

From: Ale Calle
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2023 9:17 PM
To: Rudy, Jo-Anne <Jo-Anne.Rudy@burlington.ca>; Greenough, Mallory <Mallory.Greenough@burlington.ca>
Cc: CORE Burlington
Subject: Written Delegation for the Community Planning, Regulation & Mobility Committee- Public on 9/18/2023

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To whom this may concern,

My name is Alejandra Calle, and I am writing this email on behalf of Bernard and Helene Dutka, residents of [REDACTED]. I am helping Helene and Bernard submit their written delegation due to both health and technological challenges that have arisen. Please find their delegation below.

My name is Helen Dutka, I had planned to attend this meeting tonight but I am unable due to a medical reason. I fell recently and injured my spine. I cannot bend, and should not walk, on doctor's orders.

It is, however, important for us to tell the Council why my husband and I object to the expansion of the Nelson quarry. We have asked a neighbour (CORE member) to delegate for us. I hope, Council will make an exception.

We live on [REDACTED]. We object to the expansion of the quarry because we are very worried about our Well water. A year ago (Fall of 2022), **our Well dried up for the 1st time ever**. It was an exceptional hot summer with little rain. For a couple of days, we felt we were living in a drought-stricken desert country. We depended on the generosity of a neighbour and on buying gallons of water. When we got a contractor, he told us the Well had dried up because of silt and advised us to install a larger pump. It is financially costly, but more so, it is emotionally very stressful to not have water. It took weeks to feel normal again, just to turn on the tap and not worry whether there would be enough water to shower.

Our experience made us very aware that Climate Change is here. With hotter weather and less rain and snow, the next generation living on Mount Nemo may find themselves in a situation where their wells aren't the same as they were decades ago.

Although we can't prove that Nelson was directly responsible for the Well to dry up, the reality is the quarry has been in operation for decades pumping water. We believe that has to impact the ground water and its quality, especially if Nelson/Lafarge is allowed to expand the present quarry. It would take a very long time to replenish the aquifer.

Even if Nelson/Lafarge gave assurances that their experts will monitor and mitigate any problem, we do not trust them. In 1996, while blasting, the pane of our bay window was cracked. We reported the damage. Nelson's investigation was, and I quote from their response letter "... it is our opinion that the blasting operations at the Nelson Aggregate quarry would not have been sufficient magnitude to cause or contribute to the window damage identified during our visit". Since Nelson did not take responsibility for a damaged window, how can we trust them to take care of such a vital resource as our drinking water.

We urge Council to reject Nelson/Lafarge Aggregate's application to expand the quarry. We cannot take water for granted.

I thank the Council for giving us the opportunity to raise our concerns.

Bernard and Helene Dutka

Thank you,

Alejandra Calle

