

CPRM, September 18, 2023
PL-51-23
Delegation materials from Sue Godfrey

From: Sue Godfrey
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2023 12:00 PM
To: Rudy, Jo-Anne <Jo-Anne.Rudy@burlington.ca>
Cc: Greenough, Mallory <Mallory.Greenough@burlington.ca>
Subject: Delegation for Sept 18 PL-51-23

HELLO CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

MY NAME IS SUE GODFREY. I HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF LIVING IN MOUNT NEMO FOR OVER THREE AND A HALF DECADES. I HAVE SEEN FIRST HAND WHAT THE NELSON QUARRY HAS BROUGHT AND TAKEN FROM MT NEMO OVER THE YEARS. I AM STRONGLY APPOSED TO BOTH OF NELSONS APPLICATIONS TO EXPAND.

AS I WAS PREPARING FOR THIS DELEGATION AND COLLECTING MY INFORMATION IT WAS LIKE A DEJA VU. I FELT LIKE I WAS IN THE MOVIE GROUNDHOG DAY. THE MOVIE WHERE BILL MURRAY KEEPS LIVING HIS DAY OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

THAT'S WHAT ITS BEEN LIKE FOR THE LAST 19 1/2 YEARS. CAN YOU IMAGINE, ALMOST 20 YEARS RESIDENTS AND SUPPORTERS OF MT NEMO HAVE BEEN ADVOCATING AGAINST NELSONS CONSTANT APPLICATIONS, REVISED APPLICATIONS, ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS AND LAST MINUTE APPLICATIONS. NELSON IS DEFINITELY TRYING TO FATIGUE RESIDENTS INTO SUBMISSION AND IT'S JUST NOT RIGHT.

NELSONS 2004 APPLICATION WAS DENIED IN 2012 FOR VERY SOUND SCIENTIFICALLY BASED REASONS. IT TOOK 8 YEARS OF ORGANIZING, FUNDRAISING, HIRING EXPERTS, WRITING LETTERS, DELEGATING AND DELIBERATING WITH MANY AGENCIES AND FINALLY... FINALLY NELSONS APPLICATION WAS DENIED, AS IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ACCORDING TO THE EXPERTS.

... THEN 8 YEARS LATER... BHAM, TWO MORE APPLICATIONS! WHEN DOES IT END? WHEN IS ENOUGH EVIDENCE ENOUGH? ONE EXPERT TESTIFIED AND SAID "YOU COULDN'T PICK A WORSE PLACE TO MINE AGGREGATE IF YOU TRIED".

THE IMPORTANCE OF MT. NEMO GOES FAR BEYOND JUST GOOD AGGREGATE. IT REALLY IS SOMETHING THAT SHOULD BE PROTECTED AND PRESERVED FOR GENERATIONS TO COME. WITH ITS MAGNIFICENT CLEAN WATER, ENDANGERED SPECIES, AQUIFERS, RIVERS, TRIBUTARIES AND HEAD WATERS ETC THIS IS WHAT ENABLES THE LIFE THAT EXIST HERE TO EXIST. ALL THESE THINGS THRIVE HERE BECAUSE OF THE BIODIVERSITY OF THIS AMAZING PLACE. RIGHTFULLY SO MT NEMO WAS DESIGNATED AS AN UNESCO WORLD BIOSPHERE BECAUSE OF THESE FEATURES. ITS ONE OF ONLY 18 SPOTS IN CANADA WITH SUCH UNIQUE BIO DIVERSITIES. IF THAT ECOSYSTEM IS INTERRUPTED OR CHANGED IN ANYWAY ALL THAT VERY DELICATE BIODIVERSITY COULD DIE OFF TAKING THE ENDANGERED SPECIES AND PLANT LIFE WITH IT, MAKING IT NO MORE SPECIAL THAN ANY OTHER PIECE OF LAND.

AND ALL OF THAT IS JUST FROM AN ENVIRONMENTAL PERSPECTIVE... THEN THERE'S ALWAYS THE HUMAN ASPECTS TO CONSIDER. ONLY MORE NEGATIVE IMPACTS WILL BE CREATED BY EXPANDING THE QUARRY THAT WILL BE FELT BY ALL SURROUNDING RESIDENTS AND BY COMMUTERS TRAVELING UP GUELPH LINE NORTH OF DUNDAS. THAT'S A LOT OF PEOPLE!

