



## St. Marys Cement drops water-permit appeal

Paul Morse

October 15, 2010

A multinational company fighting to build a limestone quarry in Flamborough has dropped its appeal of the provincial environment ministry's refusal to issue a permit to take water.

St. Marys Cement, the Canadian subsidiary of a Brazilian-based corporation, had been trying to open a massive quarry on a 150-hectare site on the 11th Concession at Milborough Line. But it was stopped in its tracks earlier this year by the province, which issued a ministerial order declaring the land remain zoned "rural and conservation management" in perpetuity.

St. Marys has appealed the ministerial order to the Ontario Municipal Board. At the same time, it asked for a permit to take water from the area's aquifer by conducting further hydrogeological groundwater testing. The Environment Ministry said no to the permit, and St. Marys appealed to the Environmental Review Tribunal (ERT).

On Tuesday, it withdrew that appeal.

"We've won a skirmish, but not the main battle yet," said Graham Flint, chair of Friends of Rural Communities and the Environment (FORCE), a local group of quarry opponents.

Hamilton and Burlington joined FORCE's six-year fight against the quarry.

An OMB hearing on the ministerial order, similar to the one that stopped Pickering airport, has not yet been scheduled.

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

905-526-3434

---

This article is for personal use only courtesy of TheSpec.com - a division of Metroland Media Group Ltd.

---