

February 6, 2018

sent via email: mark.tyler@ontario.ca

Mark Tyler
Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry
Senior Policy Advisor
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON M7A 1W3

Dear Mark,

MERIDIAN BRICK (NORTH ALDERSHOT) 1775 King Rd.
PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OF EAST QUARRY

As agreed during the meeting on January 25th, 2018 we present, herewith, several outstanding questions and concerns. In the spirit of the meeting we assume that this will be a back-and-forth dialogue and, as such, the answers may lead to the requirements for further clarifications.

Letter to Meridian Brick, Dec 28th, 2016

Dust deposition and air quality concerns are a significant issue for residents. In a letter to Meridian Brick, the quarry owners **over a year ago** TEC voiced its frustration at the lack of operational information provided. Information that we believe should have been in the public domain. Shale contains silica, a known carcinogen. Research has documented the risk from non-occupational exposure to airborne quarry dust on people residing adjacent to quarries and further away. The quarrying operation is a potential source of airborne particulate. We wanted answers to many questions and TEC, through a communication from our legal team Donnelly Law, asked the following questions:

- *Has there been ongoing air quality monitoring occurring on the west and central quarries?*
- *If so would the reports be disclosed since the public has a right to know what is being released into the neighbourhood?*
- *What, if any, monitoring is currently ongoing?*
 - *Advise regarding the methods and details of monitoring for current operations and future extraction of the East quarry?*
 - *Please include details on all monitoring equipment (make and model), monitoring locations (both on and off-site, up to one kilometre away), frequency of testing and chemical analysis for all monitoring locations?*
 - *Details on who undertakes sampling and analysis for all locations?*

So far there has been **NO RESPONSE**

January 25 Meeting

At the January 25th meeting attended by Minister McMahon, Mayor Goldring, Conservation Halton, Burlington Green, Councillor Craven, the MNRF, the MOECC, Meridian, and residents including the Tyandaga Environmental Coalition there was a discussion with respect to the many issues and concerns (on all sides) arising from the development of the East Cell of Meridian Brick's North Aldershot operation.

This quarry development is **alarmingly close** to the Tyandaga residential neighborhood and once again concerns of health, well-being, quality of life, environmental, etc. were clearly of major concern to the residents. Because of the limited timeframe the 'question and answer' period was relatively contained and as a result it was agreed to send a list of unanswered questions or follow on questions in writing to the MNRF for distribution to the appropriate parties for their response - timely answers to these questions was agreed. Attachment A – Questions of this letter is a list of questions. This list does not preclude the potential for additional questions.

We appreciate your attention to our request.

Regards,



Fran Fendelet
Co-Chair
Tyandaga Environmental Coalition Inc. (TEC)
email: tecburlington@gmail.com

copy to:

Chris Hyde (District Manager, MOECC)
Tracey Goodwin (Resources Operations Supervisor, Aurora District, MNRF)
Neil Hannigton (Issues and Project Coordinator, MOECC)

ATTACHMENT A - QUESTIONS

1. Is the MNRF wholly responsible for the oversight / monitoring of the North Aldershot quarry operation – noise, dust, license / operating compliance, endangered species, any release of industrial storm water into Indian Creek, etc.?
2. Of importance in both the dust and noise studies was the Meridian Operational Plan
 - a. Is there a legal obligation for Meridian to follow this Operational Plan or can Meridian totally ignore it with impunity if they stay within the Site Plan?
 - b. How will the MNRF ensure Meridians compliance to the Operational Plan?
3. Why do we need theoretical modelling studies when the Tyandaga Westhaven Drive subdivision is now a mature neighborhood – we can already hear the noise and see the pollutants from the central quarry which is ~750 meters away and the east quarry will be only be 35 - 50 meters away in some places? Under these circumstances we believe that a more definitive and accurate approach is appropriate – e.g. the use of sound simulators. Would the MNRF consider this option?
4. The original dust study used the same Operational Plan as the original noise study – an Operational Plan that has since dramatically changed. Dust has a similar behavioural pattern to noise and like noise would respond very differently to a change in the Operational Plan. Why was there no recommendation to have the dust study (like the noise study) reviewed?
5. How many times in the last 15 years, have the MNRF / MOECC site-visited the currently active Aldershot west and central quarries for ‘professional’ air quality and noise measurements? – can we have a copy of these reports?
6. How many times in the last 15 years have the MNRF / MOECC site-visited the currently active Aldershot west and central quarries to ensure compliance with the site license / Operational Plan / creek protection / chemical abnormalities / etc.? - Can we have a copy of these reports?
7. Is the Ministry aware that less than three (3) Kilometers directly to the north of the North Aldershot quarry the incidence of cancer is 30 times higher than the Ontario average? Could this be a result of the quarry?

8. If the MNRF is aware of this fact, have they ever performed an in-depth analysis to try to understand the cause? – if yes. please provide us with a copy. If the MNRF are not aware of this fact will they conduct an in-depth analysis?
9. We are not aware of any equivalent ‘Red: Alert’ cancer incidence studies in Burlington – do the MOECC / MNRF know of any studies? - if yes please provide the details!
10. Has the MNRF ever post-reviewed for accuracy ANY previous predictive modelling study (e.g. noise and dust) that was used in the aggregate approval process? If not why not, if yes please provide details!
11. Will there be noise and dust sensors to monitor the proposed east quarry operation? If so, how many and where will they be located, how will they be maintained, and who will monitor them? If not, why not?
12. If there is noise or dust non-compliance what are the residents’ recourse? What would be the anticipated timeframe for action by the MNRF?
13. The behavioral pattern of the salamanders is such that only meaningful data can be obtained during certain months. This data needs to be collected by INDEPENDENT specialists who need access to the site – will the MNRF enforce this requirement?
14. In the past, ‘suspect’ salamanders have been collected for review but in all cases our requests for a visit to confirm our suspicions have been ignored and the salamanders were, by necessity and in accordance with MNRF regulations, released. In future, will the MNRF respond timely to our requests