

December 7th, 2024

Christopher Jelden
3 Whalehead Drive
Gales Ferry, CT 06335

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

Dear Commissioners and Ms. Burdick,

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

Specifically I am concerned on how the ongoing work will affect my two young children who we are raising in our home nearby the proposed site, who go to school just down the street and participate in town sports in the area. I grew up in Mystic, CT and once I began a family I chose Ledyard due to it's proximity to my work at Electric Boat, our extended family and the reputation of the town. Growing up Ledyard was the town next door in the woods. The town with the agricultural program. When my friends and I wanted to go on hikes we went to Ledyard. We teased that those from the town lived "in the sticks".

Now those same qualities are what drew me to move here and raise my children here. As a life long asthmatic I have great concerns about the damage to the air quality in our town. I do not hold any specific background in quarries, land and air management or the like. But I do believe any reasonable person would assume ... the area nearby an active quarry will result in poorer air quality. A few searches online immediately find results of towns dealing with the resulting issues. None of this even touches on the numerous other issues which I am sure have been raised by others: increased traffic on Route 12, noise pollution from the work, destruction of a wooded area frequented by many. I am not by nature opposed to development, bringing in businesses to help our community in terms of jobs and taxes paid. But it appears that this is a Win/Lose situation where the citizens of Gales Ferry and Ledyard lose all for someone else's profit with the only benefit to our town being a decrease in quality of life.

Please refer to the numerous other residents with far more detailed and nuanced understanding of home values, air quality, health risks, environmental and financial concerns. Please decline this proposal and ensure we keep Ledyard beautiful for our Children to grow and eventually live in.

Thank you for your time.

Christopher Jelden