KELLY’S MOUNTAIN QUARRY
MEDIA PACKAGE
PREPARED FOR AFFIDAVIT OF
NEIL BELLEFONTAINE
Negatives outweigh any positives
on proposed Kelly Rock quarry

To the Editor:

The mountain and, yes, Cape Breton has lots of them. It is also true that we won't be missing it.

The six people living in Englishtown who are in opposition to the Kelly Rock quarry should be commended. They have gone a long time to trouble, and expense to become informed and to inform others of the impact of this project.

They have to contend not only with the people who see only the potential for income and not the long-term loss of quality of country living, nor the external forces that will be created, with consultants with their Environmental Impact Assessment that is so biased in favor of the sponsoring company that it does not even list negative impacts (only "positive impacts" and "remaining impacts")! But also with the bureaucracy that so quickly hands out the permits to these companies to do as they will.

Goodness knows that if the Department of Environment for Nova Scotia had any clout you wouldn't see Nova Scotia Power Corp. in Logan burning high sulphur coal with no scrubbers on the smokestacks, or the high rate of cancer among coke oven workers, and the ore dust from Sydney Steel last endured for so many years until economic forces created a change.

The EIA paints a picture of low building quality set near the water is the hillside, surrounded by trees carefully saved to make the area inconspicuous, with a dock running out into the water. You should live so long to see it.

They're not building on rolling countryside, this is the side of a mountain and it's steep. They are going to have to cut huge terraces a level half way up to the top of the mountain to provide enough working area.

With ships arriving for 40,000 to 50,000 tons of gravel a couple of times each week, they have to stockpile inventory. They are going to need room for at least a half million tons of gravel. It's a lot of rock and it takes up a lot of space.

Football fields are often used to give the average person a picture of how big something is. I will use that. If you look at the playing area of four football fields and piled rock on them 30 feet high you would have almost a half million tons.

That would be the solid rock it sits in the mountain. When crushed, it will expand and you can pretty much add another football field.

It will not be just a couple of quaint little pits by the water. The material needed to be washed, which means settling ponds - more room needed.

The color of the buildings will be insignificant because the overall view will be of a large terraces in a high open rock cut that will be hard not to see from anywhere on the North Shore from Jersey Cove to Cobe Smoky.

If this project proceeds I don't expect there will ever again be such a thing as a quiet evening of fishing at River Bennett, Indian Brook, or probably even North River. The EIA report acknowledges that sound has an "unusual way" of travelling across water. Rock crushing and heavy machinery create very basic sounds that carry far, and it's aimed directly at the North Side. It may be that the sand is proper for a few but it will be to the annoyance of many.

The people living on the other side of the mountain may not hear or see too much of this project but they are just as apt to feel it.

With maximum production set at 4.5 million tons per year and one blast per month you can expect to see at least a half million tons charging being set off. Kelly's Mountain is mostly a big block of granite and when you give it the kind of shake required to fracture a half million tons, it makes hard and it shaken hard.

Kelly Rock Limited doesn't need to worry about hurting its own buildings because there will be little more than structural steel frames with some exterior masonry sheathing - about as little as is required to keep the weather off.

A kilometer of the New Campbellton side will contribute quite enough noise to the scene on the mountain now that the Point Aconi power generating station has been given the go-ahead. Kelly Rock, by its sheer size, will be much worse.

It's all a project like this can't simply be termed a blight on the landscape and totally unacceptable in relation to the benefits, and that every slug

and shrew on the mountain has to be counted as an effort to spa.

Gravel is not a value-added product nor are these going to be good clean jobs for everybody in Englishtown and area. Quarries are loud and dusty, and the harder the rock - granite is about as hard as rock gets - the more dust it makes and the louder it gets.

As for who gets hired, it will be the same old story. If the company is unwise it is likely the wages will be good but the opportunity for being hired will be your union affiliation and not whether you happen to live in the area. Without a union here it will probably be more local people hired but the wages won't be as high. Either way, the local people won't think they will all be driving Mercedes if the project proceeds.

If the project is allowed to go ahead, touring driving along the North Shore or waiting for the ferry on the Jersey Cove side may not be too improved with what they see or hear and may have serious reservations about staying the night anywhere in the St. Ann's Bay region. On the other hand, this could open up Cape Breton to a totally different class of visitors - environmentally sensitive people coming to take pictures to use as evidence, perhaps against some other company that wishes to operate just such a quarry or just to show how much environmental ruin Cape Bretoners will tolerate for a buck.

