

Stop Petersburg Sand Pit Inc.
939 Erbsville Rd RR3,
Wloo On N2J3Z4
petersburgontario@gmail.com

May 18 2023
REVISED
Appendix A
May 24th 2023

Township of Wilmot Council
60 Snyder's Road West,
Baden ON N3A 1A1

Re: Rezoning application 1856 Snyder's Road East, Petersburg On
NOB2HO

Dear Mayor Salonen and members of Council

On behalf of members of the Stop Petersburg Sand Pit Inc. I respectfully request that Council defer the rezoning application for the above property and implement an Interim Control By-law (ICBL) to protect the health and safety of members of the Petersburg Community (draft bylaw attached). Although the Township of Wilmot did request peer review studies the studies undertaken to date did not adequately address the concerns raised by the residents. As our representatives we need you to help us ensure our communities have safe water, clean air, and streets where our children can play and grow safely.

There are already six sand pits in the Petersburg area and fifteen pits in the Township of Wilmot. Members of the community have had to endure sand dust and grit, concerns about air and water quality, industrial noise and unsafe truck traffic. As more people move into rural areas and traffic increases it is imperative that these risks be mitigated at the municipal level by upgrading aggregate policies and bylaws.

An interim control bylaw is a municipal tool that allows municipalities to pause new applications while the bylaws and policies meant to protect residents from industrial aggregate operations are reviewed and upgraded. At the Council meeting on March 6th 2023 Mayor Salonen noted that she could "See only two options" and that "Settling is not a perfect solution - absolutely not". We agree, but there is a third option, adopting an ICBL, a tool that should meet the concerns that have been publicly expressed by the Mayor of the Township of Wilmot.

Further comments by the Mayor at the March 6th meeting point to the importance of moving forward to support best practices.

"As to the bigger point this whole matter raises is that the provincial regulations as they stand leave local councils in an untenable position, local residents frustrated and often chasing the red herring of

oning application changes as their primary voice to raise concerns"...."Personally I have been advocating at TAPMO and want to be part of a long term solution for sustainable aggregate extraction in Ontario. "Need to push province to uphold higher standards in the application and management of this issue ... "Including a local avenue of consideration of the issue beyond technical matters issues such as health"

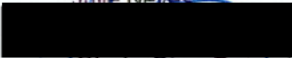

The ICBL is a tool for Councils to raise standards. If multiple municipalities pass ICBLs and upgrade policies to a level of best practices this will help Ontario move forward with higher provincial standards. By adopting best practices at the local level this increases chances of these practices being adopted at the provincial level.

We ask that going forward the Township of Wilmot work with members of the community concerned about the increasing number of pits to bring forward best practices, review and upgrade bylaws to reduce the risks to our community. We want a balanced approach that protects the health and well-being of residents while ensuring safe industrial best practices are adopted by industry.

Please bring forward a motion in support of an ICBL to protect the health and well being of the residents of Petersburg and surrounding area.

Sincerely,


Julie Nixes


/ Chair, Stop Petersburg Sand Pit Inc.


Appendix A

Stop the Petersburg Sad Pit Inc. have outlined a number of issues and impacts from community members regarding existing pit operations below.

██████████ at ██████████ Petersburg On has experienced excessive dust on furniture and on windows and screens. When windows are open dust is visibly floating onto furniture and floors and therefore keeps windows closed and cannot enjoy fresh air. Hears air brakes and horns from diesel trucks from town. Cannot safely cross the road and cannot ensure safety of grandchildren while crossing the road and has contacted one pit operator several times regarding safety and the trucks concerns of tailgating and of speeds. Damage to windshield more than once due to flying rock from diesel trucks. Concerns for the water quality and safety of drinking water along with associated costs for the depletion of the same. Concerns for bus routes and stops. Pictures emailed to Clerk.

██████████ address ██████████ Petersburg On has witnessed an increase in the volume of trucks in Petersburg and on one day while outdoors with ██████████ at the Petersburg Park counted 13 trucks in a row on the road at the same time. They have replaced 2 front car windshields due to flying stones flying from diesel trucks. They can no longer go on daily walks in the Petersburg area as the dust and diesel fumes make it difficult to enjoy the outdoors and have to leave the town of Petersburg to walk and exercise else where. With all the recent improvements on the roads and sidewalks in Petersburg they cannot enjoy their own town to walk in.

██████████ address ██████████ Petersburg. ON experiences poor health from environmental conditions once moved to Petersburg. ██████████ dirt and dust visible on the windows, on outdoor furniture and inside the home. Invested in air purifiers and condition of health and cleanliness of home persists. Even with windows closed witnesses' excessive dust/dirt in home. Cannot enjoy exterior of home due to noise of trucks passing by all day. Water tests are "ok" to best of knowledge. Damage to property from flying rock while on her way home.