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY NEGATIVE IMPACTS TO THE PUBLIC FROM THE EXISTING QUARRY OVER THE LAST 70 YEARS ALREADY. EXPANDING NELSONS QUARRY AND INCREASING THE EXTRACTION OPERATIONS TO 2 MILLION TONNES PER YEAR (WHICH IS NELSONS MODELING PROJECTIONS PER PIT) WILL DEFINITELY INCREASE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY CONCERNS. CONCERNS SUCH AS;

1) IMPACTS TO THE WELL WATER:

I WAS TOLD THAT MY WELL WATER WOULD BE "SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACTED" THE FIRST GO ROUND WITH NELSONS APPLICATION IN 2004. THE CURRENT PURPOSED SOUTH SITE IS ONLY SLIGHTLY SMALLER THAN THE ORIGINAL 2004 APPLICATION, BUT TO ME A COUPLE HUNDRED YARDS DIFFERENCE DOESN'T MAKE ME ANY LESS WORRIED ABOUT MY WELL BEING IMPACTED. PROTECTION OF THE WATER IS PARAMOUNT ON MT NEMO. PEOPLE RELY ON IT TO SUSTAIN LIFE.

2) TRUCK TRAFFIC:

FIGURE

1)



FIGURE 2)



I HAVE PERSONALLY COUNTED MORE THAN 600 TRUCKS COMING AND GOING FROM THE QUARRY WITHIN A SEVEN HOUR PERIOD IN 2021. APPROXIMATELY 95% OF THOSE TRUCKS WERE BRINGING FILL AND AGGREGATE "INTO" THE QUARRY, ONLY 5% WERE TAKING AGGREGATE OUT OF THE QUARRY. JUST THINK ABOUT THAT... ALL THOSE TRUCKS JUST TO BRING "STUFF" INTO THE QUARRY!? IMAGINE HOW MANY TRUCKS THERE WOULD BE WITH THE ADDITIONAL TRUCK TRAFFIC THAT IT TAKES TO MOVE 2 MILLION TONNES OF AGGREGATE IN A YEAR, WHICH IS WHAT NELSON IS PROPOSING TO DO ON EACH SITE. THAT'S A LOT OF TRUCKS!!.

TRUCK TRAFFIC BRINGS ITS OWN SET OF DANGERS THAT IMPACTS NOT ONLY MT NEMO RESIDENTS BUT ALL COMMUTERS USING GUEPLH LINE BETWEEN DUNDAS AND DERRY ROAD . THE DANGERS ARE REAL AND SHOULDN'T BE IGNORED. THINGS LIKE FLYING STONES AND GRAVEL THAT FLY OFF OF THE BACK OF THE GRAVEL TRUCKS, ALONG WITH WHAT I CALL BOULDERS. THESE VERY LARGE ROCKS FREQUENTLY LITTER THE ROAD AND SOFT SHOULDERS, WHICH I SEE ARE NICELY PAVED NOW. THIS WILL MAKE IT EXCELLENT FOR WALKING AND BIKING NOW!

PLEASE SHOW FIGURES A B AND C.

FIGURE A:



FIGURE B:



FIGURE C:



ROCKS THIS SIZE DEFINITELY HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO KILL SOMEONE. I'VE PICKED UP DOZENS OF ROCKS THIS SIZE OVER THE YEARS. SO SAFETY HAZARDS ARE REAL FOR SURE.

STONES PINGING OFF OF WINDSHIELDS ARE ALSO COMMON PLACE DRIVING UP GUELPH LINE. AN ADDITIONAL EXPANSION TO THE QUARRY WOULD EASILY ADD ANOTHER 500 TRUCKS PER DAY TO THE AREA. THAT WILL SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THE SAFETY HAZARDS THAT COMMUTERS HAVE TO NAVIGATE ALONG THIS STRETCH OF GUELPH LINE, WHICH INCLUDES CYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS AS WELL.

