



## Concerned Residents Coalition

### Media Release

## JDCL Submits Hidden Quarry Application to Wellington County and Guelph Eramosa Township

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**December 8, 2016...**James Dick Construction Limited (JDCL) has re-opened the Hidden Quarry application for re-zoning. In November, the company began the process of applying to Wellington County (County) for an amendment to the Official Plan (OPA 81) permitting aggregate mining at the proposed Hidden Quarry site. At the same time, the company is re-applying to Guelph Eramosa Township for re-zoning of the proposed site. The Concerned Residents Coalition is busy preparing for another, future OMB Hearing on the application.

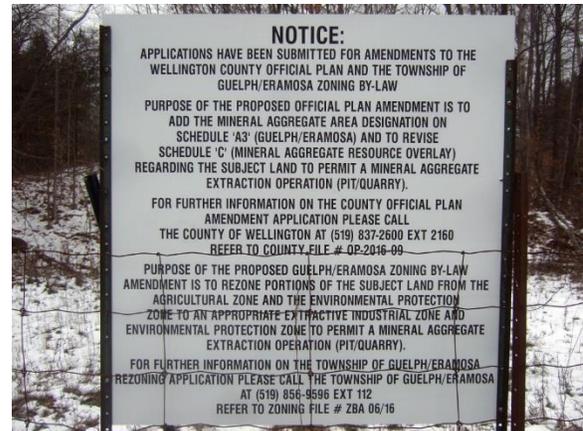
This first-time application to the County follows the decision by OMB Vice-Chair Steven Stefanko on October 13, 2016 to adjourn indefinitely the Hearing on the Hidden Quarry proposal after just one day of actual testimony. (The Hearing had been scheduled to run for 6 or 7 weeks this fall.) Because the JDCL application for re-zoning had been addressed to a Guelph Eramosa Township (GET) by-law which had been repealed and replaced in August 2016, it was determined by Co-Chair Stefanko that it was not within the OMB's jurisdiction to assess the application. For this reason JDCL is required to re-apply for the municipal zoning amendment under the new bylaw.

Since JDCL's original application there has been a major change in requirements for the zoning application. In 2012, when JDCL applied to re-zone the approximately 100-acre site on Highway 7 and 6<sup>th</sup> Line Eramosa just 1000 metres east of the Town of Rockwood, GET had the sole authority to approve a zoning change from agricultural to industrial (extractive). The revised Wellington County Official Plan, passed in 2015, now requires an amendment to the Official Plan to incorporate zoning changes.

Wellington County's OPA 81 has designated the property proposed for the Hidden Quarry as Greenlands, Core Greenlands and Prime Agricultural. The property also contains Significant Woodlands. The site is in the Galt-Paris Moraine. The new JDCL application must address OPA 81's detailed requirements relative to these designations.

The company's application for a licence under the Aggregate Resources Act is still valid and awaiting OMB assessment. It would be considered concurrently with the new zoning application if appealed by JDCL to the OMB.

The Concerned Residents Coalition (CRC) will continue to address the many serious issues which the possibility of aggregate mining below the water table in this location raises – including the many potentially





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negative impacts on water supply and quality, natural environment and community. CRC's concerns have been reinforced by the objections of Halton Region, Halton Hills, Milton and Guelph Eramosa Township.

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CRC website: [www.hiddenquarry.ca](http://www.hiddenquarry.ca)

### Hidden Quarry Application Chronology

**Fall 2012:** JDCL applies to Ministry of Natural Resources (MNRF) for licence to mine aggregate and applies to Guelph Eramosa Township for an amendment to the zoning of proposed site from Agricultural to Industrial (extractive).

**March 25, 2013:** GET holds public meeting to introduce project and to receive public reactions. Residents fill the hall to raise their concerns.

**April 2013 – ongoing:** Concerned Residents Coalition is formed. Dozens of residents submit letters of objection to MNRF, and give the first of what will become a series of 24 delegations to GET on all the issues over the next three years. CRC also meets with GRCA, MNRF and all local municipalities to present their concerns.

**June 2014:** CRC Rockwood Inc. is incorporated as non-profit.

**February 2015:** MNRF Application period complete – Confirmation of Objection letters submitted by residents and municipalities.

**May 2015:** JDCL appeals zoning and licence applications to the OMB.

**September 2015:** Milton Council votes unanimously to object to the Hidden Quarry application.

**November 9, 2015:** First OMB Pre-Hearing. CRC, Halton Region, Halton Hills and Guelph-Eramosa Township are Parties. More than 70 residents sign up as participants. Wellington Water Watchers signs up as participant.

**March 1, 2016:** Second OMB Pre-Hearing. Issues lists are presented to OMB by all Parties.

**May 5, 2016:** Third OMB Pre-Hearing - OMB Schedule set.

**June 27, 2016:** GET Council opposes Hidden Quarry re-zoning application but will present no expert witnesses at Hearing; also donates \$75,000 to CRC to support cost of expert witnesses. CRC supporters now number 1200+.

**July 25, 2016:** Milton Council unanimously endorses Halton Region's opposition to Hidden Quarry. The Town will be represented by Halton Region at the OMB.



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**August 25, 2016:** Milton Council unanimously approves a donation of \$10,000 to CRC to support cost of expert witnesses.

**September 27, 2016:** OMB Hearing begins with adjudicator Vice-Chair Stefan Stefanko. Mr. Stefanko hears overview of JDCL proposal before stopping proceedings to consider that the JDCL application was made under a bylaw repealed and replaced in August 2016.

**October 13, 2016:** OMB Hearing adjourned indefinitely, pending new re-zoning application from JDCL to GET and Wellington County.

**October 17, 2016:** Halton Hills donates \$15,000 to CRC.

**November 2016:** JDCL re-applies to GET and makes new application to Wellington County for re-zoning.