██████████ address ██████████ Petersburg On. ██████████ residents, ██████████ has asthma and cannot enjoy the exterior of the home due to the dust and the dirt which aggravates her overall health. Breathing suffers and lungs hurt and loss of enjoyment of her life to suffer. Dust storms in the back yard and continuous dust is kicked up on haul road as trucks enter and leave next to home and cannot open window. ██████████ takes ██████████ more often to Doctor to be treated because of dust. Deaths at the railway because of trucks. Operations of pit starts between 4-4.30 am till around 3-3.30 pm. The ██████████ have witnessed trucks entering the Snyder's Road E at 1974a Snyder's Rd E at a speed of 30/40kms an hour without stopping, continuing to pullout without breaking taking up all lanes on Snyder's Rd E onto on coming traffic and forcing east bound traffic into the ditch and west bound traffic having to suddenly brake. The cars on the Snyder's Road E blow the car

horns in response which cannot be heard due to the load noise of acceleration from the same diesel truck pulling out. They cannot have a peaceful conversation outdoors because of the noise and have to go inside the home to continue the same conversation. The trucks and haul road interfere with the ease and safety of their grandchildren whilst outdoors because the trucks are so close and [REDACTED] have fear and fear of flying rocks. When the trucks are rumbling coming out with full loads the house shakes. [REDACTED] has lost sleep due to trucks all day and night. Cannot enjoy [REDACTED] because they can't enjoy their property. Pictures Waterloo Record May 17/2023.

[REDACTED] address [REDACTED] Petersburg On installed new windows on the week of April 15th 2023 and finds new windows covered in dust and dirt and difficult to wipe off. The new front door is covered in dust, the old entrance door was dust caked on. While outdoors when the winds are present finds eyes are irritated and burning from the dust. The fumes from the diesel and from the asphalt combined when it is windy is noticeable such as yesterday May 15th 2023 making it difficult to enjoy the exterior of the home and property and difficult to breath and see. It is impossible to do outdoor work around the property in windy conditions due to the dust and fumes. Cannot open windows. On the week of Easter 2023 due to rainfall the property flooded by nearby creek/culvert was full and could not keep up, they have concerns with the runoffs flooding their land and infiltrating their lands and for the quality safety of their drinking water and discoloration and odor of well drinking water is being tested. The excessive noise of the operations plant and the noise from the flowing of the trucks on the road combined makes it to carry a conversation outdoors. The operations start approximately at or before 6am [REDACTED] spends all day outside from 6am to 5pm and has asthma and is finding it harder to breathe while doing outdoor work, especially on very windy conditions. [REDACTED] address [REDACTED] Petersburg, On. Cleaned Windows and front to door May 2022 and found full of sand, full of black dust. Pictures CTV New May 18/2023

[REDACTED] address [REDACTED] Petersburg On, witnessed speed of the diesel trucks to go up hill westbound on Snyder's Rd E and witnessed numerous incidents involving vehicles in front of home onto property due to dangerous road and entrance at existing pit 1974a Snyder's Rd E. [REDACTED] experiences noise, vibrations, brakes, horns, Jake brakes, Diesel engines, fumes, dusty air quality from spewing of sand and gravel from moving diesel trucks on haul road. On hot dry windy day can visibly see the dust flying out of trucks on Snyder's Road E. When [REDACTED] tilled the back field [REDACTED] back patio had a half inch of sand on it, every step on lawn was a cloud of dust had to use a shovel and stiff broom and a blower to remove the sand. This sand is uncontrollable in the wind. The wind is very strong coming toward [REDACTED] home and they cannot sit out back on the cool windy days due to difficulty to breathe and see.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] Petersburg On 1969-2021, noise starts at 5am/6days a week till 6/7pm at night, 1969 no traffic, kept windows closed due to stench/smell/ashpalt clouds white going into the air, counted one diesel truck per minute on road, big stones on lawn, when mowing lawn the dust/sand would be lifted through the mower, could not hear conversation outdoors and when at neighbours' 2101 could not hear conversation backyard because back of house was loud. Aprox. 1998 called Township about noise, noise by law only for barking dogs and instructed to call MNRF Guelph. Called Gulep and officer seemed uninterested, would get back to her and did not follow up, no onsite visit.

██████████ ██████████ Petersburg, lives 10yrs, finds it difficult to be outdoors at certain times of day because of traffic noise coming from diesel trucks, noise from dump trucks stopping, starting, turning, and going past her home is loud. Noise interrupts conversation, cannot take phone calls outdoors, cannot work from home in the outdoors, cannot talk with people outside on sidewalk has to yell at eachother. Does not open windows during daytime hours because of hazard from diesel trucks going past home, because cannot open windows this heats their home and cannot enjoy a breeze. Limits children outdoor time in the front yard and prefers the backyard. When walking on sidewalks around house sees sand and stone on the roads and see dump truck overloaded.

██████████ ██████████ Noise of the beepers loaders/equipment down in the pit starts approximately at 5 am, sees the dust blowing towards the road and sees clouds of dust. Pit is operating before the trucks start.

