



**thespec.com**

<http://www.thespec.com/News/Local/article/221177>

[\[Close\]](#)

---

## Critics blast tactics of cement company

**ERIC MCGUINNESS**

The Hamilton Spectator

(Jul 18, 2007)

Officials from half a dozen Hamilton and Halton agencies complain that a multinational cement company proposing a huge Flamborough quarry isn't following rules for public consultation, presented erroneous information at a recent meeting and held the meeting too far from the affected area.

The criticism appears in a seven-page letter wrapping up comments from members of the Combined Aggregate Review Team (CART) on the June 21 public information centre held at the Royal Botanical Gardens Centre in Burlington by St. Marys CBM.

St. Marys wants to open a limestone quarry 20 kilometres to the north, near Carlisle.

CART is a City of Hamilton technical working group set up to review the St. Marys Flamborough Quarry application. Members include Halton Region, Conservation Halton, the Town of Milton, City of Burlington, Niagara Escarpment Commission, the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic and public school boards, the Hamilton-Wentworth Federation of Agriculture and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment.

The latest report is significant because St. Marys CBM, the aggregate division of St. Marys Cement, an Ontario subsidiary of Votorantim Cimentos of Brazil, already faces opposition from the City of Hamilton and more than 600 other organizations and individuals opposed to a water-pumping test said to threaten Carlisle's municipal water wells.

An evaluation of truck routes, the topic of the June meeting, and the water-pumping test are key items on a long list of studies needed to support blasting a 13-storey hole in farmland and forest to supply the Greater Toronto Area with high-quality crushed stone for making concrete.

The letter, signed by Stan Holiday in Hamilton's planning department, says St. Marys failed to meet terms of reference for the haul-route study by, among other things, not publishing an initial notice and not meeting with involved agencies before any public consultation event.

It also says the company failed to advertise the meeting two weeks in advance, as required, failed to advertise it twice and failed to deliver notices to stakeholders along the proposed routes.

It says the meeting should have been held closer to Carlisle and should have included a formal presentation, as is standard for the public agencies.

The letter then criticizes each of the company display boards, listing a series of omissions, mislabelled roads and other inaccuracies.

John Moroz, vice-president and general manager of St. Marys CBM, says the company is listening to CART and will hold its next meeting closer to Carlisle, but still feels the RBG Centre was a good location and that there was adequate public notice.

"From a high level point of view, I think the public information centre did almost exactly what we wanted it to do. We had a fantastic turnout of, what, 120 people. We were thrilled to get that amount of community involvement."

Flamborough Councillor Margaret McCarthy, who is fighting the quarry plan, said she was surprised a large company with professional consultants could do so many things wrong.

"It's really extraordinary," she said. "They didn't meet the minimum requirements of the terms, they used misleading information on haul routes, they didn't differentiate between municipalities and they didn't even note truck restrictions on Derry Road or Milborough Line."

[emcguinness@thespec.com](mailto:emcguinness@thespec.com)

905-526-4650

**thespec.com**

<http://www.thespec.com/News/Local/article/221177>

---



© Copyright 2007 Metroland Media Group Ltd. All rights reserved. The reproduction, modification, distribution, transmission or republication of any material from [www.thespec.com](http://www.thespec.com) is strictly prohibited without the prior written permission of Metroland Media Group Ltd.

