



Town of Sand Lake
Nancy W. Perry, Ph.D., Supervisor
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RECEIVED

FEB 10 2020

BY: _____

February 6, 2020

Re: Lead Agency Coordination Request
Mined Land Reclamation Permit Modification
DEC #4-3840-00008/00001, MLF 40007
Town of Sand Lake, Rensselaer County

Dear Ms. Baker:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your January 22, 2020 letter regarding Lead Agency Coordination for the "Troy Sand & Gravel Mined Land Reclamation Permit Modification" request. The Town of Sand Lake has no interest in assuming Lead Agency for this request. However, we have concerns we would like addressed prior to any further actions that would allow this application to move forward.

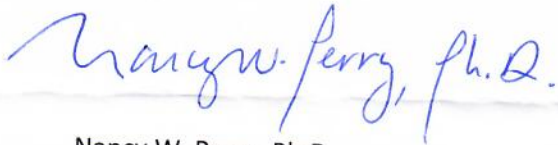
The Town of Sand Lake is extremely troubled by Troy Sand & Gravel's request to increase the overall depth of the consolidated excavation by 100 feet. We question the veracity of any claims that there will be no environmental ramifications by increasing the current approved depth by 25 percent. To ensure the safety and welfare of our residents, we respectfully ask the following from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC):

- DEC should require an **independent** hydrogeologic assessment of the proposed expansion. The work should be overseen and answerable by and to DEC and apart from influence by Troy Sand & Gravel.
- An expanded independent analysis should be conducted to further study any and all potential groundwater impacts of approving such an action. It is of little use or comfort to our residents to know that Troy Sand & Gravel will conduct "long term monitoring" or "water supply replacement." There is no public water in Sand Lake; our residents depend on well water. Therefore, there is absolutely no room for error regarding potential impacts on the water supply for our citizens and businesses.
- **Upon completion of the independent assessments, DEC should hold a public meeting in Sand Lake to inform and educate our citizens on this proposed application. This Mining Permit Modification needs to be transparent and communicated to all of Sand Lake. I will personally coordinate and arrange this meeting.**

Over the past two years, as the blasts have gotten deeper at the current site, I have received an increasing number of complaints from residents regarding shaking on their property. Even more worrisome are the many comments from West Sand Lake residents who now say that over the past year the explosions have felt stronger. Residents are also complaining that their house foundations are cracking. They question whether this is occurring because of the increasing depth of the blasting. This is a valid concern and worth considering while the application is under review by your Department.

On behalf of the town, thank you for the opportunity to comment on this Mining Permit Modification. We look forward to hearing from you regarding our requests and working with you to communicate with our residents.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy W. Perry, Ph.D." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Nancy W. Perry, Ph.D.
Town Supervisor

Cc: Psalm Wycoff