

To the Dane County ZLR:

I am writing this note out of desperation. I am a long-time resident of Rutland Township living on Center Rd. For two years residents have been fighting to prevent a new quarry from opening on the south end of Center Rd. Many of us have done extensive research on the Town and Dane County guidelines regarding quarries. Last year your Committee ignored those standards without any explanation and approved the CUP. At that meeting facts were ignored and false information was presented by county officials.

- Supervisor McGinnity reported that at the town's CUP hearing where citizens were allowed to speak, the attendees were balanced between those opposed to the new quarry and those in support. This is false. 47 Rutland resident spoke or registered in opposition. There were 16 supporters, most of whom were not from Rutland Township, but rather business partners of the quarry operator. This can be substantiated in Town records.
- Roger Lane reported that all five town supervisors wrote letters of support to the county. This is false. One supervisor wrote in support –other letters were from Planning Commission members, an advisory committee. One supervisor wrote in opposition. This misstatement may have influenced the Committee's decision to approve it rather than send it back to the Town for action.

The ZLR Committee went on to approve the proposed CUP without addressing any of the issues raised by residents of Rutland. Residents had provided substantial evidence that the application did not meet the standards. The Committee provided no discussion of how the quarry was meeting the 8 standards. There was no discussion of the set of conditions requested by town residents. With the other CUPs on the agenda that night, town conditions were discussed and applied, but not this one.

This new quarry proposal was presented to the township in 2020 and it was overwhelmingly turned down by the Town Board, and no action was taken by the County. Since that time some of the Town supervisors have moved on and a new Chair has taken over. She has openly supported the quarry owner, even placing a large campaign sign supporting him for an open supervisor seat in her yard. Our township supervisors chose not to take action on the application and passed it to the county. Now with only minor variation from the original application, the CUP has been resubmitted.

I was disappointed and shocked at how the ZLR committee seemingly disregarded residents' concerns and especially with no clarification on why they overlooked their own guidelines. I understand that the quarry industry is well organized and successfully intimidates local town and county officials. What I do not understand is why residents who individually pay far higher taxes than the quarry operators are ignored. Our neighborhood is a blend of residential and agricultural property. It is quickly becoming more residential. Permitting an industrial site like a new quarry operation to start up in this neighborhood is inappropriate and it makes no economic sense for the town or the

county. Residential property creates far more revenue for the county, does far less damage to our roads and promotes future economic growth.

Thank you for your consideration.

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