
MEMORANDUM

CWCD 166-2020

Subject: Proposed Pit 3 Extension – Port Colborne Quarries

Date: June 19, 2020

To: Regional Council

From: Sean Norman, Senior Planner

Overview

Port Colborne Quarries Inc (PCQ) has expressed an interest in expanding their Pit 3 quarry in the City of Port Colborne. The proposed expansion would be on lands immediately to the east and southeast of the existing Pit 3 between 2nd Concession and Highway 3. The exact proposed limits of extraction would be finalized through the application process.

Applications Required

PCQ is currently in the pre-consultation process with Niagara Region, the City of Port Colborne, and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) to amend the Regional Official Plan, the City of Port Colborne Official Plan, and the City of Port Colborne Zoning By-Law. Complete applications as per the Planning Act are expected prior to the end of 2020.

In addition, PCQ will be submitting an application for a Class A – Category 2 License under the Aggregate Resource Act (ARA) separately to the Province. Prior to the final approval of the provincial ARA license, the appropriate municipal land use approvals must be in place.

Various studies will be needed to address Provincial, Regional, City, and NPCA concerns, including but not limited to: planning and land use; air quality, noise, blasting, and vibration; natural environment; water resources (surface and groundwater); archaeological and culture; agriculture; transportation; and social and economic impact. All these studies will be required as part of a complete application. Peer reviewers will be retained to support the technical review of many of the studies.

Following applications being made there would be a formal public and stakeholder consultation process.

JART Process

To coordinate the technical review of the applications - a Joint Agency Review Team (JART) has been formed. The JART is a team of planning staff from the Region, the City, and the NPCA. The purpose of JART is to have a sharing of information, resources, and expertise so that the application and the associated studies are reviewed in a streamlined and coordinated manner. Staff from interested provincial ministries would be engaged through the JART process as well.

The JART does not make a recommendation on the application, rather the JART works to:

- ensure that the required range of studies and work is completed by the applicant;
- ensure that the studies are sufficient in terms of their technical content;
- review of the studies and work of the applicant either by technical staff or by peer reviewers;
- ensure a coordinated public and stakeholder consultation and engagement process; and
- prepare a technical JART report on the application once all reviews are complete.

The JART report is then used independently by staff at each agency as the technical basis to develop a recommendation report, which is then considered by the decision-makers at each individual agency.

If you require additional information or receive any inquires related to the project please contact Sean Norman (sean.norman@niagararegion.ca)

Respectfully submitted and signed by:

Sean Norman, PMP, MCIP, RPP
Senior Planner