

April 11, 2018

Mayor and Members of Council
The Corporation of The Town of The Blue Mountains
Thornbury, Ontario.

Attn: Corrina Giles, Clerk

Dear Mayor McKean and Members of Council:

Re: Support for the Committee of the Whole's Resolution to Reject the application for an Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-Law to permit the expansion of the Conn Pit near Gibraltar.

I am writing to support the above-referenced resolution, passed by the Committee of the Whole on April 4th, 2018. After careful consideration of the Town's Planning report, and after listening to delegations on this matter, COW, in its wisdom, has determined that the application to designate additional lands to the east of the existing Conn pit, should be denied.

I support the COW's resolution for the following reasons:

1. The Town is **not required** to support the application, as the lands are not designated as mineral aggregate in either the Grey County Official Plan, nor the Town's official plan. As such, they have not been identified as being a matter of the Provincial Interest. Thus, there is no obligation to designate these lands.
2. The potential impact of the operation on the groundwater resource has not been adequately considered, and monitoring these potential impacts after the fact cannot adequately mitigate the potential damage of the operation to our water quality and quantity (Source Water Protection Assessment Report);
3. The operation would significantly impact the ecologically important forest, the deer wintering yard, endangered bird species and endangered butternut species (Conservation Authority).
4. The operation is immediately adjacent to the Pretty River Valley Provincial Park which is an ecological treasure, providing multiple recreational uses and ecological features.
5. In addition, the operation's noise and truck traffic generated from the operation is detrimental to the peace and enjoyment of the Park's users and nearby residents.

Council is therefore strongly encouraged to confirm the COW's resolution. Your consideration is appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Sally M. Leppard
Resident
(Formerly Executive Director, Foundation for Aggregate Studies)
[REDACTED] Victoria Street South
Thornbury, Ontario.