

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Joanna Vincent](#)
Subject: Old Hatfield Aerodrome - planning application by Brett - Inquiry
Date: 11 November 2024 23:39:35

Dear Joanna Vincent

I understand that you are requesting residents views on the above application. I live at [REDACTED], directly to the west of the application site for quarrying, and wish to OBJECT to the application for the following reasons

- The disruption to residents of Smallford will be extreme. The proposed haul road in the site runs parallel to the houses north of the Roundabout ie from No 12 to No 88. I can't think of another quarry so close to housing, and it is proposed that the haul road will remain in operation until the last phase of the quarry is completed.
- the proposed quarry area is extensively used by me, my family, other residents and people travelling to the area to exercise and/or walk their dogs. There is no similar area close by as we are desperately short of open spaces in the locality
- the proposed access to the quarry for Smallford residents is far from straight forward. To access the site, the perimeter bund has to be negotiated, followed by crossing the busy haul road. This would make it impossible for disabled users
- the fact that the upper mineral horizon is of poor quality means that Brett must also mine the lower horizon. The trouble with this is that bromate is present in the lower horizon, and moving the southern perimeter of the quarry a few metres north is hardly enough to affect the possibility of drawing groundwater into the excavation that is already contaminated with bromate, or the indicator determinant bromide. This has the potential to adversely affect the public groundwater sources in the area, in the same way that it affected Bishops Rise pumping station over 20 years ago. In a water scarce area, we cannot afford to lose more water sources.
- Even since the last Inquiry into the quarry, legislation has changed as scientific knowledge has improved regarding the effects of the very fine particles of silica dust on the population close by. Not only are we in Smallford under potential threat, but so are more than 20,000 students at the University of Hertfordshire, which is immediately downwind of the site
- Smallford already has had a quarry on its north side for many years. The compound effect of this one as well would have a huge effect on local wellbeing. With over 200 HGV's a day from Cemex, we will also have 174 more from these proposals.
- The quarry area is prone to flooding in the winter - these proposals will make the flooding worse, as the phases each have impermeable clay bunds on their perimeter and between the upper and lower mineral horizons, so creating massive 'swimming pool' like areas which will disrupt the natural drainage of the site
- The site is a huge area of green belt to lose, and for over 30 years would effectively join St Albans to Hatfield in development. It will take a further 30 years at least after the quarry area has been restored, to bring back the wildlife, their habitats and the maturity of the environment. The is two generations and far too long to wait. I wont see it, and neither will my children

I hope these points will be considered by the Inspector in his recommendations to the Secretary of State

Yours

Stephen Ross
[REDACTED]

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