

January 26th 2021

Dear Ms Walton,

Please accept this email as a written submission and deputation for today's special meeting of Tiny Township Council.

To the Tiny Township Council,

On behalf of the tens of thousands of Council of Canadians supporters who have taken action to protect the extraordinary groundwater in Tiny Township over the last 12 years, we are asking Tiny Council to do everything within its power to oppose the Permit to Take Water issued to CRH Canada for the Teedon gravel pit. The Waverley Uplands recharge area is simply too vulnerable to allow any more destructive extraction. All extraction operations should be shut down permanently and remediated to protect the aquifer. This is consistent with the "precautionary principle" that is enshrined in Ontario's provincial policy statements.

Expanding the Teedon Pit means cutting down the trees, stripping away the soil and then gouging out the gravel and sand that together make up the "filter" that keeps the groundwater so pure. This will increase the risk of contamination to the aquifer. The newly issued Permit To Take Water allows millions of litres of water every day in order to wash the gravel on site.

The expansion of the Teedon pit is short sighted, irresponsible and unnecessary. Aggregate is available from more suitable sources and at cost differentials that are meaningless over the lifetime of any project. Previous provincial governments failed to make the decisions required to protect groundwater and the current government is actively undermining what little protection currently exists through extensive deregulation and budget cuts that target protection and enforcement efforts.

The aggregate industry has long had a free reign in Ontario. The regulations governing quarries and gravel pits are badly skewed in favour of the industry. But the battle to stop Dumpsite 41 showed that people are willing to go to extraordinary lengths to protect the water, undeterred by lawsuit, arrest or any other attempts at intimidation. Now more than ever, we must all demonstrate that same courage and determination and leadership

Tiny Council has a critical role to play again in protecting the water. Our collective future depends on you.

Sincerely,

Mark Calzavara
Regional Organizer
Ontario-Quebec-Nunavut
mark@canadians.org
416-979-5554