David Harding,
Fraser Avenue, Sydney Mines
Relative remoteness is its asset
Wilderness park on Kelly's Mountain

To the Editor:

Each year more and more of our wild and scenic lands disappear, enshrined
by things such as logging, mineral
development, and real estate develop-
ment. In such a small province as
Nova Scotia we don't have many wild
lands left to melody.

At all of Cape Breton, south of the
Cape Breton Highlands National Park,
it is almost impossible to be more than a
couple of miles away from a road that is
passable by motor vehicle, and you can
walk to the remotest part of Cape Bre-
ton in half a day.

The lands very see on a high-
way map give little indication of this.
Even large scale topographic maps
don't show the degradation in one form
or another, from massive clearcuts to
the ubiquitous fitter, that is rapidly
diminishing our backlands. The pride that
Cape Bretonians hang upon themselves
and Cape Breton, against the preconceived
notion of nationalism, is certainly not
reflected in the way they neglect and min-
imize their precious corner of the world.

In view of that, I support the idea of
a provincial park on the northern end of
Kelly's Mountain.

Commercial Logging Industries

There has been quite a bit of devel-

one in Kelly's Mountain apart from

The settlement around it. Since

The forest has never been logged except in a
few locations. While it may be unpop-

ductive in a commercial sense, at least

A breed does exist there, which is more

be said for most of our moun-

taining tracts.

New a rock quarry operation has also

been proposed for that area. I guess

queries are one of the necessary

of our landscape, brought about by

the requirements of modern society.

I feel, I've spent many interesting

hours in such places learning about

the human and geologic history asso-

ciated with them. It is unfortunate,

though, that in this case such an opera-

tion threatens to ruin a prime tract of
undeveloped wilderness.

The mountain is covered with

various types of vegetation, depending

upon slope, elevation, and other factors.

From the headwaters of MacKenzie
Prok eastward is a relatively open

mixture of deciduous and evergreen
trees interspersed with heathland, bog

and rocky knolls. In places there ap-

pears a more forestal form of spruce with

tamarack.

The view from either side of the
mountaintop is superb. From the west

view you get a sweeping view of the

tablelands from Smiley's to the hills at

near Baddeck, the coastal features and

communities along the North shore of St.

Ann's Bay, the river valley that cut

through the Stora and the hill, and an

extended view inland. The Normans

tower, for instance, can be seen a third

of the way across the plateau.

The scenery on the eastern side of

the mountain is equally spectacular.

From a single point you can see the view

I have described as well as a panorama

of the country to the south — Point Au-

Blanc, Glacier Bay, Sydney, Baddeck, In-

land, the Dudhope Hills, all the way

along the Bras d'Ore to the railway

bridge at Barra Strait. Farther to the

northwest you can get a high view angle

of Brul Islands.

The settelhumes, rocky nature of the

mountain make for fine walking

and ski touring, especially in the area

around the mountain itself, which

with its steepness, exposed bedrock, log

and little lake, is the most attractive of it.

Even before the access roads were put

here, the mountain was accessible to

anyone with an average degree of fit-

ness, and you could roam from one van-

tage to another while having a view of

the surrounding terrain that was gen-

erally unstructured by thick woods.

The streams that tumble down the

mountain make wonderful gorges, are

noted for their rapids, offer glorious

water, and provide scenic and recreation.

The peninsula is partly surrounded by

a varied coastline. Probably the most

interesting portion remains beyond the

end of the road at Cape D'プログ —

a couple of caves west a kilometre or so

from the road. Skried these are high

cliffs with access, in places, to secluded

beaches at their base. Vantage

points along the undeveloped route provide

scenic views of the cliffs and sea.

No critical habitat

The Environmental Impact Assess-

ment that was commissioned by the pro-

ponents of the quarry downplays the

value of the site for wildlife habitat by

saying that it has "no critical habitat for

fur-bearing" and "it is not a good place

for deer to winter in the valley." This
doesn't do the bears, deer, and

smaller animals I've seen there over the

years from occupying this and the sur-

rounding woodlands.

