

Norval Quarry meeting attracts 50

Approximately 50 people came out to an open house on the Norval Quarry proposal in Brampton recently.

Brampton Brick Ltd. is proposing to re-zone 86 acres of land on the east side of Winston Churchill Blvd. north of Old Pine Crest Rd. (Brampton) from agricultural to mineral extraction for the quarry to extract shale. The rezoning application submitted by Brampton Brick Ltd. in 2008 was appealed by the company to the Ontario Municipal Board.

At the Open House the second round of peer review results on several areas were available and comments showed there were outstanding concerns in several areas. Some of the comments included:

- Natural Environment— inconsistent recognition of the overall zone of influence and uncertainties regarding operation and effectiveness of proposed surface water augmentation system in maintaining main tributary habitat

- Transportation— no comparative evaluation of alternative haul routes and intersections, only four of 14 intersections along the proposed haul route included in the operation analysis.

- Visual Impact— visual impact of stockpile, acoustic berm and sound attenuation wall/mitigation measures hasn't been addressed

—visual impacts of truck traffic and

headlights not evaluated in regard to two homes across from the quarry's proposed driveway access to Winston Churchill Blvd.

- Hydrogeology/Hydrology— no contingencies to address immediate or short-term impacts to the groundwater or surface water resources that could negatively affect the main tributary and local wetlands.

- concern regarding the effectiveness of the storage pond for temperature and water quality control

- Soil— no discussion on the ecological value and function of site soils

- soil quality before excavation not compared to soil quality after rehabilitation

- Noise— noise impacts from on-site operations may be higher than predicted at second-storey windows. There is potential for minor sound level excesses.

- The potential impact of the noise from off-site traffic hasn't been thoroughly investigated.

- Social Impact Assessment

- noise, dust and visual intrusion, as well as disruption during periods of construction and rehabilitation on the east side of Winston Churchill and Old Pinecrest Rd.

- potential loss of well water and consequent activities requiring monitoring and correcting related social impacts.

Brampton city staff is expected to prepare a recommendation report on the application and present it to council this year.


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