

Regadanz, Lynn

From: Kathleen Bylsma [kathleen.bylsma@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 07, 2011 9:45 AM
To: BoardOperations
Subject: I oppose the expansion of the Lehigh Cement Quarry

THIS RELATES TO
2-8-11 Item No. 27
Supplemental Information No.
12

To whom it may concern:

I may not be able to attend the rally and public hearing on Tuesday Feb. 8th due to work, but it is very important to me. I oppose the expansion of the Lehigh Cement Quarry in a residential community. They have already shown what they will continue to do to the air quality and beautiful landscape if expansion is approved. California is known for its beauty and conservation practices. Please don't allow California to become an industrial nightmare.

Thanks,

Kathleen Bylsma
645 Lola Lane
Mountain View, CA 94040

Regadanz, Lynn

From: Jim Wheeler [jim@wheeleronline.us]
Sent: Monday, February 07, 2011 9:41 AM
To: BoardOperations
Subject: The Lehigh Cement Quarry in Cupertino

To the Santa Clara Board of Operations

RE: The Lehigh Cement Quarry in Cupertino

I am unable to attend the meeting on Tuesday where the supervisors will conclude a ruling on whether the operations at the quarry are vested and whether the quarry requires a use permit to continue operation and expansion of the quarry.

I hope that you find sufficient evidence that the quarry has no vested rights and requires a new permit. If that is the case, I further hope that you deny the issue of a new permit for any additional expansion of the operation.

While at one time the area in question was sparsely populated and had little negative impact on the community, the quarry finds itself, today, in a densely populated area where it now has great impacts on the health and welfare of the communities surrounding it. Therefore, allowing the expansion, in my opinion is a mistake and the wrong direction for a thriving community like Cupertino.

The management of the quarry has been systematically disingenuous over the years, regarding environmental quality and safety. For year they ignored EPA regulations to upgrade the dryer stacks, and today they still use coal, and continue to be the single largest polluter in the Bay area. I find it particularly suspect that Sandy James, a former member of the Cupertino board of directors is the current public relations spokes person for the quarry, and I question if there was a conflict of interest during her time in office and the continued violation, at the time Hanson-Permanente, was able to avoid.

Personally I find myself having to deal with the gravel trucks everyday on both Foothill and Stevens Creek as I ride my bike to and from work. Like many Cupertino residence, I have to deal with the dust and dirt in and around my home, the mud created on the road by the trucks along the upper end of Stevens Creek Blvd in addition to the byproducts of the limestone processing of the plant in the air. Of which the long term health affects, deeply concern me.

For these reasons, I ask you to rule against any expansion of the quarry, either in production or time.

Best Regards,

James R. Wheeler
10089 Ridgeway Drive
Cupertino, CA 95014

Jim Wheeler
650-391-7486

Regadanz, Lynn

From: Andy Leak [andy@r210.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2011 11:29 AM
To: BoardOperations
Subject: Object to Quarry Expansion

Dear Board of Supervisors -

I cannot attend the upcoming meeting to discuss the Quarry Expansion. But I would like to register my opposition to any expansion of the quarry. The quarry is in a residential area, and it should be getting smaller, not bigger. It is a health hazard and an eyesore for everyone in the county.

Sincerely,
Andy Leak
Los Altos, California

--
andy@r210.com
650-823-0836

Regadanz, Lynn

From: djsennals@gmail.com on behalf of John Ennals [john@ennals.org]
Sent: Saturday, February 05, 2011 4:48 PM
To: BoardOperations
Subject: New Quarry Pit

As a 30 year resident of Cupertino I am very concerned about the possibility of a new quarry pit being started so close to residential areas. There is no way that this should be allowed. Pollution, truck noise and dirt have been listed in attempts to stop it, but no one seems concerned about the desecration of our beautiful coastal hills. Since we have lived here the ridge has steadily been eaten away exposing the site which ruins the aspect from Saratoga and Cupertino. Now it appears the company has been dumping on land that they should not have been permitted to use. Please vote to stop this poor use of our natural resources. Limestone is not rare - there are plenty of sites in our state that would be far more appropriate than this one. I look forward to your positive action to keep our valley clean and beautiful.

