

From: [REDACTED]
To: [+WPG725 - Clean Environment Commission](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Protect our Waters! - Opposed to the Silica Sand Extraction Project in Vivian, Manitoba.
Date: March 22, 2023 4:54:34 PM

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Hello members of the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission.

My name is Gilles Lessard, I am a French-Métis. My family has been hunting in Sandilands provincial park for generations, and I am strongly opposed to the Silica Sand Extraction Project in Vivian, Manitoba, as it has grave potential to greatly endanger multiple aquifers around the southeast of Manitoba.

- Mining has no place in a drinking aquifer!
- Why are we putting mining extraction ahead of the health of Manitoba citizens and it's drinking water? I oppose the Sio Silica mining operation in Vivian, MB and ask the CEC to deny the license.
- Why should we risk our drinking water on untried and undocumented mining procedures?
- The main purpose of frac sand mining is to facilitate further expansion of the fossil fuel industry in Canada. Hundreds of scientists around the world are urging that the fossil fuel industry must be scaled down (and not further propped up) if our planet is to avoid a warming of 1.5 degrees over pre-industrial levels. Manitobans, like people everywhere, are anxious about our futures and are demanding that real climate action be taken to protect our collective future.
- To maintain a livable planet, we urgently and rapidly need to transition away from fossil fuel use. Solar panels and batteries may be part of that transition, but if we destroy our water and land to produce them, what have we gained? I am strongly opposed to this project.
- Who will pay when a mining accident occurs and drinking water is contaminated? Manitoba citizens?
- We need to protect our environment! Clean drinking water needs to be protected. I oppose the Sio Silica mining operation in Vivian, MB and ask the CEC to deny the license.

Please reconsider the licensing of this land and the dangers it could cause to Manitobans, and most importantly Manitoba itself. We must protect our sacred Turtle Island.

Gilles Lessard