

# No Asphalt Plant In Miller Braeside Quarry!



What you see here is happening in a rural residential area. Smoke and dust you say, so what?

NO! What you don't see here are the invisible toxic emissions from asphalt production such as nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxide and volatile organic chemicals, eventually becoming smog. Smog aggravates heart problems, bronchitis, asthma etc. ***Even in healthy people there are no safe levels of smog.***

But that's not all! There are chemicals produced called PAHs, (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons), known to cause cancer; ***there are no safe levels of these.*** The quantity of these nasty chemicals depends on the heat added to make the asphalt stay hot until poured. Increased heat ***increases*** the toxins produced. ***And no one is required to control this temperature!***

These chemicals are in the air, dissolve in the rain and enter the aquifers in the fractured limestone of the Braeside Quarry. Drinking water for everyone on the Braeside Ridge – nice eh?

## **So What's happening?**

McNab/Braeside Council must consider an application by Miller Group to expand the quarry to **four times its current size, install a permanent asphalt plant, permanent concrete plant, aggregate wash plant and business location, machine shop, fuel storage, equipment etc.** on the fractured limestone floor of the quarry above the aquifers supplying groundwater to all the residents of the Braeside Ridge.

This expansion application has been hanging over people's heads for **nearly seven years**. What has it meant to the neighbours? Want to sell your house? Not likely! Who wants to live near an asphalt plant? Who wants to invest life savings in a beautiful house only to lose your water?

The expansion application process requires that a second set of scientists, *peer reviewers*, other than the Miller-paid 'experts', read the Miller expansion studies and critique them, pointing out flaws and writing reports. But Council has been advised **not** to have them come in person to answer questions. At the moment, **Council will only hear in person from the Miller-paid experts!** Does that sound fair?

Neighbours took Miller to court for adverse effects like nausea, migraines, sore throats, burning eyes, shortness of breath from a *temporary asphalt plant in this quarry in 2009*. **Miller was found guilty of nuisance, trespass and negligence** in Small Claims Court in November 2011!

\*The photo above is the temporary asphalt plant which caused the adverse effects to Braeside Ridge residents in 2009. Photo shows it is now operating in Horton Township. (FACT-MB Inc.)

## Miller Quarry Expansion Threatens Our Water

Our experienced, professional Hydrogeologist, Wilf Ruland reported to us in June, 2009.

### Regional Hydrogeology

- The only groundwater source for the Braeside plateau comes from recharge of rainfall;
- **Miller has not done a water balance for the plateau, so it is not known how much of the natural recharge is being used by the quarry and by domestic wells**

### Groundwater Quantity Impacts

- **Off-site impacts on wells have occurred, and residents have had to deepen wells;**
- **Monitoring of off-site residential wells is not being done;**
- **Proposed expansion drainage area (90 ha) will be removing over 300 million liters per year from the plateau's groundwater flow system;**
- **Miller proposed impact contingency plan inadequate!**

### Water Quality Impacts

- **One liter of gasoline can contaminate 1 million liters of groundwater;**
- Proposed asphalt plant would be a major concern;
- **No groundwater or surface water quality monitoring is proposed.**

### Asphalt Plant

- asphalt plants are known sources of PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons);
- **Proposed monitoring program omits PAHs in air quality or surface discharges.**

## You can help!

- Pass this on to your friends;
- Email the CAO, the McNab/Braeside Township Clerk to tell Council the public would like Council to hear from the peer reviewers *in person*. [nmellema@mcnabbraeside.com](mailto:nmellema@mcnabbraeside.com)
- Attend a Council meeting when this process will be discussed, at 7:00 PM on **Tues., Dec., 4, 2012** at the McNab/Braeside Council Chambers, at 2508 Russet Dr., R. R. #2, Arnprior, ON;
- **Attend ALL future Council meetings and Public meetings where this expansion will be discussed and bring your questions and concerns!**