September 14, 2018

Dear Windham Town Council:

My family has lived at 25-27 Lakeside Drive at Forest Lake during the summer months for about 60 years. I remember what the lake was like 60 years ago. It was a peaceful haven from the city, works and the world. Later the log business started up across the street from us and it is in full force. A few years ago, I wrote a letter about that business asking that at the very least it should be fenced in to protect the children in the neighborhood and some silt fences established to prevent run off in to the lake. No one responded to my letter.

Now this new project has come up and it worries me. The traffic situation will be intolerable for people who live on and around Goose Pond Road, James Way and Lakeside Drive. Children will not be able to ride their bikes and certainly no one will be able to walk on the road. Our property has experienced increased run off in recent years and I think that it will only get worse. The fire wood business is very loud and the trucks that come in and out are well over the limit that a dirt road should handle. A quarry would only add to this already stressful intrusive situation. One wonders if we have any protection of zoning laws and if they are enforced. A few years ago, we had a load of sand delivered to our property. Zoning officials were called out immediately. Fortunately, they were okay with what we were trying to do. From my point of view there are more infractions in the area that need to be inspected.

Consider air pollution with 400 trucks idling while in line to get a load of agate, estimates of 50 trucks an hour is staggering when considering exhaust fumes and dust created by truck travel. I would ask about air pollution and how it would affect the health of the lake since the lake is relatively close to that area. I also wonder about my family being exposed to air pollution of this magnitude. Dust in the air will also be a serious problem. The dust created by blasting and truck travel would create an environmental nightmare. The run off from the quarry is also a concern. Run off from the quarry could have a huge detrimental effect on Forest Lake.

The plan for the quarry that has been put forth will also affect my property values. I never dreamed that there would be two industrial businesses across from our property. As far as I'm concerned none of this was grandfathered in, I know because I have been there for the past 60 years.

The noise decibels of the blasting at the quarry, the truck traffic, plus the noise of the fire wood business will cause everyone to be miserable. Is the quarry to be fenced in for protection and safety of the neighboring families with children. This project is just too close to residents.

I realize that I have no vote in this situation even though it will affect my family because we are summer residents. We are taxpayers though, and I think that at the very least we should be heard. For the protection of Forest Lake and the neighboring families, I would ask that the council ask many questions before considering this project. There is no shortage of aggregate. If this project continues, Forest Lake as we know it will be gone. I am 100% against this project and I hope that common sense would prevail.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Langford Donovan

Cleanor Langford Honovan