

APPENDIX V

Citizens for Safe Groundwater- Delegation Apr 4 2022, Lori & Mo Elash

Good evening Mayor Armstrong, Members of Council, and all in attendance. My name is Lori Elash and this is my husband Mo Elash. We have lived at 2229 Bleams Rd in Shingletown for nearly 9 years now and feel truly thankful to call this peaceful rural community 'home.' We are compelled to be here today to add our voices to those representing and supporting Citizens for Safe Ground Water, re-stating the widespread negative results that will likely occur to the groundwater, the farmland, the wildlife, the air quality, and the health and well-being of the community members should this gravel pit be allowed. We are both firmly opposed to the Hallman Gravel Pit proposal. With respect, we expect Council to deny the requested zone change.

We have a 12 acre property, north of the proposed Hallman gravel pit, kitty corner to the inside most point of that property. The proposal indicates that aggregate mining would be in full force in that corner of land, which is about 150 meters from our back door, and from our private well. We are very concerned about the impact it may have on the water quality of our private well, which we rely on for all our water needs. To our knowledge, our private well was not inspected or investigated, and as such it is likely not included in Mr. Esbaugh's hydrogeological report. If this is the case, there is no baseline data, and the impact of the proposed gravel pit on our private well would not be able to be determined. There continue to be outstanding issues and recommendations with this proposal in general and in specific to protect private well owners that have not yet been addressed, nor safeguards committed to (outlined by Samantha Lernout and the Planscape presentations).

Right now, the land in question is quiet, beautiful, productive farmland. This proposal would result in a huge berm instead of beautiful farmland. It would replace the tranquil quiet with loud rumbling vibrations of machinery and constant clanging and beeping of heavy vehicles which would carry throughout our community. Large vehicle traffic would be greatly increased, and the potential contamination of water and air has been shown repeatedly. We rent 8 acres of our land to a neighboring farmer. Water from the neighboring fields washes into and often floods our field in the spring, then soaks into the ground. We don't even want to imagine what the spring runoff might bring with it if this proposal is granted, or how it might affect our farmland.

The proposed gravel pit would also result in unnecessary health concerns for residents. The fine particulate matter from the excavations and extra diesel in the air from the trucks and excavators are likely to cause breathing and other significant health issues, which will only become evident over time.

We implore you to please represent and protect us, your citizens, to consider our well-being and quality of life, and to do what's best for Wilmot Township and beyond by protecting the invaluable and irreplaceable resources of prime farmland and

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groundwater, the groundwater which supplies not only Wilmot Township but also Waterloo Region.

The research presented by Citizens for Safe Ground Water has shown the overwhelmingly negative consequences of allowing a gravel pit. This gravel pit is unnecessary and detrimental in so many ways, to so many citizens, and will have widespread negative long-term impacts. This gravel pit should not be permitted. Please protect our beautiful community by putting the irreplaceable prime farmland and groundwater first and vote NO to this municipal zone change application. Please put your people's health and well-being first and vote NO to the Hallman Pit. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,
Lori & Mo Elash