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From: Barbara Stinson <barbarastinson@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 12:35 PM
To: Planning & Development <plandev@countyofdane.com>
Cc: Barbara Stinson <barbarastinson@mac.com>
Subject: CUP 02584

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RE: CUP 02584-Non-metallic mineral extraction operation, temporary concrete batch plant, and temporary asphalt plant. I am writing to give comments about the public hearing on March 28, 2023 regarding CUP 02584. I oppose Tri-County's proposal requesting approval to set up mining operations in the Town of Dane. I raise small ruminants on a 5.3 acre hobby farm located directly on State Road 113 in the Town of Dane.

I am opposed to this project based on safety concerns, environmental impact, and quality of life impact.

Safety: Many of the town's rural roads including Bonetti Road are already dangerous even in optimal weather conditions. In almost 9 years of living at this residence, I have witnessed minor fender benders and cars in the ditch and have had to upright my mailbox due to a direct hit with a motor vehicle. State Road 113 is a major state road that is fairly wide with decent shoulders and should be well maintained to support significant truck traffic. The proposed route to the quarry is not wide and is hilly and has a high speed limit and will certainly be hazardous for residents entering and leaving their properties. Road conditions and traffic volume promote erratic driving well known to me as my property is at the crest of a hill where there are central lines, which to drivers translates as the area to speed up to pass other vehicles. This project will increase the already heavy volume of truck traffic in this rural area that is home to many generations of family farms and families with small children.

Environmental Impact: The Lodi Marsh is among the well known nature preserves where the ecosystem will likely be disturbed by a changing air quality and the excess noise expected secondary to truck traffic and any blasting/drilling associated with the quarry. Even outside the defined nature preserves, the abundance of wildlife is always noted, for example as seen during spring bird migrations when the sand cranes and other notable species of birds such as Canadian geese nest in the empty corn fields and brush. Other wildlife such as small mammals that are currently abundant in this stable ecosystem would likely disappear completely for lack of suitable shelter and food. The area of the quarry would

be devoid of vegetation that currently supports human life via processes such as photosynthesis that decrease air pollution.

Quality of Life Impact: The Town of Dane is a rural area with significant farmland. Many of the existing farms are managed by aging farmers who chose to maintain this lifestyle and keep the property as a family farm. This project potentially is detrimental to human health by addition of dust and other respiratory pollutants. Elevated noise levels as from the blasting and potentially increased truck traffic are known to be associated with hearing loss in humans. Excess dust and elevated noise levels would likely disrupt livestock interfering with reproduction, milk production, normal grazing patterns, and would contribute to respiratory disease. Geographically, this is an area of high winds which translates to diffuse spread of any airborne particles as incurred in the quarrying process. Debris from the project along with changes in ground water would undoubtedly affect the wells which are the water source for humans, animals, and plants. Presence of the quarry would definitely contribute to the loss of the current rural character of the Town of Dane and would incidentally deter persons from out of the area such as the cyclists and walkers who currently traverse the small friendly roads.

Recommendations: At the very least, a formal proposal should include environmental impact epidemiology studies (with emphasis on all living systems, particularly human life), either prospective (preferred and project specific), or retrospective matched to similar projects (cohort similar, may be ongoing studies). These efforts need to be available for public view and comment in sufficient time for the public to understand the implications of the proposed project. Alternately, expert testimony, (either written or verbal), should be sought and publicized at any meetings that are held in connection with this project. Impartial expert comment should be sought (not limited to but as similar to OSHA experts in the workplace, medical personnel familiar with respiratory disease, livestock veterinarians who routinely assess animal health, conservationists that have knowledge specific to wetland and marsh habitats and plant ecosystems).