

## **FORTERRA (now Meridian)**

Forterra have three major quarrying cells at their North Aldershot operation on King Road – the **West Cell and brick processing plant** (Yorkton Court - near North Service Road), the **Central Cell** (west of King Road and slightly north of North Service Road) and the newly proposed **East Cell** (adjacent to Westhaven Drive).

All three Cells of the Aldershot operation quarry for the shale / clay that is used in the manufacturing of brick. Shale and clay quarrying is not without its dangers, for example, in a recent article - Forterra (2016):

*“Manufacturing and mining sites can be inherently dangerous workplaces. Our sites often put our employees and others in close proximity with large pieces of mechanized equipment, moving vehicles, and manufacturing processes, and highly regulated materials and there is inherent risk of related liabilities in our operations”*

The West and Central Cells have operated for many years and are estimated to be approximately 700 meters and 1,500 meters respectively from the residential property line of Westhaven Drive in Tyandaga.

On the other hand, the proposed and contentious East Cell is considerably closer to Westhaven Drive and, in some places it is estimated to be about **30 meters** (or even less) from the Westhaven Drive property line.



**Keeping in mind the 30 meters mentioned above, we quote from another Forterra (2016) article:**

*“The Occupational Safety and Health Administration, or OSHA, published a final rule in March 2016 decreasing the levels of crystalline silica dust exposure to which workers can be exposed. This rule must be implemented by March 2018 and may require some of our manufacturing facilities to install new controls to reduce the levels of crystalline silica dust. Excessive, prolonged inhalation of very small-sized particles of crystalline silica has been associated with lung diseases, including silicosis...”*

**FACT** – Even Forterra admits that the “... *risk of environmental, health and safety liability is inherent in the operation of the Company’s businesses*” and that we are potentially exposed to *life-threatening particulate matter this is linked to lung cancer*. **This is VERY concerning especially since the possible adverse health ramifications seem to have been TOTALLY ignored or brushed aside by the City Council and the provincial politicians!**