Appendix B- Interim Control Bylaw Draft

[REDACTED]

To whom this may concern:

My name is [REDACTED] I live at [REDACTED] Petersburg Ontario. I've lived here for around fifty years. Since I've lived here, my home has almost become unbearable to live in. Due to the constant shaking of my house from the trucks driving in and out the road beside me, at all hours of the day and night, I have lost sleep. It has affected my health due to aggravating my asthma, this has caused my breathing to suffer, my lungs to hurt. Because of my aggravated health, it has caused my enjoyment of life to suffer, and it has made it more difficult for me to enjoy my [REDACTED] because they can't enjoy our property due to their fear of the trucks. Because of all the dust and noise we are unable to sit outside, to enjoy the weather. Why can't we have enforced rules, so that I can enjoy my senior years, that I worked 40 years to enjoy this time of my life, and now it's being taken away from me. Is it not your duty to protect the people that need to be protected, if not why do we even have a council. If we can't turn to you, how are we supposed to live?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

To whom this may concern:

My name is [REDACTED]. I live at [REDACTED] Petersburg Ontario. I've lived here for around fifty years. In that time, I have seen a constant change from rolling countryside and farms to uncontrolled aggregate pits and recycling. In that time, the pits have got out of control due to lack of regulations and what few regulations there are, there is no enforcement. In that time, the trucks from the pit have gotten larger and bolder, endangering citizens, walkers, and bikers on the road. The dust has made my house almost unlivable, it is impossible to open a window, or sit outside because of the dust and how loud the trucks are. Our cars/ trucks have to be constantly cleaned because they are covered in layers of dust. My [REDACTED] has asthma, which is causing her to go to the doctor more often, causing her to suffer more, because she has to get treated more because of the dust. The neighborhood children are almost hit by trucks, not obeying the rules of the road, although the pit has said they have business hours, they are totally ignored, they are active around 4am. Due to the lack of care at the railway, there have been deaths at the railway because of the lack of care and safety from the truck drivers. We have enforced regulations for construction from Wilmot Township, we have regulations on how we use roads, regulations for park and recreation. Why can't we have enforced regulations for the removal and transportation of aggregates and recycling of cement and asphalt.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

To: chad.curtis@wilmot.ca, Julie Neves [REDACTED]

Date: May 20, 2023 9:30:43 AM

Subject: Petersburg conditions

Hello my name is [REDACTED]

I am sending this email as part of the community providing feedback on the living conditions in Petersburg.

I live at [REDACTED]

We have lived here for over 10 years.

Through our this time we have found it difficult to be outside at certain times of the day because of the traffic noise coming from large dump trucks.

The noise of the trucks stopping, starting, turning, and just going past our house is loud.

It often interrupts conversations outside, it makes it hard to have phone calls outside and virtually impossible to have a work meeting on the computer. I work from home and it would be nice to be outside and be able to have meetings but that isn't possible.

This is the same with talking to people outside on the sidewalks or trying to have a phone conversation while walking. Virtually you have to yell at each other.

As well, I do have some knowledge of the hazards of diesel exhaust and because we know do many dump trucks go past our house we do not open the windows during daytime hours. This causes our house to heat up in the summer because we can not have a breeze.

I do also limit my kids time at the front of the house because of this and prefer they are in the backyard.

Often while walking on the sidewalks around our house we see sand and stone on the roads and we see dump trucks overloaded.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Date: May 18, 2023 8:00:44 PM
Subject: Re: Need community input by Friday May 19th

Hi Julie,

I'm sorry that my husband and I won't be around to participate in the community meeting, [REDACTED]. I did however want to share our experience with the volume of trucks already running through Petersburg.

I have had to replace 2 front car windshields, both times due to stones flying from dump trucks coming toward me on the opposite side of the road. Clearly this wasn't due to me following too closely. One happened on Notre Dame and the other happened on Highland Road, both within a kilometre of Deerfield.

My [REDACTED] and I like to walk daily, but the dust and diesel fumes from trucks around the town make it impossible and we end up having to drive out of town to walk. It's a shame that all of the road and sidewalk improvements that the township made can't be enjoyed.

The number of trucks is really outrageous. Last summer I had my [REDACTED] down at the park and we counted 13 dump trucks go by, all in a row.

I hope this information helps councillors understand that we are already experiencing a diminished quality of life in Petersburg.

Thank you for all of your efforts in this cause. We'll be thinking of you and hoping the right people will really listen to the residents.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

On May 14, 2023, at 1:20 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Hello everyone,

We need everyone to write a summary of what you see, smell etc on your property and be very detailed providing your name, address, what you experience, when, how it affects you and your family. Please send any pics/video to help support. The goal is to get the Councilors to see and hear from you because they don't live in Petersburg. Then please send it to me via email or please have it ready and we can pick it up from your home by Friday May 19th so we can take it to the Township Council following week.

EXAMPLE:

I Mary Jane Doe address 2100 Snyder's Rd E Petersburg was outside today and found my patio furniture with 1/2" of sand. I have to usually clean it every week and sometimes if the wind is bad almost every day in the summer. I find my windows are always dirty between May and September and cannot keep them open because I wake up with the noise of "beep beep beep" starting at 6am, sometimes I hear this till 8pm. Even on Saturday it starts at 6am. When I clean my front door and it is usually covered in black dust and I do this every two weeks. When I park my car outside I have to use windshield washer to clean

[REDACTED]

As a Petersburg family community member, I would like to provide background regarding my concerns related to the re-zoning of our farmlands and the impacting results of more gravel pit operations in our village. I want to be clear that I am not about anti-development as I know at the provincial level there is a desire to expand housing in the Waterloo region. My concerns have always been about what is the expense of development from a health and wellness perspective. Have we thought about all options available to consider. As you look at all the delegates presenting on May 29th council meeting please consider my position below as you review/approve the re-zoning application:

Dust: Air pollution, concerns for what we are breathing. I will provide pictures in an email to show the constant state of our windows, and outdoor furniture that are never clean. It shows us physical evidence of airborne particulate. When I open our windows the dust particulates are transferred into our home and is present on our furniture, floors etc. so we have to leave the windows closed.

