

Braeside Quarry Neighbours Tell McNab/Braeside Council of Adverse Effects.

On June 14th nine quarry neighbours spoke to the Planning meeting of McNab/Braeside Council. Their purpose was to inform Council of past effects and let them know that the neighbours might call on them to witness either the odour off site from the temporary asphalt plant or times when the Miller plant was breaking the Noise By-Law. Neighbours have been living with these adverse effects since the fall of 2009.

Bill MacMeechan has lived here more than 30 years and told Council that Miller has no regard for the Noise By-law because Council doesn't enforce it. Mayor Campbell admitted that Council was embarrassed because they had other residents 'follow the rules' and get their neighbours' signed permission if they wanted to have a party outdoors after hours, while Miller continues to break it without consequence. But she said Council has rewritten and updated the Noise By-Law and when it is passed the Township will be in a better position legally to enforce it. Bill was a former Smiths Construction employee and told of how they took steps to see that residents were not impacted by quarry activities.

Barb MacMeechan is concerned because the asphalt plant has made it impossible to even try to sell their property.

Cherilyn Outhwaite finds the noise of the generator very hard to take at night. The odour emissions give her migraine headaches, so she never opens her windows and rarely goes outside.

Sean Moore said that the noise from the generator at night, and truck noise early in the morning make it hard to enjoy his property.

Norma Moore said that the emissions affect her ability to breathe and, as a result, make it difficult to work outside and maintain her garden display for her garden design business. Because windows have to be closed tight, it is very hot in summer with no air conditioning. She can no longer entertain outdoors or share her garden with others.

Mark Popiel said that he and his family rarely go outside because of the emissions from the plant. He suggested that Councillors come and witness life near this plant.

Dr. Randy Whyte expressed concern for the groundwater supplies for all the people living on this ridge. The quarry is in an earthquake zone, raising concerns about the huge quantity of fuel stored in the quarry. He told of a large fissure or crack, over 100 feet long which opened up on

his property after the last earthquake. The karst limestone makes the movement of contamination over a large area quite likely. A fire at the temporary asphalt plant with its resulting pollution would be catastrophic.

Mike Battiston experiences adverse effects from the emissions, sore throat, burning eyes etc. He is concerned that just one spill will destroy the water. He told Council that living in this area is just not a pleasant experience any more. Something should be done.

Trevor Turner, who lives very close to the plant, has said that the house they recently bought and love has turned into a nightmare. The noise at night, trucks operating long before the 7 am start time allowed, the strong disgusting, asphalt odour make it impossible to enjoy the country property he and Cherilyn purchased.

Some of the above residents have underlying health conditions, environmental allergies etc., and are affected more severely by the emissions.

Mayor Council told the meeting that she had suggested more than once that the company look into moving to another location within the community where residents would not be so severely affected. They refused to consider it. Mayor Campbell has also talked to them about setting up an advisory committee in this area as other companies do; they have done nothing.