Frank & Donna Jakowski
Calgary, Alberta, T3R 1C2
Email:

March 3, 2025

Laura Friend Manager, Board Reviews Natural Resources Conservation Board

Re: Scott Pit Project, Application

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to Natural Resources Conservation Board in respect to the Proposed Application for the Scott Pit Project. As residents who will be directly affected by this proposed application, we strongly oppose the application.

I am not a scientist or health expert so I am not able to discuss gravel dust or the effects on individuals. The science is out there in many publications and outlines the various hazards related to this aspect and I leave those issues to the experts.

I am able to discuss the noise and discomfort related to gravel operations. In 1996, we moved into our newly constructed house in the second phase of Citadel in NW Calgary. Unknown to us when we built our house or moved in that the Inland company operated a gravel extraction operation directly north of our residence and within 2 km of our house. The gravel operation is now known as Inland Recreational Park. This facility operated 24X7X365, gravel extraction and crushing. This activity made our first 5+ years in our house a nuisance until the gravel extraction ceased in year 6. While the extraction was operating it was impossible to leave our windows open in the evening for fresh air or heat reduction. When we tried to enjoy any activity in our yard, we had the constant noise of the gravel operation, both the machines and the beeping from trucks. It was very difficult to enjoy the outdoors in the summer with the noise that was a constant irritant.

We constructed and moved out of the city to our home in Bearspaw in 2003 to be removed from the city noise, lights and have a quieter life. Our house is directly West off of Range Road 25 from the proposed Scott gravel application. As we are retired, we enjoy going for quiet walks many times during the day or early evening, seeing the wildlife in our yard and on our walks and enjoying the serenity and darkness of the area. Our 22+ years in the area has been beneficial to our health, both mentality and physically. The area South, West and even North of the proposed operation is all residential acreage developments. All the residents that built and live in the area did it for the same reason, to leave the hustle and bustle of the city to enjoy a quiet country life and raise our kids and grandkids in a different environment.

When we looked for an area to build and live 22 +years ago, we purposely looked for an area away from industrial activity, heavy traffic and that was close to farming and ranching activity so that we could enjoy a quiet sanctuary. This proposed gravel operation will take this away from all the residents in this area.

It seems interesting and quite pre-emptive that Heidelberg has put this application forward now to the Natural Resources Conservation Board while the Rocky View County sets out and finalizes their Aggregate Plan for the Bearspaw area. If Rocky View County's Aggregate Plan was approved today it would severely limit Heidelberg's activity in this particular area considering the restrictions that will be imposed by the Rocky View County's plan.

This project is not in the public interest of the residents of Bearspaw directly affected by the application, it may benefit the residents and businesses of Calgary, but not us. I am pretty sure the residents of Calgary would not want this in their neighborhood or backyard.

The proposed operation will have a negative and detrimental impact on all the resident's property values for the homes anywhere near to this proposed operation. This is not a result that anyone that built and lives in the area wants or was expecting. I am sure many of the homes in our area are nest eggs for our families and children, which will absolutely be negatively impacted.

Specifically, my neighbors in Crestview Estates will be dramatically impacted by this gravel operation. The Crestview Estates residences have received their water from a well within the Estates for over 30+ years. The operation of the well and the effect on their water could and likely be negatively impacted by the gravel operation. These residences are directly East and North on the same piece of property. If the water well is affected by the operation, it would cost the residents of this development a significant amount of money to acquire water from the Rocky View Water Co-op. As a Board member of the Co-op, I know that it would initially cost each residence \$35k for a membership in the Co-op and likely around an additional \$10 to \$20 thousand to hook the residents into the Co-op's system. The impact on the property values, quality of life and possible financial impact will be quite negative, in fact some of the residences that are at the north end of the Estates may have a considerable issue selling their properties if this operation were allowed to proceed.

Heidelberg Materials Canada Limited has made 3 previous attempts over the past 20+ years and have been rejected each time the application has been made to Rocky View County. The only change in this application from the past 3 is they have removed the trucking of gravel to their other operation and inserted an ugly conveyor system. This above ground conveyor system will cross Burma Road, Rocky Ridge Road and 85th Street. So now not only will the area landscape be noisy but will now have this unsightly conveyor system for the next 20 to 30 years. The noise and dust of the gravel operation will still be a disturbance to our residential country life.

It appears to me that Heidelberg already believes this application for gravel extraction will be approved as the various property's that the proposed conveyor system will be on have already been surveyed and staked, and since there is no other applications or activities noted for the area, then I can only assume that they are preparing to go ahead.

I do not believe that we should allow a so called "Canadian" company owned and controlled by an international German company to be allowed to disturb the residents and wildlife in our area.

I understand the need for gravel and am very familiar with what lies underneath the proposed gravel operation area as we are able to grow rocks easily in our yard every year in our garden and lawn. This proposed operation is unfortunately in the wrong area and too close to residences. If the proposal was for an area of the property about a kilometer or 2 farther north of Burma Road it might be slightly more acceptable to some residents.

I would like to ask the board members of the Natural Resources Conservation Board if they would like to have a gravel extraction operation in their backyard?

The proposed Scott Pit gravel operation is not compatible with the area which is substantially residential. As stated at the start, we are opposed to the Scott Pit Project Application and ask that the 4th attempt to put this gravel operation in our residential area be denied.

Sincefiely

Frank J. Jakowski, CPA, CA

Donna Jakowski