Noise: Air brakes through town, honking horns at the kids

Traffic: Can't safely cross the street to go to the park with my [REDACTED] and I'm beyond sprinting as a [REDACTED] year old with a 5 yr and 3 yr old in tow. Trucks drive fast, and with large numbers who don't slowdown in my opinion it is not about if an incident will happen, it's more about when. I have called [REDACTED] a few times in the past to speak about trucks unsafely tailgating my vehicle when slowing at the railway tracks. The trucks are unfortunately subcontracted drivers who are paid based on load and time is an important resource. [REDACTED] did follow up with the company, however feedback seems to always have an expiration date. In addition I have concerns for bus stop safety. We have many buses in operation here to transport to primary, secondary schools and [REDACTED] mobility buses for the elderly day away programs

Water: As a community well resident I worry about contamination, supply and increased costs to us if we have to drill deeper to obtain water.

Damage: On more than 1 occasion we had to replace our windshields due to rock impacts to our car.

My platform is an emotional one based on urban development planning and the health and safety impacts of my own family, neighbours and the future residents. It's begs the question of how do we want our community to be known i.e. for gravel pits or people, and our natural resources that are so precious. I am reminded often in my studies, discussions with the indigenous people in my circle and by the Wilmut townships very own land acknowledgement where we state: '***We also want to acknowledge the importance of The Dish with One Spoon Covenant - a peace agreement made between Indigenous nations before the Europeans arrived. It characterizes our collective responsibility to each other and Mother Earth - we should take only what we need, leave enough for others and keep the dish clean.***' Let's try to be the best land stewards that is within our power.

In closing, I am a realist and understand that data talks and is how we make informed decisions, along with financial impacts which is an unfortunate reality. My ask of you all is to consider your decisions in partnership with the community Health and Safety, and to think about creative balanced solutions.

Thank you for hearing my voice.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] ...I love my village, natural resources and the village people lol

Petersburg Sandpit Rezoning Request

My name is [REDACTED]. I have been a Petersburg resident for the past twenty years at [REDACTED]. I purchased a one acre lot with a [REDACTED] which was part of the [REDACTED] around me. We bought it mainly for the view in the backyard. We look over a couple hundred acres of rolling hills and farmland. We see deer, coyote, wild turkeys, fox, racoons, rabbits, turkey vultures, hawks, owls and many other birds everyday. It is a beautiful site. We enjoy the peace and quiet yet we're close to Kitchener for groceries, shopping etc.

When we moved here there were only two pits and the traffic wasn't bad. Only [REDACTED] pit [REDACTED] was busy. Over the last ten years or so the pits have grown to seven. With this comes a great deal of traffic, out of control dust and stones, noise, deisel engines odors, accidents, near misses, safety issues for school buses etc. The population in Wilmot has grown hugely over this time and Snyders Road is a main route to and from Kitchener. Wow, how this quaint little town changed.

Now we are part of the farm rezoning to start a sandpit. This is not a gravel pit, it's pure sand, the kind that blows easily in the wind. My lot is the [REDACTED]. I know the provincial government is mandating more housing in KW Region and they need aggregates for building. I do not have any issues with this but I do not think this is a good location to draw sand from. We already have to many pits in Petersburg area. We have already done our due diligence for the building boom.

When reviewing the the rezoning application please take into consideration the health and safety of the people of Wilmot Township and any other traveller going down Snyders Road. Traffic and air quality has to be number one.

Dust: I drove past [REDACTED] a few days ago. It was hot, windy and dry. The dust coming from [REDACTED] blowing across the street was bad. I could hardly see the two houses across the street. I went to get the mail out of the mail box across the street from my house the same day. As I waited for the traffic to go by I watched every vehicle go by was covered with dust. There was so much dirt on every windshield that you would think they just went down a dirt road. I have to keep my windows and doors closed now, I can only imagine how bad it will be when the pit is open directly behind my house. The dust already goes though the screens in the windows now.

A few years ago, [REDACTED] the owner of Petersburg Sandpit decided to till his own land. He set off with his riding lawnmower and 4' rotor tiller on the farm land behind my house. He was there for a couple weeks tilling. This took off the existing growth and turned up the sand. The wind

picked up and next thing I knew I had 1/2" of sand on my back patio. I walked across the yard and with every step a flume of dust flew up. I had to use a very stiff broom, shovel and blower to remove the sand it was so thick. I know what to expect if this farm gets rezoned.

I have never seen a pit that wets down the entrance/exit lanes. Why not? Lanes are never swept or covered to seal dust and stones from coming out of dump trucks. Why not? These trucks are on residential roads not gravel roads.

Noise: When the dump trucks are running during the week the road noise is very loud. With these trucks of course comes the air brakes, diesel smell, horns etc. These guys definitely own the road when they are there.

