



## **RDufferin Aggregates Community Liaison Committee (CLC) Meeting Minutes (Approved)**

### **Meeting Date, Time & Location**

Tuesday October 2, 2012, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Acton Quarry office, 12791 Churchill Road, Acton

### **Participants**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Norm Elliott	Local Neighbour
Norm Young	Local Neighbor – new member
Paul Vanhanen	Bruce Trail Conservancy
Enzo Bertucci	Dufferin Aggregates
Rob McDougall	Dufferin Aggregates
Patricia Diaz	Dufferin Aggregates

### **Regrets**

- Monica Gunn, Vision Advisory Committee (VAC)
- Ron Heller, Acton East Housing Corp.

### **CLC Facilitation and Support**

- Joanne Kearney, Smithcom
- Courtney Somers

### **Welcome**

Enzo began the meeting by introducing the Smithcom facilitation team, explaining their role and how, as a smaller company, can work with Holcim Canada's local operations facilitate communication with local communities.

Enzo updated the CLC on the departure of Andrea Bourrie and indicated going forward Enzo will continue to be the main contact at the Acton Quarry, along with Rob McDougall in operations and Bill Galloway from Holcim Canada corporate.

Norm Elliott asked whether Andrea will be replaced at the company?

- Enzo said her position is very difficult to replace. There is a search going on right now but we may not see it for a while. We are working internally to address her absence.

Joanne outlined Smithcom's role further and welcomed new ideas from the CLC moving forward.



Norm Elliott expressed surprise by the change in facilitation and with the departure of Andrea. He inquired about the changes so close to the expansion of the Acton Quarry.

- Enzo explained Smithcom was transitioned in the Spring and has no relation to the extension status. Enzo indicated Andrea made the personal decision to leave and seek a different career path.

Enzo mentioned that the company would like to reach out in the community in order invite new CLC members for the Acton Quarry and to get the information provided in the CLC meetings out to the community.

### **Minutes**

The June 11<sup>th</sup> CLC meeting minutes were not approved as this meeting did not have quorum. Minutes will be circulated via email for approval.

### **Operations Update**

Rob McDougall provided an update on the Acton Quarry events, discussing the Open House. He noted attendance wasn't as good as expected because of bad weather. There is also a *Together for the Communities* event that will happen this Friday (Oct. 5th) to plant about 400-500 trees and build a parking lot for the Bruce Trail.

Rob provided an update on Quarry production, and indicated it is entering its last 5 weeks of production prior to winter shut down. The operation will produce until the second week of November and then shut down. Production will resume April 1<sup>st</sup>. During down time, the site will be working on maintenance, sales and rehabilitation efforts.

Norm Elliott asked how many employees the operation currently has?

- 33 people work at the Acton operations

Paul Vanhanen asked what time tree plants start?

- It will be starting at 7am and the operation will have a mini bus transporting all employees

### **Acton Extension Update**

Enzo Bertucci presented an updated on the Acton Extension Application

- Quarry footprint has been revised with total tonnage reduction from 71 million tonnes to 50 million tonnes. Dufferin is giving land back within a protected area and proposing to construct ponds that will allow for the amphibians and potentially Jefferson Salamanders to thrive in the area.
- Revised plan was modified through the communication with both JART and members of the public as to their areas of concern.



- First half of 2012 was spent conducting one-on-one meetings with agencies on the topics of ecology, water, planning, process and legal agreements. Dufferin met in order to resolve some outstanding issues.
- The JART report, expected by end of 2012, has been postponed until the MNR position on the extension footprint has been received.
- MNR decision expected in October. MNR is reviewing a regulated area that Dufferin would like to extract from and will be deciding if Dufferin is able to get a permit to work in the area.
  - MNR is specifically reviewing Phase 5/6W and 7
- Once the MNR's decision is received, JART will be able to finalize their technical report, which will be used as a tool to help staff with recommendation to council. The outcome of the conditions is likely to lead to public meeting to address outstanding concerns.
- Enzo updated on the Halton Hills and Halton Region Public Meetings of last week, indicating Holcim presented about the Company and plans to working with the community.
  - 15 delegations at the Town meeting against the extension. 8 delegations at the Region.  
Concerns included:
    - Noise
    - Safety on the roads
    - Private wells
    - Blasting
- Enzo outlined what DFA is doing to address these concerns:
  - Private well issues – DFA will provide water and investigate the issue to establish if it was impacted by operation. If DFA is at fault, or in doubt, DFA will pay for all repairs.
  - Community Road Watch - working with the Halton police on ensuring the trucks are safe and following the rules of the road.
  - Blasting Beyond Compliance – operation looking at more effective ways to blast to minimize noise impact

Norm Young: asked for clarification on wells - will Dufferin fix the well or provide the water? Will the owner have to bare the cost?

