

Anna Wynn

From: Elizabeth Burdick
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2024 7:43 AM
To: Anna Wynn
Subject: FW: Letter of Opposition

Anna, Please save the below email from Cristy Lied as a public comment exhibit. Thanks.

Regards,

Liz Burdick

Director of Land Use & Planning

Town of Ledyard

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway, Ledyard, CT 06339

Telephone: (860) 464-3215 ~ Email: planner@ledyardct.org

TOWN HALL HOURS: MON-THURS, 7:30AM – 4:45PM

From: CRISTY Lied <liedytoo@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2024 7:18 AM
To: Elizabeth Burdick <planner@ledyardct.org>
Subject: Letter of Opposition

Cristy Lied
2A Robin Hood Dr
Gales Ferry, CT. 06335
12/18/2024

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

Dear Commissioners and Ms. Burdick,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Cashman/GFI quarry project in Gales Ferry. This project poses significant threats to the health, safety, and overall well-being of our community and will irreparably harm the quality of life for residents.

Health and Environmental Concerns

Quarries are known to release harmful particulates such as silica dust into the air, which can cause severe respiratory issues, including asthma, bronchitis, and even silicosis. Prolonged exposure has also been linked to increased risks of cancer. This danger is particularly acute for vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and individuals with pre-existing health conditions.

The increased truck traffic and machinery operation will further degrade air quality by emitting diesel exhaust and greenhouse gases. Noise pollution from blasting, hauling, and crushing will disrupt the peace and quiet of our town, impacting mental health and sleep quality for residents.

Moreover, quarries often disrupt natural water systems. There is a high likelihood of contamination of local groundwater and nearby streams due to runoff containing sediment, heavy metals, and chemicals used in the quarrying process. This contamination could endanger local wildlife and our community's drinking water supply.

Decreased Property Values

The introduction of a quarry will undoubtedly lead to a significant decline in property values throughout the area. Homebuyers are less likely to invest in properties near a quarry due to concerns about noise, dust, and heavy truck traffic. Studies consistently show that properties located near quarries suffer value declines of 20% or more. This loss in value affects not only individual homeowners but also the town's overall tax base, reducing funds available for schools, public safety, and infrastructure.

Irreversible Damage to Our Community

The construction of a quarry undermines the very fabric of our town, which is built on the principles of community, safety, and sustainability. Once operational, the quarry will create an industrial zone that is incompatible with the rural or residential nature of our town. The scars it leaves on the environment and our community will outlast its economic benefits, which are short-lived and disproportionately favor the quarry operators over local residents.

Call to Action

I urge you to reject this proposal in the strongest possible terms. Allowing a quarry in our town prioritizes corporate profits over the health, safety, and long-term prosperity of our community. Instead of destroying our environment and degrading our quality of life, we should focus on sustainable development initiatives that enhance, rather than diminish, the livability of our town.

Please act in the best interest of your constituents and ensure this project does not move forward.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Cristy Lied

cristyried@icloud.com

860-381-9055