Traffic: The truck drivers are paid by the load and therefore usually in a rush. This alone makes Snyders Road dangerous. We have a lot of people living every day lives on this road, hikers walk by and bicycles go by a lot. There is the large hiking and biking trail next to us which is very busy, school buses picking up our kids. We need to protect all of them and by not adding more trucks is a good start.

The trucks exiting the [REDACTED] Pit lane don't even come to a stop when entering Snyders Rd (on a blind hill). These trucks make it very dangerous for the cyclists and hikers that share this lane. When are we going to make things safe here?

I have seen many accidents in front of this [REDACTED] since I've lived here at [REDACTED] I imagine there have been many more on Snyders Rd. between Notre Dame and Trussler. I don't know if the region takes this into account when allowing a new truck entrance onto Snyder Rd. hill but they should.

My mail box was taken out 4 times only once by snowplow, my daughters car totalled pulling out of our driveway, a car rolled up on my front lawn, at least 4 vehicles went down into the 6' ditch [REDACTED] (there is a gas main down there, wow no explosion yet), my daughters boyfriends car totalled in front of the house, a fatal motorcycle accident coming over the hill to the east from Kitchener are just some that I remember.

Water: This whole area is dependent on our wells for water. Water is a very big deal and we are very concerned about losing water due to pits digging below the water table. If the pit does drain our wells there is no easy solution to supply the water to each resident in a timely matter.

The number one issue here is the health and safety of the residents that live here and generations to come, as well as the hikers, bikers, farmers etc. We have a chance to keep Petersburg a great place to live only if we take care of it. Right now we already have too many

issues that need to be confronted first instead of adding to the problem. The existing traffic and dust problems are not being taken care of today. If you go stand in front of [REDACTED] gravel pit entrance you will see the future for the Snyder's Road Sandpit. We already have issues that need to be addressed. Adding yet another sand pit will be a nightmare for our future.

[REDACTED]

To whom this may concern:

My name is [REDACTED]. I live at [REDACTED] Petersburg. I am a third generation farmer, my family have lived on this property for over one hundred years. I have lived here for all [REDACTED] years of my life, I am shocked and appalled that this council would even consider this application at this date, the applicant has had years to prepare this proposal and then although a lot of reports were ready months ago, the applicant only represented it to the public only a few days ago, we have had only a matter of weeks to read and find experts to help us. Now this is trying to be rammed through. If the council respects the democratic principles, the general public should be allowed the same amount of time as the applicant got. This is not only the proper way to do it but also the only fair way to do it. As we speak, we are trying to find and retain experts to do an analysis of all the documents.

From a personal point of view, I would like to make the following comments. For the past [REDACTED] I have been battling kidney disease, and I am now an at home dialysis patient. I am extremely afraid for my life, because of this application. My well, it is near feet from the proposed concrete and asphalt crushing location, the applicant has said he will supply me with bottled water and an above ground tank for my water needs. How can I use an above ground water tank in January? Bottled water is not a solution, it's a bandaid. Home dialysis uses a tremendous amount of water, and must be tested constantly by [REDACTED] Hospital to ensure that it is of the highest quality so that it doesn't kill me. To have tankers coming in on a daily basis to refill the water tank would mean a constant parade of traffic into my place, and an almost daily need for [REDACTED] to come out and test the water. [REDACTED] Hospital at the moment tests the water for around forty different things at a time. As of now, I have a safe drinking supply, and I am able to do my dialysis at home. One mistake from someone who doesn't clean a truck properly or does not get water from an approved source would endanger my life. [REDACTED] Hospital would have to come out every time to test the water to make sure it is safe for me to use. [REDACTED] Hospital doesn't accept anyone else's water tests. If something goes wrong the best outcome I could hope for is I'd have to do dialysis in the hospital. Right now from the information I was told, my medical bills for dialysis are close to one hundred thousand dollars a year. If I end up in the hospital that cost will only increase. For just this reason, why does the aggregate dump site have to be next to my house when it is possible to locate it on the site but 3/4 of a mile away?

When I am doing dialysis, when the weather permits I like to open my windows. The dust from this pit will make this impossible. The applicant has said the only thing he is willing to do is occasionally water down the gravel roadways. In hot and dry weather this will need to be done nearly on an hourly basis, which he said he is not going to do. One of the simplest ways to reduce but not eliminate dust is to require paved driveways from the entrance to the working area of the pit itself, around any weigh scale operations, any and all trucks, work and storage areas and continuing on the driveway to the highway.

In the drawing that I have observed, the only burns to prevent dust from blowing are minor and small in nature. Around the asphalt crushing area, although he is going to be crushing immediately, there are no burns till approximately twenty years later in phase four. There are no burns protecting from wind erosion and the unsightly mess from an active pit anywhere along the truck route. The few feet of burn that he has put beside one house is too small and too low. The burns should be three times in height and hundreds of times longer. These are only a few of my concerns, with the limited amount of time you have given us to respond to this application and I think it is the duty and responsibility of this council to give us more time to properly review all documents and return with solutions to protect the lives of the people of Wilmot township. If council at this time approves this application they should be ashamed for promising at the last election to do a better job than the last council and one of the first opportunities to bring forward their promises and they renege on them. If this proposal goes through at this time, you are reneging on your duties as a counselor.



