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12 November 2024

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Public Inquiry Manager

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SSRA; Gravel Pits Inquiry

As a concerned Resident I wish to state my objections to the proposed Local Quarry that Brett Aggregates have applied to construct and run for 32 years in my near neighbourhood on Ellenbrook Fields.

The concerns that have been raised since 2016 objecting to the proposed Quarry have not changed and indeed have been expanded upon and as the application has been refused in further applications by Brett Aggregates in the ensuring years I cannot understand why they have been granted yet another Appeal to construct the Quarry.

The loss of Green Belt land and community space is an ongoing concern. Ellenbrook Country Park is a green open space greatly used by local residents and also residents from further afield for walking exercising and enjoying the great outdoors which is becoming less and less.

The construction of the Quarry will result in a coalition of Smallford St Albans with Hatfield which is against Green Belt Policy.

I strongly object to the resulting much increased traffic movement around the area resulting in HGV lorry movement in and out of the Quarry for the next 32 years adding to the already heavy at time congested traffic on Hatfield Road, A1057 and the A1M.

Another issue is the health risk from the dust from the Quarry affecting residents with heart and lung disease and also affecting young childrens' developing lungs

I understand there is a risk of Bromate contamination – a carcinogen that has been shown can enter the water supply around Hatfield. This is a cause for great concern in this day and age of ever increasing cases of cancer in the population and increasing difficulty of obtaining swift treatment from the NHS.

I further understand there is a main gas pipeline that runs through the land that could be damaged by quarrying. This is an unacceptable risk.

Our local roads are prone to flooding and I believe the quarry may have a detrimental affect and lead to more flooding in the area resulting in yet more traffic congestion.

In view of the above objections I sincerely believe the proposed Local Quarry for Brett Aggregates should in the interest of all residents and the Green Belt policy should not be granted.

I also believe that if in the interest of public opinion the Appeal is not granted Brett Aggregates should not be permitted to apply for yet another Appeal for at least ten years.

Previous Appeals have been supported by Herts Council who have now pulled out their objections due to the fear of being liable for financial penalties if the appeal is not rejected and Local Residents Association have had to do the same for the same reason. Brett Aggregates of course have unlimited financial power to carry on Appeals and sway the outcome. I consider this should be taken into account as the objections to the Appeal should not be decided due to lack of objections from the Council and Residents Associations.

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Jan Abbott

Email [redacted]