

Crocker, Peter

From: Anne Wowchuk <[REDACTED]>
Sent: March 12, 2023 1:00 PM
To: +WPG725 - Clean Environment Commission
Subject: Sio Silica Extraction Project

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Good day,

As a resident of Springfield who resides about 5 miles from this proposed site, I would like to share with you my opinion about this project. Unless our water can be protected 99.9%, then I am opposed to this project. When they were drilling on Centre Line Road (about 1.5 miles from me) our water from our outside tap turned brown. I contacted the company and they determined it was because we did not properly maintain our well. This did not occur prior to the drilling nor the following year. This did not give me much confidence in the company who expresses their concern of keeping our water safe.

Concern #1:

The aquifer: This new innovative technology is unproven. I do not believe that our clean drinking water (a source of life) should be "experimented" on with a plausible result of permanent contaminated water. Will the underground structure be able to withstand the amount of extraction or drilling they are planning to do? What will happen to the quality of water when they add oxygen and water back into the system?

Concern #2:

The voids underground: Whether it is years or decades, what effect is the underground voids going to have on the surface? Something needs to fill the void – it is nature.

Concern #3:

Credibility of the Company: What happened to the uncovered sand at Center Line? It was not shipped out by rail – there is no rail service there. Was it by truck? Sio Silica stat that they will not use truck to prevent air contamination from the Silica Sand. When I ask these types of question there are no answers provided. Other questions – access to the facility site? Access to the drilling sites? How are you going to transport the sand via pipe from the drill sites to the facility over or under Highway 302?

Concern #4:

Indigenous consultation: Sage is gathered in the vicinity of the facility and drilling areas. Have they been consulted appropriately?

There are too many unanswered questions and concerns about the extraction process and I an not confident that our water will be protected. Silica sand is usually open pit mined. Let's leave it to open pit mining. If the resource is not

available in the traditional method, then let nature keep it. Not all minerals and resources are able to be mined. I suggest that this is one as well.

Regards,

Anne Wowchuk
Ostenfeld, RM of Springfield

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