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Petersburg, ON [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

For presentation at the Wilmot Township Council meeting on May 29, 2023

As a Petersburg family community member, I would like to provide background regarding my concerns related to the re-zoning of our farmlands and the impacting results of more gravel pit operations in the community.

I want to be clear that I am not about anti-development as I know at the provincial level there is a desire to expand housing in the Waterloo region. My concerns have always been about what is the expense of development from a health and wellness perspective. Have we thought about all options available to consider. As you look at all the delegates presenting on May 29th council meeting please consider my position below as you review/approve the re-zoning application:

Health: I moved to this area in [REDACTED] of 2011 as a very healthy person. I was aware that it is a busy street and that there was a gravel pit in the [REDACTED] home. However, I was not expecting to incur poor health as a result of this. (I do not smoke, vape or inhale / ingest anything similar into my lungs.)

About 6 years ago I started to have a minor cough with periodic phlegm. Didn't think much of it as it was infrequent.

Then in 2019 I adopted a cat. My cough worsened as well as the phlegm. November 2020 I installed a Sanuvox R Max in-duct purifier on my furnace. This did not correct the problem.

September of 2021 I adopted another cat and also purchased a high end Austin HM400 Healthmate HEPA Air Purifier that removes 99.97% of air particles larger than 0.3 microns

I did all this because I believed my cough / phlegm was due to an allergy to cats. I waited almost a year to see an allergy specialist as I believed I had allergies to cats.

Sadley, the results were positive, I had high allergies to cats and I needed to rehome my cats for my lung health and well-being. Test results for Dust, Mold came back as negative.

Now almost 8 months after rehoming my cats, the problem still persists. My home has been completely clean of cat dander / cat hair and the problem still persists.

I now believe it is the contaminants within the air in the area. Not all persons have the same reaction to airborne contaminants, so just because you are not experiencing ill health it doesn't mean there is not a problem.

Air Pollution: Air pollution, concerns for what we are breathing. The dirt / dust is visible on my windows, outdoor furniture and the buildup of dust inside my home even with my air purifiers is without a doubt of serious concern to my breathing and lung health. I have attached pictures of white siding around my windows. (I just cleaned them two weeks ago) I used to think that all the dust / dirt was from the farm [REDACTED] my house. Since the cattle all left in March of 2019 and the land is now leased and there is only equipment in the lane about two weeks a year. However, the dust / dirt around my home has not improved. During Spring, Summer and Fall (when I like to be outdoors) I need to wash everything weekly from the dust / dirt that I now know is from the truck traffic to / from the gravel pits that pass by my home. I now have no doubt this is directly related to my cough / phlegm issues. What contaminants are in this dust that we are breathing?

This is physical evidence of airborne particles. When I open the windows the dust particulates are transferred into my home and is present on the furniture, floors etc. Even with the windows closed there is excessive dust / dirt on everything.

This is substantially more than when I lived in Kitchener.

Noise Pollution: The noise of the trucks passing by all day makes it impossible to sit outdoors in the nice weather. Even sitting out back does not help and it is difficult to have conversation outdoors.

Water Pollution: So far my water tests have come back good.

Damage: Twice in one month a few years back, my windshield was cracked due to rocks from a truck I was driving behind on my way home. Before you ask, yes I was a safe distance behind the truck, at least 3-4 second distance. The recommended distance is 2 seconds. Per Ontario.ca Transportation Handbook *Always keep at least a two-second distance behind the vehicle in front of you. This gives you time to react if something happens ahead. It also gives you a better view of things in the road, such as potholes, slippery spots, chunks of tire tread or debris.*

My platform is an emotional one based on urban development planning and the health and safety impacts of my own family, neighbors and the future residents.

How do we want our community to be known i.e. for gravel pits or people, and our natural resources that are so precious.

As a member of one of the Wilmot Township committees; each meeting starts with the land acknowledgement where we state: The importance of The Dish with One Spoon Covenant - a peace agreement made between Indigenous nations before the Europeans arrived. It characterizes our collective responsibility to each other and Mother Earth - we should take only what we need, leave enough for others and keep the dish clean.

Let's try to be the best land stewards that is within our power.

In closing, I am a realist and understand that data talks and how easy it is to create charts and statistics that weigh in favor of those with deep pockets.

My ask of you all is to consider your decisions in partnership with the community Health and Safety, and to think about creative balanced solutions.

Thank you for taking the time to consider these very serious concerns. I love this community and living here.

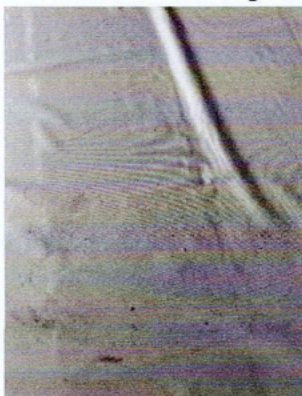
Sincerely,



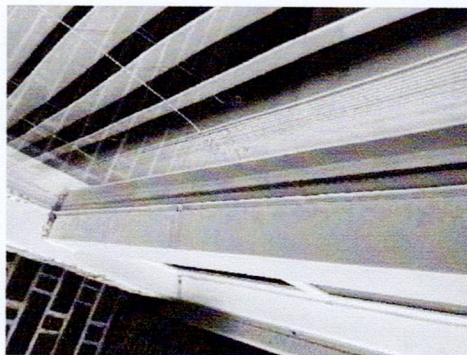
Petersburg, ON

Photos below;

Pic 01 – Table covering at rear of my home in covered protected area – this photo is two weeks after cleaning



Pic 02, 03, 04 Window ledge at front – this photo is two weeks after cleaning



Pic 05, 06 Patio Furniture at front – this photo is two weeks after cleaning / even the crevices, that now seems like a waste of my time.



