

From: [REDACTED]
To: [+WPG725 - Clean Environment Commission](#)
Subject: Vivian silica sand project
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Dear Commissioners,

Please register my objection to the Vivian Silica Sand Extraction Project.

The information available about this proposed project does not allow for a comprehensive environmental review for licensing. This is evident from the omissions and material deficiencies listed in the motions filed by Participants. To grant an Environment Act License to this project is not in the public interest.

The potential for noise and air quality impacts has not been adequately assessed, and the assessment of artificial light pollution has been ignored.

Trees will need clearing and loss of habitat will impact known species at risk. Wildlife will be disturbed by round-the-clock noise, which can result in negative impacts on the local ecosystem. Access roads are required for heavy machinery and truck traffic, impacting farmland and livestock. Mining operations will create continual distress and worry, will impinge on the enjoyment of our property, and can negatively impact our livelihoods and communities.

These wells will be perpetual sources of groundwater contamination. These wells will be on private property and will impact our property values, use, insurance, liabilities, and future development.

The effects of removing 1.36 million tonnes of silica sand per year from the aquifer were not assessed. There are significant concerns about subsidence and sinkholes developing as a result. Potential hydrogeological impacts from subsurface geotechnical failures of the shale aquitard were also not assessed.

Sterilization of injected process water into the aquifer is a major component pivotal to the project that should have been thoroughly proven prior to beginning the licensing process. It "remains at a conceptual stage" with no sufficient information available. This is a serious flaw in the project that is particularly distressing given the need to protect local and regional groundwater resources. This gives us as area residents no certainty that our water will remain safe.

Water is our most precious resource. The Carbonate and Sandstone aquifers are valued and should not be put at risk by the proposed project. These freshwater aquifers are critical drinking water sources for southern and Interlake regions and must be protected.

This proposal has attracted the attention of thousands of Manitobans who are opposed to putting aquifers at risk.

It is imperative that this government understand that putting the Land, Air, and Water at risk for corporate profit is unacceptable.

In light of my concerns, I urge the Commission to strongly recommend denying the licensing of the project.

Sincerely,

Chris Deley

