

Tuesday, July 2, 2024

Jessie Bramhill  
(Resident/Proposed Purchaser of 6005 3<sup>rd</sup> Line)  
6005 3<sup>rd</sup> Line, Palmerston

Questions and concerns regarding the proposed zoning amendment

## **NOISE**

At 6005 3<sup>rd</sup> Line, there is already a considerable amount of noise that comes from the grain elevators and dryers at the Horton Farm. That is agricultural and I understand and accept it as it relates to the farm usage. If a concrete plant operates on the other side of our property, we will have constant noise surrounding us from ALL angles.

Elevators and Dryers – trucks traffic, jake brakes, the dryer when it operates is all day/night. That is agricultural and required for operations.

Concrete Plant – trucks, back up beepers on trucks and equipment, operating equipment, horns. The increase in trucks when they have to start trucking in all material.

The road where the house fronts – truck traffic/road noise, jake brakes, horns.

With living in the country, you have a **reasonable expectation of privacy and peacefulness**. Add a concrete plant and truck traffic, this property will be no longer enjoyable.

Who will want to buy a place in the country when there is constant noise all around?

Who will compensate us when the property is sold for a lesser value?

I understand there has been discussions regarding hours of operation but that will only result in being quiet for certain hours.

How is someone to take holidays and enjoy their time off work? How is someone to retire and enjoy their country home? Are you to keep your windows closed all the time so you don't have to listen to it?

If the Concrete Plant is approved, the property will not be attractive to buyers looking for a residential property in the country. The current zoning will have to change to Industrial because who will buy it knowing it will be accompanied by noise, traffic and dust.

Council: Would you and your family want that?

## ENVIRONMENTAL/CONTAMINATION

Who monitors ready-mix concrete plants for contamination and water usage?

Is it common practice for concrete trucks to rinse their trucks out and just dump the water and contaminants on the ground? I have seen this practice at other concrete plants. More specifically, take a drive to Kraemer Concrete near Brunner. They dump their dirty contaminated water at the corner of their property near a ditch. Where will theirs be dumped? How will the water run off be controlled? How do you stop it from running downhill to the neighbouring farm and creek?

*What are the environmental impacts of a concrete batching plant? Water pollution is a significant concern associated with concrete batching plants. The operation of the plant can release contaminants into the soil and water resources, leading to pollution. Proper stormwater management and controlling runoff are crucial to minimize water pollution.*  
<https://gamzenindia.com>

With all the potential dust and pollution leaching from the plant to the water and the air, how does this affect the crops in neighbouring fields? Does it affect the yields produced? Does the value of the land being rented decrease?

As we all know, water runs downhill. Does it make sense to put a concrete plant at a higher elevation beside a home and creek?

What is their stormwater management and water run off plan? Perhaps a water treatment plant should be considered.

What happens when the well water becomes contaminated? The risk is there. I kindly ask for an answer orally and in writing.

What happens when the well goes dry? Who pays for that? The risk is there. I kindly ask for an answer orally and in writing.

If the concrete plant claims to use a particular amount of water per day, who monitors that? What happens when they expand?

How is the dust going to be controlled? The wind comes from the west and northwest the majority of the time. This will blanket everything at 6005 3<sup>rd</sup> line in dust and most importantly, silica dust.

If everything at 6005 3<sup>rd</sup> Line becomes coated in a layer of dust, what will get done? Who will take care of cleaning? How will it be prevented from happening again? Is this something that the landowner has to tolerate for the rest of their life?

What governing body controls and regulates the dust? Who do we contact when there is a problem? Is it the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' Spills Action Centre? **I will NOT be living with a coat of dust on everything.**

The site plan shows the proposed plant at the back of the property but how does everything get back there? Gravel driveway. Gravel becomes pulverized and turns into dust overtime. Contaminates will track on tires. What is their dust control plan? Spray it with something toxic and harmful to human health and the environment?

Who monitors air quality?

*Exposure to cement or concrete dust can cause nose and throat irritation. Long term exposure to concrete dust containing crystalline silica can lead to a disabling lung disease called silicosis. <https://jrvgroup.com>*

*How long does silica dust stay in the air? Even the air currents generated by someone walking by is enough to disturb silica dust, and once it's in the air, it can take up to four hours to settle again. During this time, it poses a considerable health risk, as even a small amount of respirable silica dust can be hazardous. <https://www.zehnder-cleanairsolutions.com>*

*Is it safe to live next to a concrete plant? Tiny bits of a mineral in the concrete's sand and other raw materials is known to cause cancer and silicosis, an incurable, fatal disease. **No one should have to live with any of this.** But too many concrete batch plants have ended up too close to people's homes, schools, parks and places of worship. <https://actionnetwork.org>*

*Living beside a concrete readymix plant. It's dusty, but they might not know that they're breathing one of the deadliest kinds of air pollution. Particulate matter is linked to serious health conditions, including reduced lung development in children, higher rates of asthma, bronchitis, heart disease and cancer. <https://onebreathhou.org>*

Take a drive to Kraemer Concrete and pull over on the gravel on side of the road. As you pull off the road, you will create a giant cloud of dust. Almost like a chalk dust. Take a look at the gravel. It is coated in a fine white dust. Can someone in the concrete industry explain in detail what this is and what it is from? More specifically, how this is safe? How do you plan to keep it contained to your area of business?

Would you and your family want live beside a concrete plant and breathe the air knowing the risks?

How much will my family be compensated when I become ill? Can you put a price on someone's life?

**If it is going to be argued that it is safe to live next to a concrete plant and breathe the air, we would like to see proof.**

## **TRAFFIC**

Does the Town of Minto have a maintenance plan in place to repair the road from damages caused by heavy trucks?

How will the Town of Minto manage the walking trail parking/traffic and keep people who use the trail safe from trucks passing by? Many people drive out to the 3<sup>rd</sup> line, park on the side of the road and use the trail.

What is preventing the business from expanding operations and increasing the truck traffic and noise?

## **5988 3<sup>rd</sup> Line**

**(Directly across from proposed concrete plant)**

This property is currently vacant farmland.

Who would want to build and develop right across from a concrete plant?

Having a concrete plant directly across the road is not a selling feature to someone who wants to build a house. Again, decrease in value of the property as it will only be attractive for farming purposes only.

## **CONCLUSION**

In my opinion, allowing for the zoning amendment will be life changing and detrimental to all of us for many reasons.

We, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Line have enjoyed this sideroad for many years. We take pride and maintain our properties and keep our road clean. If allowed to build a concrete plant, life on this sideroad will be ruined FOREVER.

I was told there is only approximately 2 years of material left in the pit. Why can this not be trucked out and return the property to farmland? Rather than make us 3<sup>rd</sup> Line residents put up with a life-long annoyance of a concrete plant and increased truck traffic to truck everything in that is needed. To me, it sounds like a cheap real estate deal where the vendors do not have to close the pit. Pass the problem to someone else.

Have they considered developing elsewhere in the Town of Minto such as the Industrial Park? With an Industrial Park, there is an expectation of noise and truck traffic. I am sure another location can be sought out in the Town of Minto where business can carry on and nobody will be disturbed.

I can withstand them trucking out the remaining materials knowing there is going to be an end to this but to live with noise, dust and traffic for the rest of our lives, no thanks.

Signed,

Disappointed 3<sup>rd</sup> Line Resident