[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Petersburg:

Week of Easter after significant waterfall, culvert full and flooded property. Well water discoloration and odor, currently in Lab and waiting. New windows covered in white dust/sand installed week of Easter, Tuesday May 16th and May 17th 2023 experiences sand storm, difficult to breath and work outdoors. All vehicles passing had dust all over and back up of traffic. Trucks come flying down and cannot hear conversations outdoors, fumes, asphalt plant/pit operations operations start aprox before 6am and stop 6/7pm. Outdoor stench. Black dust on front door [REDACTED] May 2022. Stock piles high and visible. CTV News Spencer Turcott video May 17th 2023.

BURNING OF EYES

[REDACTED] called and reported to MNRF Guelph to [REDACTED] Sept 13th 2022: odor, stock piles, black dust, dust, traffic before operation hours and noise of operations and hours of operations. Response from Officer no inspections done in recent years and would come to Petersburg.

Petersburg Regional Forest



PETERSBURG

Region of Waterloo

Regional Forest

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Municipality: | Wilmot |
| Location: | Pt. Lot 3, 4, COnc. N.S.R. |
| Access: | Via right-of-way at 1974 Snyder's Road East. Also via Hydro Right-of-way ("the Hydrocut") at the northern extreme of the property |
| General Location: | North side of Snyder's Road, east of Petersburg |
| Size: | 40.5 ha |
| Physiographic Area: | Waterloo Sandhills and outwash plains |
| Eco-region: | Wilmot |
| Associated ESPA(s): | 15 (St. Agatha Forest) |
| Date of Acquisition: | 1948 |
| Soils: | Loam and sandy loam |

General Description

Petersburg RF is part of ESPA 15 (St. Agatha Forest) and a Life Science ANSI of local significance. The tract has long been a popular recreation area for residents of the nearby cities, used for walking, skiing, hunting and other activities. Hunting is no longer permitted due to its increasing popularity as a recreational area for walkers, cyclists and horseback riders. Bush parties and the use of dirt bikes have caused some conflicts with neighbours in the past. Most recently, mountain bikers have making extensive use of the existing trail network as well as establishing a new trail network.

The northern region of the tract contains some high quality hard maples that can serve as a natural seed source for conversion of conifer plantations to hardwoods.

This area is an extremely valuable corridor for the movement of wildlife in the Region of Waterloo. It links to other natural areas such as Spongy Lake, Baden Hills and the Phillipsburg Floodplain Forest.

General Management Goals

Conversion of poor quality conifer plantations to mixed hardwood stands. Petersburg Regional Forest has become a very popular location for mountain biking and other recreational activities and management that allows for such pursuit will be a priority

Facilities

A small parking lot at the southern entrance via right-of-way at 1974 Snyder's Road East. Officially the tract has approximately 3 km of gravel road (0.7 km) and packed dirt track (2.4 km); however, there are several additional kilometres of "single track" bicycle trails that have become established over the past few years.

