

From: Dr. Mira Šarić
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 10:16 AM
To: Rudy, Jo-Anne <Jo-Anne.Rudy@burlington.ca>; Greenough, Mallory <Mallory.Greenough@burlington.ca>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: PL-51-23

Please accept our written comments with regards to Burlington Nelson Quarry Official Plan Amendment (PL-51-23) as we are unable to attend the meeting on Monday September 18th, we are travelling overseas.

To the City of Burlington council,

Please say no to this change to the city plan amendment. As residents of north Burlington, we are strongly opposed to allowing Nelson Aggregate to blast two new open-pit mines in Burlington's escarpment. A mega-quarry should not in land that is designated a UNESCO World Heritage Biosphere Reserve, within the Niagara Escarpment, and within Ontario's Greenbelt. We are deeply concerned about the negative impacts the continued quarrying has on the quantity and quality of our well water. We are extremely concerned about the health and respiratory impacts of fine dust particles associated with blasting and truck traffic. We are alarmed by the increasing heavy truck traffic on our rural roads, especially along Guelph line. We are irritated by the dust and noise associated with these trucks from morning to night. These trucks make us worried about our road safety and about the possibility of contaminated fill being added to Nelson Aggregate's current quarry site. We understand excess construction waste fill is continuously being imported and dumped into the existing Nelson Burlington quarry, though it is unclear what type and quality of fill this is. There are no indications in Nelson's report that all of the fill is being sampled and tested in order to ensure that it is not contaminated. Without thorough, consistent, and accurate testing and recording of this imported fill, there is no factual way to confirm that the fill is safe to be forever in direct contact with the groundwater table.

We are very concerned about the impacts this open-pit mine has on the water that gives life to our ecosystems and sustains hundreds of residents.

We are strongly opposed to the permanent destruction of 124 additional acres of prime farmland and green space in our increasingly urban GTHA.

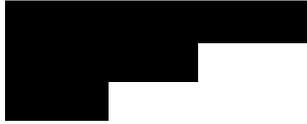
No "rehabilitation" or "enhancement" plan layered over a depleted limestone pit can replace the complex, rich, biodiversity of the prime farmland and natural ecosystems that currently thrive in the areas now being considered for permanent destruction from mining. Any disruption, including man-made "enhancements" will lead to a net environmental loss and it must not be represented as otherwise.

Nelson ignores many of the consequential costs of their operation, including ecological values lost, health effects, reduced quality of life, air quality effects, well interruption, property damages, tributary siltation effects, road maintenance, traffic incidents, etc. Open-pit mining is never a "no impact" operation. We strongly urge you to reject this application.

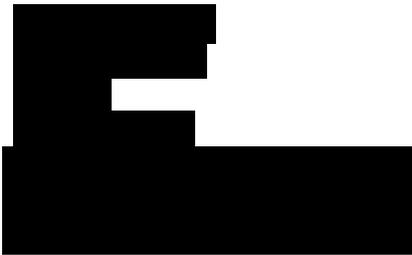
We appreciate your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mira Saric & Mr. Marinko Saric

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Dr. Mira T. Saric

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