

# IMPORTANT NOTICE



## Community Alert

### St Marys Cement Pumping Test Letter

Residents near the site of the proposed St Marys Cement CBM Flamborough Quarry may have recently received a letter from St Marys. The letter discusses St Marys' plan to conduct pumping tests on the site and includes a request for residents to participate in a voluntary well monitoring program. This is the testing that we as a community have been objecting to since the fall of 2006 because of the large amounts of groundwater involved and the resulting potential negative impacts.

At this point in time, FORCE is recommending that residents do not make any final decisions about joining the private well monitoring program.

Before St Marys can conduct their tests they need to be issued a Permit To Take Water (PTTW) from the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) and that permit has not been issued. As a community we have expressed our concerns over the nature and scale of the proposed testing and so has the Public Health Department and the City of Hamilton. As a result the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) is proceeding in a very thorough and cautious manner.

At this time we do not know what kind, or if any, testing may be approved. We do not know what the testing protocols might be nor do we know what associated controls on the testing may be required from the MOE. Until that information is available, we feel it would be premature for anyone who may be impacted by St Marys' proposed testing to agree to any private well monitoring.

We also remind the Community that allowing St Marys to monitor private well assists them in preparing their case for approval of the proposed Flamborough Quarry. FORCE is on record as recommending that St Marys provide their own sentry wells along the perimeter of their lands to monitor for impacts. There is no need for the Community to allow their private wells to be part of St Marys' research activities.

Finally, there are inherent risks for contamination and well failure every time a well is opened and disturbed. Given the criticality of our private wells in supporting our families and businesses at this point in time we see no reason to incur those risks in order to assist St Marys.

FORCE will continue to monitor the PTTW application process and the pump testing plans and will provide further details once the details of any testing are known.

[www.StopTheQuarry.ca](http://www.StopTheQuarry.ca)