

## Testing, testing

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Dear Editor,

St. Marys Cement (SMC) has recently completed its first stage of testing for its Permit to Take Water (PTTW) for the proposed quarry in East Flamborough.

I live across the road from these lands and I am thankful that I suffered no ill effects from the first test. While I realize the Ministry of Environment (MOE) has taken every precaution to ensure the residents' safety, I am confused by their permission for the second and third test.

The reinjection system is unproven. The MOE alludes to two other sites where a reinjection system has been in operation, but the residents are uninformed of the locations and the overall effects. Where are these two other sites? What are the effects from the system of reinjection? Are there details that the MOE is keeping from us?

I am concerned about the quality of the water after reinjection. This water would be subjected to a substantial temperature rise and would come into contact with dust and other airborne pollutants, as well as the water runoff from rainfall and creeks.

We are the guinea pigs for these tests and powerless to convince the MOE to take a strong stand against SMC. Just what are the priorities of the MOE and why is the MOE being so accommodating?

Percy Harcourt, Freelton



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