Although it purports to identify all va-

lued components of the site environ-

mental, the BIA report places no value

on the aesthetic or recreational value. Any

reference to this is conspicuously mis-

ing. We are led to believe that the

quarry site is a waste of rock and shub-

bery, good for nothing, and that no one

would ever want to go there. In fact, some

of the coniferous forest, national parks occupy less "productive" area.
preferable to proposed quarry

Like most EIA’s it uses the guise of ecology to allow the proponents to proceed with development. The report addresses the status of eagles roving on the mountain. What good are eagles? It could be argued that they are nothing more than glorified crows. If the eagles were extirpated from Kelly’s Mountain, or even from the entire province, what would be matter? There are lots of them in British Columbia, and pictures of them in books. They’re not endangered.

Rumousness is relative

Paradoxically, an unspoiled mountain is about to be trashed, yet the report creates a sense of dread. The project area is described as remote. But half of the appeal of the place lies in its remoteness, perceived or otherwise, and the wilderness surrounding it. In fact, though, Kelly’s Mountain is only a half-hour drive from a large urban industrial area, as well as adjacent to the main tourist route of the island, and the quarry site is a half-hour hike from the nearest road.

There are several campgrounds, motels, and trailer parks within a short distance of the area. For most people served by the Trans-Canada Highway, even as far as the highway (it’s considerably closer than the Highlands National Park), with its long drive, uncertain ferry operations, unpredictable weather, and extended travelling time. These factors might lure people who would otherwise decline to go for a day or weekend outing.

Imagine a system of trails here — high trails around the crest and traversing the mountain, low trails around the base, connected to form a series of loops, a place where you could go back to again and again, all year round, to hike, backpack, ski, camp, explore, and discover. Such a network, providing various options in terms of length and degree of difficulty, could be accessed from different points around the mountain.

Unique addition

We don’t have any large provincial parks like this, only the small day use and picnic parks. A mountain park here would be a nice addition to them.

Before further development takes place on Kelly’s Mountain, could it be determined what the long-term benefits would be to Victoria County and the communities near Kelly’s Mountain if the area was developed for wilderness recreation? Is it conceivable that sometime an outdoor education centre could be established here to give instruction in various outdoor pursuits such as nature programs, adventure programs, leadership training, family camping, wildlife travel?

Taking advantage of its relatively central location and proximity to a large population base, it could serve island residents of all ages and perhaps attract participation from other areas of the province as well.

During the 15 years that they attend public school, how many times are pupils given the chance to integrate these kinds of learning experiences with their regular schoolwork? During nine years of schooling, one of my kids has gone on one or two such outings, yet by halfway through this school term he has had three afternoons of after school sports events not related to his schoolwork and for two of these he was housed 30 miles each way. Could a facility at Kelly’s Mountain meet a need here?

Tourists — and us, too

There are places in the U.S. where wilderness use is so popular that letter and annual use tickets are needed to decide who uses some trails. It’s not likely that such measures will ever be needed here, but it would be nice to find that an appreciation for our natural heritage was a common thing, a way of life widely shared and enjoyed by our island community.

When much of our public lands are seen as tree farms, game farms, and a place to run some sort of abominable machine or other, we should be thinking about preserving more of them. This is not necessarily the preservation of wilderness for its own sake, nor the protection of some far-off ecosystem in Baffin Island or British Columbia that most of us would never get the chance to see. It is the preservation of our own special landscape for enjoyment — by tourists, yes, but just as important, by us and our descendants.

Clarence Barns, Carver Street, Sydney

NOTE: The proposed quarry lies on the St.Anne’s Lineament or "Fault Line." The company plans to blast 1/2 million tons of Granite, once per month.

Fault lines surrounding Cape Breton are connected to the Atlantic Earthquake zone of 1929 and to the Point LePraeu Nuclear Power Plant.
Environmental study of quarry unconvincing in important ways

Peter Editor:

I am writing in regard to the aggregate quarry being proposed by Kelly Rock Ltd., for Kelly's Museum.

Upon first learning of this project, many contingents arose for local, long-term employment to be supported by one concern for the impact such an industry would have on our local environment. We eagerly awaited the release of the Environmental Impact Assessment in order to better judge the consequences of this proposal.

