

APPENDIX BB

Grey Highlands Climate Action Group

TO: Wilmot Council

DATE: March 30, 2022

SUBJECT: Proposed Hallman Pit

The Grey Highlands Climate Action Group is writing to speak out against the proposed Hallman Pit and support the local citizens who have expressed their grave concerns and delegated against granting the zoning change from Agriculture to Aggregate.

Our reasons include the following:

- The proposed pit will diminish road safety, put groundwater supplies at risk, and threaten the surrounding wetland.
- During this era of climate change adaptation, the focus of municipal councils needs to be on the highest and best sustainable use of land for sequestration, food production, and ecosystem conservation
- Recent changes to the Aggregate Resources Act advise against continued profligate issuing of licences. Both the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA) and Conservation Ontario, in their [submissions](#) at the time Bill 132, Section 16, was passed at the end of 2019, called for definition of key terms such as “routine site plan amendments” and “low risk activity” and “routine activities” which figure importantly in this section of the Act. For example, there is a provision allowing for “self-filing” of changes to the site plan for so-called “routine activities”. Leaving operators to decide what’s routine and what’s perhaps, high risk, is obviously not in the public interest. CELA and CO also asked that applications to extract below the water table be extremely rare and with public input.
- As observed by the [Reform Gravel Mining Coalition](#), Ontario has more than enough aggregate. There is no need for more at this point.

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- According to the zoning application on the township's website, an air quality assessment has not been completed. ([Well and Tribune Report](#))

As Roger Farnan of Citizens for Safe Groundwater has pointed out in relation to the proposed pit, government officials are under the obligation to protect public safety. Therefore, we strongly recommend that on April 4 Wilmot Councillors vote against the zoning change.

Yours truly,

On behalf of the Grey Highlands Climate Action Group:

Julie Reitzel

Rob Spackman

Judy Halpern

Bev Falco

Joyce Hall

John Butler

Jeanette Parry

On behalf of the Grey Bruce Climate Action Network:

Vitold Kreutzer

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