

Press Release

July 18, 2013

The neighbours of the Miller Braeside Quarry and the community association, FACT-MB Inc. (Friends Addressing Concerns Together in McNab Braeside) have filed appeals to the Ontario Municipal Board. They are appealing By-Law Number 2013-31, an amendment to the Comprehensive By-Law Number 2010-49 of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside, passed into law June 18, 2013.

This By-Law allows for the expansion of Miller Paving Ltd. using neighbours' property as a buffer zone for their Class III industry. The distance for a Class III industry to a sensitive land use such as a residential property is to be 300 metres to the property line of that sensitive land use. But this By-Law allows the distance to be measured from the **house** of the sensitive land use, not the property line.

The buffer zone for a Class III industry is an area where adverse effects may occur from activities such as blasting, crushing, drilling, making concrete or asphalt. A Class III industry may be dusty, loud, and have noxious or dangerous emissions. Effects on water are much more likely because of the proximity of quarrying and people's wells. This buffer zone must be maintained by the owners with existing trees and shrubs but cannot be used because of the dangers from such an industry.

The consequence of this By-Law: neighbours cannot use their back yards, or front yards in some cases. These people have bought country properties to be able to enjoy their woods, lawns and other rural amenities. Their property rights have been taken from them.