

## Mega quarry will have an impact

Posted 5 days ago (July 29, 2011)

(Re: Melancthon Township mega quarry)

As an Ontario resident, I would like to express my deep and grave concerns with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources for entertaining the application of the Highlands Company for a proposed mega quarry in Melancthon Township.

If the company is approved for this project, the possible impacts on water, agriculture and disrupted life for residents of the township are very worrisome.

Also, as an avid angler of both the Nottawasaga and Pine rivers, I am concerned about the impact that diverting the natural flow of water will have on both the native fish species, such as brook trout, as well as affecting the spawning runs of migratory fish species such as steelhead trout and chinook salmon.

However, of greatest concern is the possible compromise of the quality and quantity of drinking water for so many of Ontario's residents.

As Canadians, we enjoy the luxury of clean drinking water every time we turn on the tap. This is a privilege that so many other countries in the world do not share.

Taking this resource for granted, which is a basic necessity of life, by disrupting the natural flow of water at a rate of 600 million litres of water per day at the headwaters of five river systems is simply unacceptable.

Due to the huge magnitude of Melancthon Township mega quarry project of both land mass and possible environmental impacts, I would urge the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to complete a full environmental assessment of the implications of the quarry in this sensitive headwaters area of Ontario.

Issues that should be taken into consideration are:

1. The possible compromise of clean drinking water for so many Ontario residents.
2. The impact that the quarry will have on migratory and resident fish population in the five affected rivers.
3. The obstruction of natural flow of water beneath the water table and above ground flow.
4. The effects of the planned 20 tonnes of explosives that the operation will use daily on both the environment and quality of life for residents of Melancthon Township.
5. The impact of destroying large tracks of prime nutrient rich agricultural land.

Kyle Sweezey Barrie

---

Copyright © 2011 The Barrie Examiner