise and air pollution emanating from the quarries daily operation, depending on the wind direction, makes sitting in our backyard unbearable.
- The blasting operation creates air and ground vibrations shaking our house to the point where the dishes rattle and the wall pictures shake.
- The structural damage to our house caused by the blasting vibrations has resulted in ongoing repairs to cracks in the drywall and concrete basement walls.
- Lower property values due to the close proximity of the quarry and its related issues.
- The poor road conditions along the designated truck route from the quarry caused by the heavy dump truck loads and numerous trips especially on Mud Road between 10TH road and Centennial Parkway.

Wayne Smith
328 Eighth Road East
Stoney Creek L8J3M3

1 November 2015

Waterford Sand & Gravel Limited (Vinemount Quarries Division)
c/o Bill Kester
70 Ewart Avenue
Brantford, Ontario N3T 5M1

To whom it may concern,

We strongly object to the application on behalf of Waterford Sand & Gravel Limited (Vinemount Quarries Division) to expand their operations and excavation of an extra 45 hectares located at Part of Lot 6, Concession 5, City of Hamilton.

Firstly, the expansion of the quarry will strip the natural beauty of the landscape causing it to never return to its original form. Trees will be uprooted, fields will be demolished and wildlife will be forced from habitats leaving only an eye sore for hundreds of years to follow. While reviewing the Planning Summary Report, 4.9 Visual assessment, Provincial Policy 5.2.2, extraction shall be undertaken in a manner which minimizes social and environmental impacts. There is no way that the impact can be minimized when you are removing 45 hectares of stone. Our retirement plan of farming and living in a quiet rural setting will no longer be possible with you moving towards us. The environmental impact has been clearly stated at the top of this paragraph and through out this objection letter.

Living within very close proximity to the quarry, our family will suffer from a loss of our well water. If the quarry expands approximately 1,000 feet closer to our property, our well water supply will dissipate entirely. The loss of water will surely impact our ability to continue our livestock operation. The well water has been an on going concern. When the quarry originally opened and drained all the water, our well was no longer able to provide water year round. The quarry has denied any responsibility for our loss of water.

Another major concern is the threat to the stability of the foundation of our home, our cistern and well from the continual blasts. The foundation of our home sits on a bed of shale rock. Our house has already suffered damage, a cracked window for one, due to previous blasts. The quarry again denied any wrong doing but replaced the window as a good neighbour gesture. Currently, there are no procedures or steps put in place to address any conflicts that arise between home owners and the quarry. Ultimately, the home owner is S.O.L as the quarry can manage the problem or deny any responsibility without any thing or any one holding them accountable. There is no independent Conflict Resolution Committee that could review and assist in a solution. What will happen to our home when the quarry operations move south west and closer to our house?

Also, the noise and dust pollution caused by the blasting and the day to day operations of machinery, equipment and trucks are disruptive to our lives and the natural environment.
[The Quarry now owns the land that was designated for the possible construction of Ninth Rd. What will stop them from building that road and having truck traffic exit onto Green Mountain Road?

We are also very concerned that once this land has been stripped of its stone that a landfill site will be the next phase. Bill Kester assured us that the hole will be allowed to fill with water. Nothing will stop the owners of this Quarry from selling the land to a private company and wash their hands of their responsibilities. We have been told that Hamilton's existing Landfill has a forty five year life span. We have also been informed that it will take five years to complete the existing Quarry and forty five years to complete the expansion. Let's all do the math. Waterford Sand and Gravel will make large profits from the expansion and should be responsible for protecting this land and not be allowed to sell or give this property to anyone who could potentially apply for a landfill site agreement, including the City of Hamilton.

Now we are being forced to live in even closer proximity to the already existing quarry. Who will watch over our life long investment ? This expansion towards our farm will depreciate the value of our property. The existing Quarry has five more years of operation. The expansion will begin at the same time as our retirement. Our dream has always been to happily retire here and enjoy the tranquility of living on this beautiful farm. We have been farming this land for thirty one years and have raised our children here because of the beauty and the peacefulness. It is our dream to see our future grandchildren grow up on this farm and share in the experience and fond memories similar to those of their parents. It is very disturbing to know that our way of life and our future dreams will be severely impacted with the Quarry slowly bearing down on us. This notice of expansion has and will continue to add great anxiety and stress to us. We have been forced to live with the operations of this Quarry for the past twenty five years and now we are being asked to continue for years to come, with the operations moving closer to our home. When is enough, enough? We are strongly opposed and do not want this expansion to proceed.

We are requesting that this letter remains an open document so we can add any concerns that may arise during this process.

Sincerely,

John & Marilyn Pavao