

Editor's Mail

# Town solicitor clarifies position on Readymix plant

Dear Editor,  
Mr. Harold Scott in his letter to the editor published in the Stouffville Tribune, Nov. 24 edition, included a significant amount of misinformation and some misleading discussion.

Mr. Scott states: \$400,000 was spent by the town to stop St. Mary's Cement. The truth is: \$35,000 was spent defending an interim control by-law attacked by St. Mary's Cement. St. Mary's alleged the town had no basis to stop St. Mary's Readymix plant. The court held St. Mary's was wrong and St. Mary's was forced to pay the town's legal costs. Approximately \$50,000 further in legal costs were spent to stop St. Mary's Cement from continuing the Readymix Plant prohibited by the bylaw. This matter is now under appeal.

Mr. Scott states: William Morrison, "the most knowledgeable and well respected hydro-

logist in Ontario personally studied" the impact of the Readymix plant on the Town's wells and that the results of the studies prove quite conclusively that St. Mary's batching operation will have no negative impact on the town's wells or water supplies. The truth is: a person named Andrew Taylor, and not Mr. Morrison, studied the impact for Mr. Morrison's firm, and that under oath, Mr. Morrison admitted that his firm did not study the impact of the Readymix Plant on the quality of the water in the town's wells; that he did not study the site personally, and that when his firm studied the site, its water draw reading equipment was not functioning properly.

Mr. Scott states: St. Mary's plant only uses 17,000 gallons of water a day and does not draw from the same aquifer as the town's wells. The truth is

St. Mary's has plans to substantially increase the size of the Readymix Plant and its draw of water. Mr. Morrison

admitted that he was merely speculating that the Readymix Plant and the town's wells did not draw from the same

aquifer. The Ministry of the Environment, in fact, has stated that the aquifer and the (Please see page 8)

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