

December 1, 2024

Mark Hage
11 Tom Allyn Court
Gales Ferry, CT 06335

Ledyard Planning and Zoning Commissioners
Liz Burdick, Ledyard Director Land Use & Planning
Ledyard, CT

Dear Commissioners and Ms. Burdick

I am respectfully writing in strong opposition to the Cashman/GFI proposed implementation of a quarry in the middle of our town, Gales Ferry.

I am concerned about the adverse health effects associated with both acute and chronic silica dust exposure. Exposure to silica is known to cause a range of health complications including but not limited to cough, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, silicosis, along with being a known carcinogen. Silica is classified by the Department of Human and Health Services and the International Agency for Research on Cancer as a known human carcinogen. These health concerns are shared among my family and I'm certain are shared among my fellow neighbors across the Gales Ferry / Ledyard community.

The proposed quarry implementation will inherently limit our ability to enjoy outdoor activities knowing that we run the risk of silica exposure. This is an unnecessary health risk to all our residents. I always encourage my children to play outside and enjoy the seasonal weather we get to experience here in southeast CT, but this proposed quarry blasting will impact their ability to enjoy the outdoors in fear of potential silica exposure.

In addition, I am concerned that this proposed blasting will impact residential property values. The purchase of a home was an important investment for my family. This proposed blasting will undoubtedly have us reconsider our want to live in Gales Ferry and I fear will prevent future potential buyers from wanting to become residents in our wonderful community.

In closing, my hope is that our town will deny the special permit to quarry, and all residents can put this concern behind them. I would urge the town to evaluate other opportunities for development that don't jeopardize the health of its residents or the environment.

Thank you!

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