

May 17, 2022

To: ZLR Committee, County of Dane

From: Maureen Rowe, 798 Center Rd., Town of Rutland

RE: CUP application #2022-02563 (Quarry)

I oppose the Conditional Use Permit for the quarry because the application has not satisfied the 8 Standards. Specifically, Standard #7 is not met, which requires compatibility with the Town's existing Comprehensive Plan.

I urge to only make your decision on Standard #7 after you have read the Town's Plan. You must not approve the CUP if the applicant does not meet the standard.

Despite the application's brief statement that "it is consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Plan", absolutely no specifics are provided to support that claim. It is clear the new quarry is NOT consistent with the existing Rutland Town Comprehensive Plan. Here are some examples:

1. *Town Plan Page 2.3 regarding Goal 2 Transportation: One of the goals is "Reduce the amount of non-local traffic passing through residential areas".*
Please tell me how expanding the quarry operation to 4 times the existing size, and running the trucks down Center Rd (a residential road) meets this goal. The application lists no traffic study and is silent as to the increased truck traffic volume. It will certainly increase the potential for traffic and pedestrian accidents.

2. *Town Plan Page 2.5 regarding Goal 6 Agricultural Preservation District. The Plan's stated goals are*
 1. *Preserve existing farm operations.*
 2. *Permit development that enhances the growth of agriculture in the Town.*
 3. *Preserve the rural character of the Town.*

I believe converting nearly forty acres of prime farmland (currently zoned FP-35) into a commercial extraction operation for the next 85 years runs counter to the stated goal of "preserving farmland". The application does not address how its operation will "preserve farmland". It merely says the site will be converted back to farmland after extraction. This is likely to take 85, or maybe 100 years. We note the existing quarry has been operating since 1937 and is still not reclaimed.

3. *Town Plan Page 2.10 regarding Economic Development. Quote: "In agricultural areas of the Town allow related commercial uses only if a rural location is required to serve farmers". And "To limit any non-agricultural commercial or recreational use to small, rural-oriented businesses which provide services needed by residents of the town. Such uses must meet the following criteria prior to zoning approval: a. Be consistent with agricultural policies for farmland preservation. b. Have*

access to a state or county highway. c. Shall not adversely affect the traffic capacity and safety of the highway". **Approval of this new quarry runs counter to the stated goals of the Town's Plan. The application does not address how its operation will "serve farmers" or "provide services needed by the town residents". There are many other quarries nearby, so this quarry does not provide a service needed by the residents**

Three other items listed in the Plan are important to note:

Page 3.7 Quarries or extractive operations are not listed in the list of "desirable activities"

Map 5-1, 5-2 The site is identified as "Prime Farmland" and as "Agricultural Preservation"

Map 6-2, 6-3 Center Rd is identified a future bike route ... as well as a future scenic "Rustic Road"

None of the above items are addressed adequately in the CUP application.

I again urge you to read the Town Plan, and compare the Plan to the CUP application. They have not met Standard #7.

Maureen Rowe