3) BLASTING:

THIS IS AN INTERESTING EXPERIENCE, ONE MOST CAN'T EVEN COMPREHEND OR UNDERSTAND JUST HOW VIOLENT SOME BLASTS ARE AND HOW MUCH YOU CAN FEEL THEM RIGHT DOWN TO YOUR BONES, AND HOW SHOCKINGLY LONG THE TREMORS LAST AND HOW LOUD THEY CAN BE. OVER THE YEARS THROUGH SEEKING INFORMATION AND PRINTED DATA AFTER REPORTING INTENSE BLASTING I NOTICED A WORRISOME PATTERN. NOT ALL MONITORS RELIABLY PICK UP READINGS. SPECIFICALLY

ONES THAT I INQUIRED ABOUT DUE TO THEIR INTENSITY... THAT WAS VERY CONCERNING TO ME, AND FRANKLY STILL IS.

SEE FIGURE E: THIS IS HOW THEY MONITOR BLASTS. THIS ONE IS USUALLY ON THE PROPERTY ACROSS THE ROAD FROM THE QUARRY ENTRANCE.



BLASTING CAUSES REAL DAMAGE TO HOMES LIKE CRACKED FOUNDATIONS, BROKEN WINDOWS, AS WELL AS WELL ISSUES . NELSON DUG OUR WELL TO ITS MAXIMUM DEPTH THAT IT CAN GO BECAUSE THEY DISTURBED THE WATER TABLE BACK IN THE MID EIGHTIES. NELSON HAS REMEDIED LOTS OF

DAMAGE THEY CAUSED TO SURROUNDING HOMES, YET THEY RECENTLY PUBLICLY STATED THAT THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY DAMAGE TO HOMES OR WELLS DUE TO BLASTING. THAT IS TOTAL NONSENSE AND UNTRUE AND THEY KNOW IT.

4) EXCESSIVE DUST:

THE AMOUNT OF DUST THAT COLLECTS IN THE DITCHES, ON HOMES, IN THE EVES TROUGHS, ON THE ROAD, ON CARS, WINDOWS, PLANTS AND TREES ETC IS RIDICULOUS! PARTICULARLY IN DRY WEATHER. PLUMES OF DUST CAN BE SEEN FROM MORE THAN A MILE AWAY AT TIMES. I BELIEVE THAT AMOUNT OF DUST COULD POTENTIALLY CAUSE HEALTH ISSUES LONG TERM. THE BUSIER THE QUARRY MEANS MORE TRUCKS, WHICH MEANS WAY MORE DUST.

THE QUARRY HAS MADE PROMISES OF A BEAUTIFUL REHABILITATION FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS NOW... 50 YEARS OF BROKEN PROMISES!!. THE QUARRY HAS BEEN IN OPERATION FOR OVER 70 YEARS ALREADY, AND IF ALL APPLICATIONS TO DATE ARE DENIED NELSON CAN STILL OPERATE FOR ANOTHER 25 YEARS OR MORE ACCORDING TO NELSON. THAT WOULD BE 95 YEARS OR MORE OF EXHAUSTIVE MINING ON MT NEMO. WHEN EXACTLY IS ENOUGH ENOUGH?

EXCELLENT EVIDENCE HAS BEEN BROUGHT FORTH ALREADY AS TO WHY ITS A TERRIBLE IDEA TO CONTINUE MINING ON MT NEMO AND THOSE REASONS STILL STAND TODAY.

WE ARE SO PRIVILEGED TO HAVE MT NEMO IN OUR BACKYARD. ITS SUCH A SPECIAL PART OF BURLINGTON WITH IT'S EXQUISITE CHARACTERISTICS, BEAUTY, WATER AND LIFE. WE NEED TO PROTECT IT BECAUSE ONCE ITS GONE WE WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO GET IT BACK. NO AMOUNT OF REHABILITATION WILL EVER REPLACE WHAT WAS TAKEN FROM MT NEMO.

I'M ASKING BURLINGTON COUNCIL TO APPOSE NELSONS APPLICATIONS, AND TO CONSIDER THE IMPLICATIONS AND THE OPPORTUNITY YOU HAVE TO BE ABLE TO BE APART OF PRESERVING AND PROTECTING MT NEMOS INTEGRITY SO MANY GENERATIONS TO COME CAN LEARN ABOUT IT AND EXPERIENCE ITS MANY WONDERS. PLEASE STAND WITH ME, WITH US, TO PROTECT AND APPRECIATE THIS INCREDIBLE PIECE OF LAND FOR WHAT IT ACTUALLY IS, MAGNIFICENT! LETS KEEP IT THAT WAY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.