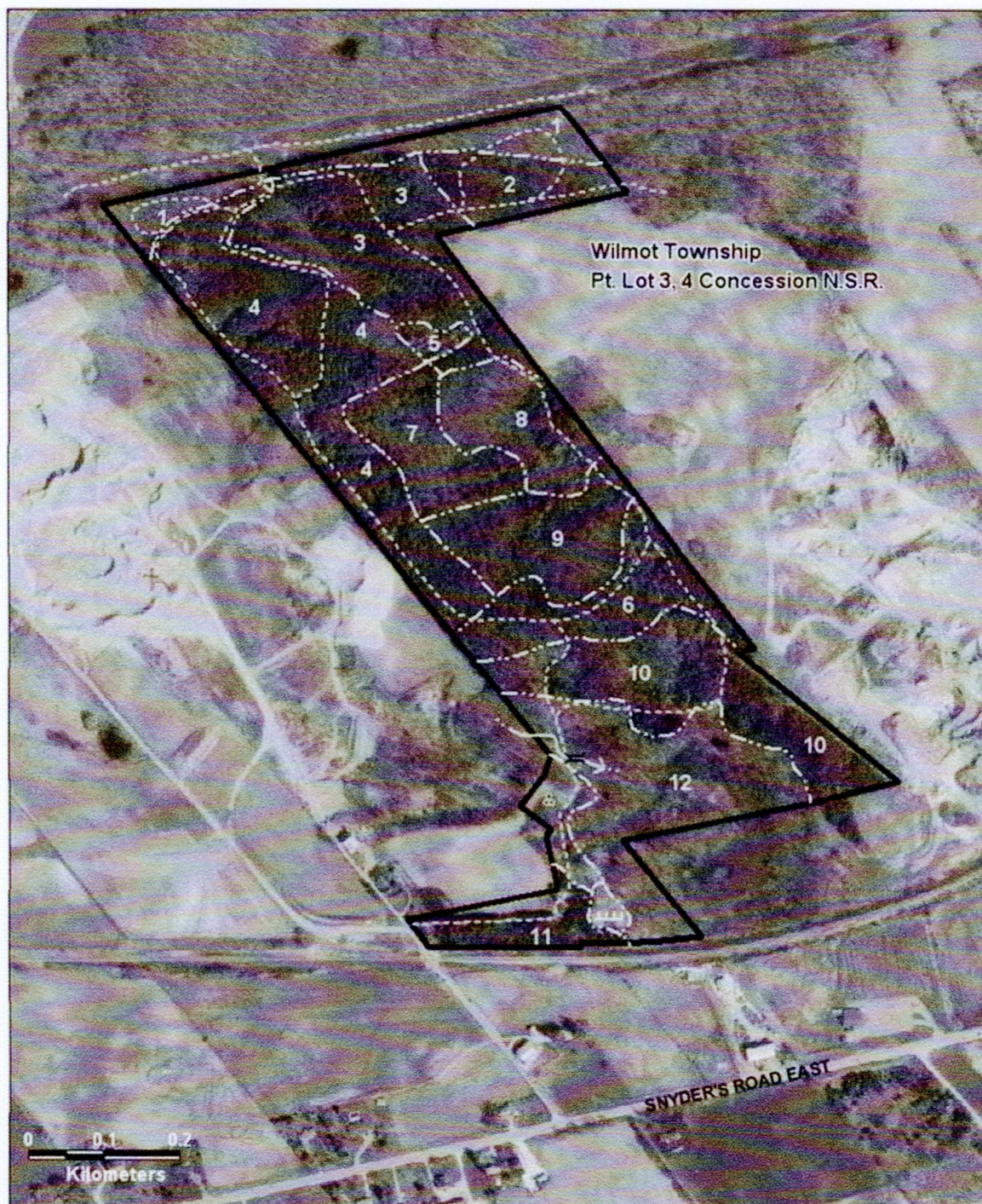
Petersburg Regional Forest

Special Considerations

ESPA designation of this tract and the high level of recreational use and the related impacts may be a conflict. Forest management activities have the potential to reduce the recreational value of this tract which may result in the recreational users to look elsewhere for their pursuits. In turn this may result in the degradation of other areas, which may well be of higher ecological and environmental value than the present day Petersburg.

At one time the wetland area in the southeast corner was of reasonably high quality with some unique species; however, a washout from the gravel pit to the east caused a massive quantity of sediment to be deposited in the wetland, significantly decreasing its value.

Petersburg Regional Forest



Scale: 1 to 6500

PETERSBURG (Regional Forest)

Area: 40.5 ha



Appendix B- Interim Control Bylaw Draft

An Interim Control Bylaw to control the use of land, buildings, or structures for the purpose of new Gravel Pits or Quarries on those lands within the Petersburg Area under Zoning Bylaw 2022-026, as amended, within the Town of Wilmot.

WHEREAS Section 38 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13, as amended, authorises the Council of a municipality to pass an Interim Control Bylaw, that may be in effect for up to one year, prohibiting the use of land, buildings or structures within the municipality or within the defined area thereof for such purposes as set out in the Bylaw, where the Council of the municipality has directed that a review or study be undertaken with respect to land use planning policies that apply to the subject area;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Wilmot has passed a Resolution directing that a land use study be undertaken to review the findings and recommendations of the XX [to be filled in] Aggregate Policy Review as well as XX [to be filled in] Rehabilitation Master Plan, and determine how to address those findings and recommendations in the Schedule 'A' to Zoning By-Law 83-38 as amended by By-law 2020-26 on August 24, 2020 as amended;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Wilmot seeks to control the establishment of new gravel pits and quarries until the Supplementary XX [to be filled in] Aggregate Resources Policy Study is completed;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Wilmot ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

General

1. The lands affected by this Interim Control Bylaw are all those lands within the Petersburg Area, Mineral Aggregate Resource Area as identified on Chapter 7, Map 9 [to be filled in] of the Town's Official Plan, excluding those properties zoned Extractive Industrial under Zoning Bylaw 2022-026, as amended, as shown on Schedule 'A' to Zoning By-Law 83-38 as amended by By-law 2020-26 on August 24, 2020 attached hereto (the "Study Area").
2. Notwithstanding any other bylaw to the contrary, no person shall, for the lands identified on Schedule X [to be filled in] attached hereto:
 - i. Use any land, building or structure for a Gravel Pit or a Quarry.
3. For the purposes of this bylaw the following definitions from Zoning By-Law 83-38 as amended by By-law 2020-26 on August 24, 2020 apply:
 - i. "Quarry" means a place where consolidated rock has been or is being removed by means of an open excavation to supply material for construction, industrial, or manufacturing purposes, but does not include a wayside quarry or open pit metal mine.
 - ii. Gravel Pit, "Pit" means a place where unconsolidated gravel, stone, sand, earth, clay, fill, mineral or other material is being or has been removed by means of an open excavation to supply material for construction, industrial or manufacturing purposes, but does not include a wayside pit.