



July 10, 2017

Sent via e-mail to paul.heeney@ontario.ca

Paul Heeney
District Manager, Aurora District
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
50 Bloomington Rd, Aurora, ON L4G 0L8

Dear Mr. Heeney,

**Re: Meridian Brick East Aldershot Quarry, Licence #5500
1570 Yorkton, Burlington, ON
Request for Revised Studies for Aggregate Expansion**

Donnelly Law represents the Tyandaga Environmental Coalition Inc. (“TEC”), a not-for-profit corporation in Burlington, Ontario. TEC represents a number of Burlington residents and is actively involved in issues concerning Meridian Brick’s proposed expansion into the East Cell of its Aldershot Quarry in Burlington, Ontario.

News reports advise the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (“MNR”) recently ordered a temporary hold on Meridian Brick’s expansion plans, requiring site investigations for species at risk. Site investigations have been initiated. It appears the investigation was initiated after Dr. Jim Bogart (Professor Emeritus, University of Guelph) confirmed that tail clippings of five salamanders, found in the area by our client, were Jefferson dependent unisexual salamanders. Dr. Bogart also reported that a photograph of a salamander near the quarry site provided by TEC resembles an Allegheny mountain dusky salamander, a rare endangered species with only two small populations in Ontario.¹

¹ Liam Casey, “Endangered Salamanders Put Quarry on Hold as Residents Fight Against Project”, *Canadian Press* (24 May 2017), online: <http://www.theprovince.com/news/national/discovery+rare+salamanders+quarry+hold/13393686/story.html>.

On May 25, 2017, Meridian Brick hosted a community meeting in Burlington, Ontario, to provide the public with an update on its operations, plans and Ministry action. We understand MNRFB representatives were in attendance.

At the community meeting, Meridian indicated it was revising three technical studies for the proposed expansion: noise impact assessment, air impact assessment, and environmental impact study. Meridian also denied that the expansion is on hold, leaving residents concerned that over 7,000 trees will be cut down before the studies are complete.

Kindly confirm:

- (1) Whether your office has received or anticipates receiving the three above-referenced studies, and if so, when;
- (2) Who at the Province will review and provide comments on the three above-referenced studies, i.e. MNRFB or Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (“MOECC”);
- (3) Whether MNRFB will provide us with a copy of each of the studies; and
- (4) Whether any excavation is on hold, at least until the studies are reviewed and approved by MNRFB.

In addition, please provide us with copy of Meridian Brick’s current licence under the *Aggregate Resources Act*.²

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 416-572-0464, or by email to david@donnellylaw.ca, copying anne@donnellylaw.ca, should you have any questions or comments concerning this correspondence.

Yours truly,



David R. Donnelly

² RSO 1990, c A.8.