John Ennals
10481 Florence Dr
Cupertino
CA

Regadanz, Lynn

From: Rosemary Marks [rosiemac@mac.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 05, 2011 4:34 PM
To: Ken Yeager; Yeager, Ken
Cc: BoardOperations
Subject: Lehigh hearing on Tuesday

Dear Ken,

I am writing to let you know that I am strongly opposed to the actions of the Lehigh company and its quarrying activities and its cement production plant. It is the number 2 mercury polluter in the US. The cement plant at Davenport was/is number 3.

As you are aware, I wrote to you several years ago with respect to the mercury issue resulting from the outrageous pollution caused by the cement plant. When I brought this to your attention, most people opposed to the plant had no idea that mercury and chromium 6 were issues. They were concerned about dust and noise pollution from heavy plant vehicles. I contacted Bill Almon and made him aware of my research and slowly the seriousness of the pollution became known. The EPA had no regulations requiring the reporting of mercury emissions from cement plants at that time.

The autism rate in Santa Clara is 1:90. In the US it is 1:150. We are conducting a research study into the extent of the mercury pollution in the area and the findings will be presented at the Google Science Fair in Spring. Mercury is surprisingly easy to test for.

I know you take very seriously clean air and health issues. It would be a travesty if the plant were allowed to continue to operate, considering all the violations committed. I do hope you will conclude on Tuesday that the EMSA is not vested and requires a Use Permit, which will be denied later.

Another 20 years of quarrying and cement production means up to 500 pounds x 20 pounds of mercury and other toxins will be put out as AIR BORNE pollution. That will be on top of the previous 500 x 50 pounds of mercury that currently resides somewhere in the environment.

People need to be tested for mercury~ a simple test~ which will then make it possible for them to be chelated. Drinking black tea prevents the uptake of mercury by the body. I've been tested as have my boys.

This is a huge issue and I hope you feel able to do the right thing and vote against the plant. If you take a ride along Steven's Canyon Road and look at the plant/quarry and see the environmental damage, and then look to the reservoir and understand the fish are inedible because of mercury, the gravity of this situation will hit home.

There is a facility on Steven's Canyon Road that offers respite care for autistic children, called Via West. It is ironic that the wind blows the pollution towards the facility over fifty percent of the time. They don't even know they are in the dump zone.

Regadanz, Lynn

From: Sai-Wai Fu [sfu@yesvideo.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 05, 2011 4:05 PM
To: BoardOperations
Cc: 'Beatrice Fu'
Subject: Feb 8 Tue hearing about Quarry

Dear supervisors,

We are 16-year residents of Los Altos Hills and frequent users and supporters of the San Antonio Preserve. Since we cannot attend this hearing on Tue, we would like to express our concern about and our vote against a new quarry operation in a populated residential area.

We have followed this issue closely and strongly believe that the environmental impact to the nearby residents including ourselves is very adverse and unwarranted. In addition the quarry pit is already a major eye-sore for all the hikers in San Antonio Preserve, any expansion will further ruin the natural beauty of the Open Reserve that all residents of silicon valley enjoy.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,
Sai-Wai and Beatrice Fu
10520 Magdalena Road
Los Altos Hills, Ca 94024

Regadanz, Lynn

From: Vicky Ho [vickyueho@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 05, 2011 3:23 PM
To: BoardOperations; Cortese, Dave; Wasserman, Mike; Kniss, Liz; Herrera, Queta; Yeager, Ken
Subject: No vested right to Lehigh

Dear supervisors:

I know Lehigh has a lot of political power.

*But please, for this time, **do something for the voters**, instead of the mighty and powerful, so that when you loook back on your career, you know that you have done **something right for the people** that put you in your position today.*

*As a voter of Santa Clara County, I urge you **NOT to grant Vested Rights to Lehigh Cement Plant**. Granting these rights will result in*

- Additional mercury and other toxic pollutants in the air we breathe. This will endanger the health of millions of Silicon Valley residents and in particular children.*
- Limited oversight of a mining operation with a shameful history of disregarding laws designed to protect the environment and public health.*
- Increased health care costs.*
- Reduced property values, which will add to the budget crisis.*

*Vicky Ho
22600 Alpine Drive, Cupertino, CA 95014*