

February 9, 2023

Hello

I thought at these times while our earth is dying we/government would be taking care of the earth not killing it. We are seeing the RM of Springfield turning into an industrial park. There's a **Peat Plant** using way to much water, **Gravel pits** going too deep into the ground water source, a **Grain Elevator** that looks like it's having a rock concert the lights are so polluting, **Sio Silica** wanting to drill down to the aquifer and literally destroying the water that's suppling us in Springfield. It could reach as far as the White Shell and Lake Winnipeg.

I got a lovely letter from Feisal Somji the CEO of Sio Silica telling me that he is determined to make their mining very safe and to employ 300 people. These 300 are not environmentalists. They are minimum wage earners, overworked, 12-14 hour shifts, horrible working conditions. Accidents happen: spilled oil, fuel spill, litter, careless disposal of cigarettes,all contaminates ground water not to mention the toxic sludge from drilling. This operation is to run 24/7 I can see the terrible damage this will bring. 365 days!!! for years!!!!

Mr. Somji doesn't live in our area so he doesn't know how beautiful it is here and how many of the people who live here have kept it looking good and making sure things can grow and that the land can feed the animals wild and tame. We like the quiet. We like the dark.

We do not want our land cleared for mine sites, slurry lines, pumping noise, heavy machinery noise, industrial lights, smelly exhaust fumes all in 100m from homes. There will be no peace in our area. We will be left with destruction that will not be looked after when they go. We will be left with a contaminated aquifer, brown tap water, land that can not grow anything, no water for animals to drink from safely. Mr. Somji thinks this is an improved life. He is putting the water source for thousands of Manitobans at risk and it can not be reversed if he starts.

Technology is always changing and the inventors are going to have to figure out how to make solar panels and other cell phone items a different way. They have to figure it out without destroying a community. People want things and there are brilliant minds that can give us both a way to use the items and live in beautiful homes on beautiful land.

Mr. Somji is not going to take care of us. He will just turn his back once all the damage is done. Once our water and land is destroyed there will be no living here anymore. Good thing you don't live here, Mr. Somji, because your child will not be drinking clean water to keep her kidney healthy.

RM of Springfield is the gate way to the Whiteshell. Please save our water.

Barbara Simmons.

