

Graham's Pioneer Retreat  
8020 Hwy. 217  
RR #4  
Digby, Nova Scotia B0V 1A0

Ms. Debra Myles, Panel Manager  
Whit's Point Quarry & Marine Terminal Project  
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency  
160 Elgin Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H3

16 July 2006

Dear Ms. Myles;

I am writing to let you know how my husband and I feel about the proposed quarry. We live in Centreville, Digby Neck, year round and have built and operate oceanfront tourism cottage accommodation.

We feel it is a great thing to happen to the area. We do not feel that it will hurt the tourism industry directly. What is going to hurt the tourism, if anything does, is all the negative attention a few people seem intent on attracting. As far as we can see, most of the protest is coming from people who are not even full-time residents but are only here during the summer months.

There is already a working quarry on Digby Neck in Roxville. We see no dust on any of the vehicles in that area nor have we heard anyone say they are bothered or even hear any noise from that quarry.

We have met the proposed quarry's owners and we find it hard to believe they would say, "anything that happens in Little River, or for that matter, from Gulliver's Cove to Brier Island, is *insignificant*." We have to wonder if part or all of this statement was taken out of context.

The quarry will not be blasting continually but only as they need to, maybe once every 2 weeks. This likely will not have any effect on the whales. If there are whales present in the area, the blasting will be postponed.

Due to a lack of scientific evidence to the effects of blasting on lobsters it also may be that the lobsters will prosper not decline with the quarry here. Who knows?

We think the Proponent was wise to leave out of the report any discussion of the effects of the project on public perception of Digby Neck and Islands as an eco-tourist destination. Most tourists do not realize there is a working quarry now on Digby Neck. If not for the people who are constantly bring the proposed quarry negative attention, the tourists would likely never know there is to be

another quarry on Digby Neck. At least the Proponent is not name calling and accusing as some people are doing.

How can anyone, even lobster fishermen or dulse gathers, guarantee that no protected mammals or birds will be injured or killed during their operations. We are sure the Proponent will do all it can and take all precautions to protect the protected and unprotected mammals and birds in the area.

It is easy to say that our waters will not have invasive species transported in ballast water if the ships do not come into our waters for the quarry. But in reality, a lot of ships enter the Bay of Fundy daily from many ports in many countries, all with ballast water. Opposition to the quarry seems to feel that if the quarry is refused, no invasive species will enter the Bay of Fundy. We are not sure how that can be with all the other ships still arriving in other ports along the Bay of Fundy. We believe the captain on each ship is responsible for his or her own ship, as we are sure they would agree.

With the "reclaiming" of used quarry land, it sounds to us that the enjoyment of life and property is more than addressed in any report. We have been to very beautiful gardens in other provinces that were once working quarries.

The report may not say how much of the night sky would be lit up by lighting at the quarry and marine terminal site because mostly this is a daytime operation. Lights over the small area of White's Cove couldn't possibly hurt star gazing or amateur astronomy on 99.9% of Digby Neck and the Islands. It would be at White's Cove only but there are no residents in White's Cove to star gaze.

Bilcon of Nova Scotia will hire 34 people. They say, and we believe them, they will hire and train local people. Even if they hire 24 of these 34 from Digby Neck and Islands that is 24 more of our young people who will be able to stay in the area. Most of the young people, therefore young families, must move away in order to find work. The spin-off jobs, our community school, community stores, all these things must be looked at.

If the wages and benefits are higher at the quarry than other employers are paying at least people will have the choice as to where they work and how much they can make. Maybe the present employers will have to increase wages. Most fish plants have paid fish cutters \$10.00 an hour for well over 15 years now. They can use a raise. Since when is competition not a good thing.

We feel compensating lobster fishermen for the loss of traps and gear is sufficient. If their traps are destroyed by another means, they are not compensated at all. If traps are caught in fish-draggers nets they must fight the issue in court, as to who is responsible.

We heard that one person who lives in the area has put a price of \$300,000.00 on his house if Bilcon wants to buy it. The house might sell for 1/3 this price. Are the people in the area being fair? We don't think so!!

