

WADE AND NANCY MCNUTT
Lot 16, Con. 3, Mono
346077, R.R. #4
Orangeville, ON L9W 2Z1

April 16, 2011

Delivered by Hand

The Highland Companies
Box 377
Shelburne, ON L0N 1S0

Gentlemen:

Re: Melancthon Township and The Highland Companies – Proposed Large Quarry

Please accept this letter from the McNutt family as indicating a strong objection to the plan by The Highland Companies to create a quarry in Melancthon Township that is proposed to be approximately 2,400 acres in size. The McNutt family has lived in Dufferin County for many years and is aware of the surrounding areas, namely Mono, Melancthon, Amaranth, etc. These are all pristine areas that people have lived in for many years and that they value. It is a well known fact that Melancthon has some of the finest agricultural land in Ontario, possibly in all of Canada.

The Honeywood silt loam in Melancthon is well known for its high quality and capability to produce fine crops, not only potatoes, but many other crops. It is our understanding that much of this land will be destroyed for agricultural purposes with the proposed quarry being built.

There are a number of specific matters upon which we would kindly request more detailed information. We have had the opportunity of reading articles and documents put out by The Highland Companies, but there appears to be a lack of substantive information relating to a number of points. Assistance on these points is requested.

1. We live in proximity to Highway 10, and all members of the McNutt family use Highway 10 very frequently in order to drive south and north from the intersection of Highway 10 at Camilla. Anyone who uses Highway 10 is quite aware that it is already a very busy highway and that traffic can become extremely congested at the best of times.

It is our understanding that The Highland Companies, when they reach a more full level of production, contemplate approximately 7,200 large trucks travelling every day from the quarry to southern destinations in the Toronto area, and returning empty. This means that there would be possibly around 300 loaded trucks heading south from the quarry and approximately 300 empty trucks heading north back to the quarry every hour. Any knowledgeable person who has observed the traffic patterns on Highway 10 would be absolutely shocked that such an increase in traffic is contemplated by any person or

corporation. The issues of traffic safety and congestion are simply unimaginable with these kinds of numbers. Also, we are concerned and question the impact of such volumes of traffic on other locations in Melancthon, around Shelburne and the Orangeville area and further south. Please advise:

- What is the impact on residential areas?
- What is the impact on schools?
- What is the impact on traditional tourist areas that people travel on to reach locations such as Collingwood?

As well, being involved in transportation, I would also ask for detailed information on studies that have been done on potential greenhouse gas emissions emanating from such an increased volume of traffic.

Having reviewed the above issues, we are requesting detailed information to be provided to us in relation to the entire issue of trucking operations, volumes of traffic and greenhouse emissions. These are critical matters that will impact many thousands of people between the Township of Melancthon and the Toronto area.

2. We have read reports that The Highland Companies plan on a 24/7 basis, to forever "manage" 600 million litres of water a day, which is being managed and pumped by 16 pumps. This is an extremely high volume of water. What size are the pumps?

We would request to have more detailed information available on the studies that have been done in relation to the impact that the digging of a 200 ft. deep quarry will have on the aquifers in the Melancthon area and what impact the taking of such a volume of water will have in relation to the many surrounding farm areas and municipalities.

We would request detailed information on the studies that have been done in this regard.

3. From our basic knowledge of the Melancthon area and the headwaters which are located in this general area, we are aware that the Nottawasaga, Saugeen and Grand River watershed systems are all in this general area. What impact will this massive quarry have on the headwaters of the Nottawasaga, Saugeen and Grand Rivers? These are traditional waterways which have been in Dufferin County and flowing south for decades. What detailed studies have been conducted in order to satisfy the population of not only Dufferin County, but further southern destinations that such waterways will remain absolutely unaffected by what The Highland Companies are doing in relation to building this proposed quarry? Please advise.

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I trust, on behalf of the McNutt family, that we will be hearing back in relation to the concerns we have raised. Please be assured that as things have presently been portrayed, we are strongly opposed to this massive industrial enterprise taking over thousands of valuable agricultural acres in Melancthon Township. Also, of primary concern is the transportation issue which has been set out in more detail above.

Yours very truly,

Wade McNutt

Nancy McNutt

cc: Ministry of Natural Resources
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