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Quarry trucks could go through Milton

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The Hamilton Spectator

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Consultants say more than 1,000 trucks a day hauling gravel from the proposed St. Marys Cement Flamborough quarry should travel east through Milton rather than west through Flamborough to reach Highway 401.

The No. 1-ranked haul route would send the trucks north on Milborough Line, which forms the Hamilton-Halton boundary, then east on Campbellville Road, north on Twiss Road, and east on Reid Side Road to the 401 just west of Guelph Line.

The preference is significant for Hamilton residents because the favoured route would keep trucks off Flamborough alternatives such as Concession 11 East, Centre Road, the western end of Campbellville Road and Highway 6.

But St. Marys stopped short of recommending that route at a public meeting last night because CART, the Hamilton-Halton Combined Aggregate Review Team, said it hadn't finished studying the report.

The company instead said it continues to invite public input while working to satisfy the government review team.

Halton and Milton, meanwhile, are urging the team to defer any decision on haul routes until it has more information on groundwater and on a recently disclosed history of illegal dumping and waste handling by former owners of the 158-hectare site on northwest corner of the 11th Concession at Milborough Line.

They also want to conduct a peer review of the St. Marys study.

A report endorsed by regional council last week said both Halton and Milton staff "have significant concerns about the speed at which the haul route study is moving" and are "not satisfied as to the choice of or the justification provided for the preferred haul route."

Consultant Tyrone Gan told the crowd of about 120 people last night that any area roads identified as haul routes would have to be widened and improved to carry heavy trucks.

One resident challenged Gan, saying, "Your idea of an upgrade is what we would call desecration. We came here because of the twisty roads and little hills."

While the Environment Ministry reported the proposed quarry property had been cleaned up years ago, St. Marys says it recently discovered -- and is removing -- tonnes of asphalt shingles used to build a laneway that had been completely overgrown by vegetation.

Ministry files reveal the site once held drums of solid PCB waste, junked cars, tires and a homemade incinerator used to burn insulation off scrap copper wire.

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