



March 21, 2022

Sent via E-Mail: aretha.adams@peelregion.ca

Aretha Adams, Deputy Clerk and Acting Director of Administration
Region of Peel
10 Peel Center Drive
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9

RECEIVED
March 22, 2022
REGION OF PEEL
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Ms. Adams,

RE: SUPPORT FOR NOTICE OF MOTION – AGGREGATE RESOURCES ACT LICENSE MORATORIUM

I am writing to advise that at the Special Town Council meeting held on March 21, 2022, Council adopted the following resolutions supporting the Notice of Motion regarding Aggregate Resources Act License Moratorium, published on the Regional Council Meeting Agenda for March 24, 2022.

The resolutions read as follows:

That the Town of Caledon support the following motion that is being considered by Regional Council at a Regional Council meeting on March 24:

Whereas Ontario currently has over 5000 Aggregate Resources Act [ARA] licenced pits and quarries located throughout the province that are able to meet the expected near and mid-term needs of Ontario's construction industry;

And whereas, there are 23 ARA Licensed pits and quarries with a total area of 1844 hectares in the Town of Caledon;

And whereas, ARA License applications continue to be submitted without a definitive determination if there is a need for additional supply;

And whereas, gravel pits and quarries cause the permanent destruction of natural environments, habitats and the countryside;

And whereas, there are no sunset rules for ARA License strip mines leading to mines lasting over seventy years in Caledon with no viable end land uses resulting from a mine;

And whereas, pits and quarries are classed as Major Facilities in the Provincial Policy Statements, 1.2.6 Land Use Compatibility, and have significant adverse effects on adjacent lands in terms of noise, air pollution, and truck haul routes;

And whereas, despite strip mining being heavy industry, the mines are assessed at a reduced agricultural rate;

And whereas, the urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to combat climate change has brought awareness to the very high carbon footprint associated with the production of concrete and asphalt which are major end-users of aggregates;

*And whereas, there is an obligation to consult with First Nations peoples regarding the impacts of quarries on treaty lands and a responsibility to address those impacts;
Therefore be it resolved, that the Ontario government be requested to impose an immediate temporary moratorium on all new gravel mining applications pending the formation of an independent panel to conduct a*

broad consultation process including with First Nations, affected municipalities, independent experts and scientists to chart a new path forward for gravel mining in Ontario which:

- *Establishes criteria and processes for determining the need for new gravel licences;*
- *Establishes updated policies and conditions for gravel mining below the water table to reflect current groundwater science;*
- *Develop new policies for aggregate re-use in urban areas in order to reduce the need for new aggregate licences and reduce transportation emissions;*
- *Recommend a fair levy based on tonnage shipped, to host municipalities for gravel mining that includes compensation for the full environmental and infrastructure maintenance costs to the local community caused by the extraction and distribution of aggregate;*
- *Recommend a property assessment category reflecting the heavy industrial use of licensed lands.*
- *Provide greater weight to the input by local municipalities into new licenses to lessen the environmental social impacts from mining operation and trucking through their communities;*
- *Provide clarity on the role of host municipalities under the Planning Act in decision making on ARA License site plan amendments;*
- *Provide clear tests for ending “forever” strip mine licences and rehabilitation to new viable land uses,*
- *Provide revisions to application procedures which fully honour First Nations’ treaty rights;*

And further, that the Regional Chair, on behalf of Regional Council, write a letter to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, forwarding a copy of this motion to outline Peel’s position on this matter;

And further, that a copy of this resolution be sent the leaders of all Provincial Parties; the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry; the Honourable Ted Arnott, MPP; Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Small Urban Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area Councils; Rural Ontario Municipal Associations; and the Regions of Durham, Halton, Waterloo, York and Niagara.

That Regional Council be requested to further consider the following regarding the Notice of Motion - Aggregate Resources Act License Moratorium:

- *Establishing the criteria and processes for determining the need for new gravel licences shall include the need to approve new aggregate operations within the Oak Ridges Moraine Plan Area;*
- *Establishing updated policies and conditions for gravel mining below the water table to reflect current groundwater science and prohibit aggregate mining within the Natural Heritage System of the Oak Ridges Moraine Plan Area;*
- *Aggregate producers mining below the water table shall indemnify the local municipalities and members of Council; and*
- *Include the circulation of the motion to TAPMO (Top Ten Aggregate Producing Municipalities of Ontario), and the Regions of Durham, Halton, Waterloo, York and Niagara.*

For more information regarding this matter, please contact me directly by e-mail to laura.hall@caledon.ca or by phone at 905.584.2272 ext. 4288.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Laura Hall, Director, Corporate Services / Town Clerk