- Dufferin will provide water within 24 hours and continue to do so until problem is identified
- If it's the quarry's fault, Dufferin will pay for it
- If it was not due to the operations, the owner will have to pay for the water
- If the investigation does not have clear conclusion, Dufferin will pay repairs.
- Rob explains that a lot of wells in the area are dug into shale so the well will eventually disintegrate within the well and will cause a lot of problems.
- Rob mentions that Norm Young's house on Highway 25 is in a good area and will likely not be affected by natural erosion.

Norm Young asked whether the extension will affect wells on Highway 25?

- Geological findings indicate not, but DFA will monitor the wells in the area to ensure that those wells are not affected
- Current monitoring in the extraction limit allows DFA to see the range of potential impact



Norm Young asked how deep will the extraction be? Are you going below the water table?

- About 100 feet
- Yes, the Quarry is already below water table and will continue to do so in extension area.

Norm Elliott asked how the \$300 million tax is calculated? (Number provided at Town public meeting)

- There is an 11 cent/tonne tax that all aggregate producers pay for material that leaves the site. A lot of this money is used to upgrade the roads in the area.
- The employees at the quarry and the company pay in income tax
- Its all the ripple effect of the operations of the quarry in the surrounding area
- We also pay property tax for the area and as we extract the tax rate significantly increases

Paul Vanhanen asked what about tax on the land that is being rehabilitated?

- We continue to pay tax at the extraction rate until license is handed over

Norm Elliott asked about the data collected by the Halton Police monitoring program.

- No data formerly collected. The police set up a sign to show the speed and would send a note to the owner with a picture of the truck/driver and their speed as a warning.

Norm Elliot explained that the main issue with the area is that residents are speeding, not the trucks leaving the Acton Quarry. From his personal observation, he has noticed that the truck speed issue is grossly exaggerated because it is really the residents in the area speeding.

Paul Vanhanen asked about any understanding whether it is dug wells or drill wells that are seeing the problems?

- That information can be provided by the MOE.
- What we have found is that there is a direct correlation between the well and the climate at that time. For instance, this summer was really dry whereas the year before was quite wet. It is based a lot on recharge.
- Homeowners also need to maintain there own wells and Dufferin has been able to help them with that.

Enzo explained there is perception that DFA is ignoring the concerns by 4<sup>th</sup> line residents about well impact. This is not the case. The MOE has done an analysis of the area and have documented that the quarry has nothing to do with those issues. Rather, the problems with the wells are due to the natural features of the area.

Norm Elliot asked if DFA brings a water tank to the property if there are any problems with getting water? How big are they?

- The tanks are about 1,500 gallons
- It is a large tank that is brought and we will continue to supply water until the issue is resolved.

Norm Elliot indicated that public comments tend to bring up criticism that can't be proven. Can the public receive information from the JART agencies so they appear independent and more credible? There is a credibility issue in the community and the public wants to hear from the agencies. Could you provide some reassurance that information is available to these agencies?

- There is definitely a need to get the public in the know of the issues.
- After our regional meeting, Dufferin realized that councilors had taken exception to the wells.
- Members of council asked for these report and DFA will be providing these reports.
  - Studies completed in 1997 and in 2007 and the findings were that the quarry had nothing to do with any of the 10 houses on 4<sup>th</sup> line having issue with their wells; impacted one and uncertain about the 12th.

Norm Elliott: Does JART give an overview to town and regional council that is a summary of the comments?

- JART will provide a technical review of application.
- It will not give a position but will either agree or disagree with what we have presented
- It will then be used as a tool for government agency decisions on the application

Enzo mentioned Norm Young's issue about building a garage, brought up at the Town public meeting. Enzo offered help to contact MNR to get relief on the area in order to move the process forward.

- Enzo explained Norm's area is within endangered species zone and therefore will need to get the proper exemptions first from MNR before going to the town for the permits.

Norm Elliot asked why the timeline is so long to review the application?

- There are many meetings that occur and positions to consider
- JART needs an additional three months to get their report together once MNR decision is offered
- Everything has been affected by an additional three months

Norm Young asked was there any opportunity for the community to receive notice of application?

- Yes, information was sent out to the community
- Copies of the application are available at the libraries in the area
- We were required to let the community know and make sure they are informed on the expansion

Enzo updated the CLC that POWER will be hosting a public meeting at the Roxy in Acton on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>.

- Enzo will attend meeting to answer any questions about the application
- Norm Elliot provided background on POWER, their role in fighting the Acton dump proposal
- Enzo indicated POWER has been clear that it will not support the extension application but hopes DFA can work with them to ensure concerns are addressed.

### **Next CLC Meetings Topics**

- Update of key areas of concern in context of current operation and extension:
  - Endangered species in the area
  - Private well issues
  - Rehabilitation



**Next CAP meeting date:** Tentatively Monday December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Adjournment