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Halton Hills' award-winning newspaper

Quarry proposal concerns well-users

By **LISA TALLYN**
Staff Writer

Water was the hot topic at a Public Information Session about a Limehouse quarry's plan to dig deeper for shale.

Approximately 25 area residents were at the recent session at Acton Arena and Community Centre to hear about the company's plans, many raising questions about how the deeper excavation will impact their wells.

Limehouse Clay Products Ltd., a subsidiary of JazBrick, has applied to the Ministry of Natural Resources for a site plan amendment under the Aggregate Resources Act to deepen a portion of its quarry on 22 Sideroad at Hwy. 7 by five metres.

James Parkin of MHBC Planning Urban Design & Landscape Architecture overseeing the application for the company, said the deepening of the quarry was needed because they were running out of shale reserves.

"Limehouse Clay would like to extract more material there rather than disturbing other parts of this property or having to license other sites in the province."

Parkin said currently water on the property flows across the site by gravity before it runs off the site.

"By having this excavation go

deeper, the water will collect, it will have to be pumped to a settling pond," said Parkin.

He said a hydrogeologist study has been done and they don't expect there to be an effect on neighbouring wells "because of the limited additional depth, it's an area in the middle of the site, and the type of rock the quarry is in."

"I don't see any potential for interference to any of the private wells, but Mother Nature has her own way of doing things," said Bill Clarke, hydrogeologist with MTE, hired by the company.

He said for that reason the company would like as much information as possible about private wells close to the quarry for a monitoring program. He said the practice on site would be to respond immediately to any shortages of water.

One woman asked what was the case if you don't have a well.

She said they had deeded access to spring water in a field near the quarry.

Clarke said that could be defined as a well, and it would be good for the company to come and document the spring.

A man asked about the pump that will be used in the quarry to pump water into the settling pond.

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Flipping out over pancake Tuesday

Pancake Factory head cook Jim Alexopoulos flips a bunch of pancakes at the Norval establishment Monday. There will be plenty of pancake flipping going on around town today (Tuesday) as Shrove Tuesday is celebrated at various churches with pancake suppers. For a list of locations see page 9.

Photo by Ted Brown

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