Sincerely

David and Linda Graham

Graham's Pioneer Retreat      [www.digbyneck.com](http://www.digbyneck.com)

I think that the proposed Whites Point Quarry is a great idea, the neck and islands are in pretty bad shape when it comes to jobs. With the closing of most of the fish plants and other than the lobster fishery hardly any ground fishing. Not all of us in this part of the county want to be fishermen or for that matter are able to go fishing. I have spoken to many people from the area and almost all of them think that the quarry is a good idea, some people just don't want to come out to the public and say it, mainly because the few that are opposed will give them a hard time if they say it in public, I know this for a fact. As far as the people that are opposed go, who are they to try and speak for all of us? These are mostly retired, older people that don't have to worry about providing for their family because they left their families back in Ontario or wherever they may have come from. I want to work, live and retire right here in this small community, so I say YES TO THE QUARRY!!

**CODE: E150**

**AUTHOR(S): White, Donald**

**AFFILIATION/INTEREST: CITIZEN/RESIDENT INTERESTS**

**COMMENTS: Support for the project**

To whom it may concern,

I feel that it is necessary for me to let you know how I feel about Bilcon's quarry proposal. I think it would be a good thing for our area.

I know there are opponents to the quarry but we need jobs, not part time

and or low paying ones but jobs that pay a decent wages. Also there would

be jobs that will be around for a long time, unlike call centers that will leave as soon as their contract is over. We have had so many things

and jobs taken away from this end of the province. Some examples being the Fishing Industry taking a nose dive, the Forest Industry taking hit

after hit. Tourism has gone down, Canadian dollar has gone up, and gas up

and up. Cornwallis Base closed and Rail lines torn up. I mean come on, we

need a break. No, we need some jobs. Jobs we can depend on. Do not let a

few people with special interests ruin yet another chance for our economy

to get a very badly needed boost.

A very concerned citizen

Donald S. White

**CODE: E168**

**AUTHOR(S): Comeau, Michelle**

**AFFILIATION/INTEREST: CITIZEN/RESIDENT INTERESTS**

**COMMENTS:**

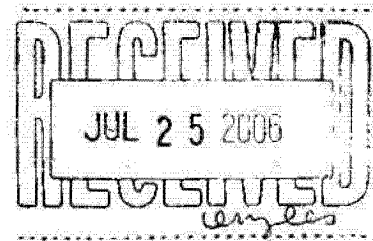
Ms. Myles

I am a resident of the Digby Neck area and would simply like to offer my opinion in the matter of the proposed quarry /marine terminal, having said that I must express a hearty yes! Provided that a criteria is formed and met to assure folks that the proposal is not threatening or detrimental to person or environment and that affirmation of resolution should any infractions of a settled agreement occur. It is evident that although much effort has been made to educate the local residents in regard to the benefits of the proposal, most folks remain ignorant , perhaps frozen with fear of the unknown. We cannot afford to let the unknown paralyze us for future gains, even if that is only employment. I give you my support..

Sincerely  
Michelle Comeau

WA-1450

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Debra Myles  
Panel Manager  
Whites Point Quarry and Marine Terminal Panel Review  
160 Elgin Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0H3

Dear Ms. Myles,

I am a resident of Digby Neck and I want to offer my opinion on the quarry issue. BRING IT ON!!!! There are too many of our young people leaving because they can't find work here. What is Alberta's biggest import? NOVA SCOTIANS! Why? Because that's where the work is.

It seems to me that the ones who oppose this project are "come from aways" of retirement age who don't have to worry about putting groceries on the table. 34 jobs might seem *insignificant* to these people, but for those of us who face the choice between working in the fish or at McDonalds for minimum wage or moving to Alberta, the quarry sounds good.

In addition to the "come from aways" the fishing licence holders don't want the quarry either. Its not in their best interest for the quarry to be up and running because the wages they pay are so low, they're afraid of losing their poorly paid workers to Bilcon. This letter has to remain anonymous, because it's a small community and speaking in favour of the quarry will result in hardship for me and my family. I have heard of businesses being boycotted and vandalism done to the property of people on the neck who support the quarry. Yes these same environmentalists who go on and on about peaceful, tranquil settings and a unique way of life.

Don't let all those letters of opposition fool you, there are a lot of us on Digby Neck who want the quarry to happen. We just have to keep it quiet so we don't lose our jobs and our children won't be harassed by the principal of the school who is a big player in the stop the quarry campaign, but you can bet when the quarry is up and running, Bilcon will have NO trouble finding workers.

SAVE OUR NECK!  
SAY **YES** TO THE QUARRY!