



January 8, 2019

Town of Deerfield Town Board c/o Clerk
838 London Road
Deerfield, Wisconsin 53531

Re: Support for the Oak Park Quarry CUP renewal application

Dear Town Board Members,

No one should have to navigate complicated quarry requirements, licenses, permits and public hearings alone while simultaneously grieving the loss of a loved one that died too soon. This was exactly the position Rachael Halverson was in when we were first introduced by a mutual friend a little over a year ago.

My name is Susan Courter; I am a geologist committed to designing health, safety and environmental protections for nonmetallic mining sites for more than 25 years. My experience includes service on a number of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) subcommittees for environmental protection, including the privilege to serve with colleagues from the Wisconsin Towns Association, Wisconsin Counties Association, the Sierra Club, academia, and a variety of professionals in the resources sector as an appointed member of the Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Advisory Committee.

I worked alongside Rachael and her dedicated staff to understand and apply best practices to the operations at the Oak Park Quarry over the last year. Their renewal application is thoughtful and addresses all concerns; but you don't have to believe me—it has been reviewed and endorsed by more than fifty technical, licensed and/or accredited specialists—most who are top in their field. As an added protection, a community response program has been developed to catalog, independently investigate, and respond to any actual or perceived concerns in a timely and orderly fashion.

People who know me best will tell you I am passionate about building vibrant communities. Often, when townships are faced with opposing views, conversations erode into public disputes punctuated by us vs. them—a dialog that, if perpetuated, negatively impacts a small community's social and economic well-being. For this reason, I challenge you to facilitate a positive conversation toward mutually-beneficial outcomes for all interested groups, including the successful operation of the Oak Park Quarry through your approval of its CUP renewal application on January 14, 2019.

Thank you kindly for your consideration.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Susan Courter'.

Susan Courter, P.G.
Owner, Courter Resource Group

Cc: Dane County Zoning and Land Regulation Committee c/o Staff, Dane County Planning and Development