

Testimony of United Methodist Church of Gales Ferry, CT
ICO Application PZ#24-8SUP & PZ#24-9CAM – 1737 & 1761 Connecticut Route 12, Gales Ferry
Intermodal, LLC, Applicant
Dated November 13, 2024

We present the following concerns regarding the Special Permit application made by Cashman Dredging:

- Foundation Concern - We request information of who is performing the pre-blast survey to ensure surrounding buildings (such as church / attached childcare center) are in good standing and not at risk of structural damage as a result of the blasting, as well as to obtain a copy of the result. We are concerned as to the harm the vibrations may cause in the buildings as well as the surrounding rock cliffs on our property.
- Traffic impacts – our property is on Chapman Lane, which is a tricky road to get out of as we are not on a light. We are concerned the increase of truck traffic that will be directed past our road will cause increased risk to our childcare attendees during drop off and pick up, as well as our church members during the week.
- Dust is a major concern for our Child Care Center. We have a playground on site, and as of right now air quality is not listed to be monitored on the southern end of the blasting site. We request this be amended.
- Noise Concern – How will the noise levels be impacted on our side of the blasting property? During the week, our Child Care Center cares for children as young as infants. Noise is a major factor regarding their health.
- Power Lines – Between our property and the blasting site are Eversource power lines. Can evidence be shown that Cashman has had the proper communications with Eversource to ensure blasting will not compromise the towers, and in direct relation the power source to our church.
- Radon testing – we request Cashman doing periodic radon testing to ensure local water sources are safe, as well to monitor if radon may be released which could leak into our foundations. Currently the procedures only note pre-blast survey testing of water.
- Historical site concern – between our property and the blasting site is Fort Decatur. As this is a significant historical site for our town, we are concerned about preserving its integrity. Upon digging/blasting, if something of historical significance is found, what will be Cashman’s procedures to further investigate and potentially halt in that area.

We thank you for taking our concerns into consideration during this permit application process. We look forward to working with Cashman to ensure the safety and health of our members/children and do propose that a possible relocation of the intended blasting site and/or increased safety measures be taken.

Thank you,

Trustees
United Methodist Church of Gales Ferry
10 Chapman Ln