Unfortunately, I have personally found many aspects of this report to be lacking in the very least. On the positive side, the report generated employment for someone but on the other hand, lacks objectivity or site-specific information. Indeed, there are many aspects about which I am concerned and that are not covered at all.

Rapeared winds are an almost daily occurrence in our community in summer. As I was retired, I found no reference to this, but after every office wind is reported, but not fatalities. It should be noted that this is the wind which would carry dust and vibrating areas into the area.

The "birds," instead of making any effort to tell us what species are common there, or what numbers they are present, and what size of equipment necessary, make sure of this area during the migration period, we are simply told "other areas do not make good habitat for water fowl."

Under "Animals" we are told "The project area is not necessarily good habitat."

"This may indicate the site, however, is quite remove. This area supports an entire, ongoing food chain."

Overall, the report appears to be well-researched, but the lack of specific information on the presence of species could be misleading for the reader.

Personally, I would be embarrassed to present such inadequate information and expect people to make reasonable decisions.

Recent plans call for a quarry with 1.5,000,000 tons per year coming off. This would be an increase of 10,000,000 tons per year expected, they admit the possibility for a new one every 20 years. During the last public meeting I attended, we were told this project has the potential for a 200-year lifespan. That makes for a hard migration.

There exists a prevalent level of opposition to this operation. At the present time, there are too many questions unanswered. It is important that progress is measured in this, for the real progress today is that people are coming to the realization that nothing is more important than our environment.

We need to worry about local species, our forests, our oceans, our air, and the burning of the atmosphere, and ask ourselves how people can allow such things to happen. Our decisions, it must be said, reflect the many generations to follow.

Concerns over the operation include the affects on the salmon habitat, noise and vibration on fish migration, and foreign organisms in heated water affecting marine life.

I recently read a report on the death of 14,000 birds along in the Avon Valley in Warwick, all wildfowl, estimated that if every one, I have lived that's 140,000 birds per month. The issue is a battle to preserve nesting and dumping oily water. Would this quarry become a yearly, St. Ann's Bay would become a stop for possible 30,000 daily

The result is the home of our only century of Puffins. There is no reason to believe there is any support for the value of Newfoundland. The population could very easily be destroyed. Our tourism departments will have to be renewed, featuring some bird observation from the Puffins. That are only a couple of dollars.

We are very fortunate to have a large area of such nature, unsullied beauty. No houses, mines, farms, or heavy operations. Its strategy might be better served if our politicians were to enhance the size of land, it into a provincial park.

As the area becomes more popular, so the dangers of industrial reach out around the land, same people are promoting a "DON'T worry, be happy attitude." However, the project is not a factor to turn down when obsolete.

This project can, if we allow it, alter our lives forever, and forever in a long, long time.

Roe Victor, Englishman
The more you know, the worse it gets*

Misgivings on Kelly's Mountain quarry well confirmed by further investigation

To the Editor:

On Sept. 25, I expressed my concern regarding the proposed quarry on Kelly's Mountain. There have been two replies to this letter — Student's Case Against Quarry is Short on Geography and Fact, by Stephen Mackinn on Feb. 18, and It's Time for Kelly's Mountain to Yield Her Only Resource, by Ellen Greta Brown on Feb. 21. I am taking this opportunity to respond. With a project of this magnitude, public debate is healthy.

I expressed the concerns of one Cape Bretoner on hearing the news of this proposal. As a result of the response, I have investigated further. The more you know, the worse it gets. I have decided to join the Save Kelly's Mountain Society, and here's why.

The Glenanda quarry in Scotland, utilising the glory hole concept, has been the acknowledged role model for Kelly Rock Ltd. I have seen photographs of Glenanda. It is inescapable that tourism interests would ever approve of such an operation.

Ellen Greta Brown says: "The only place tourists will see anything of the quarry will be along the North Shore." What she fails to mention is that the North Shore is also called the Cabot Trail. She goes on to say that "near existing facilities will be the main attraction." Sure — like the Canoe Causeway quarry, only twenty-five times bigger.

It has been acknowledged by the company that substantial space is needed to store huge rock piles of aggregate, seven feet high, 300 cans, conveyors belts, and administrative buildings. The Glenanda quarry is located on the mountain itself, the mill will have to be moved to provide this space.

As Mr. Yeaman of the Glenanda company has stated in the Canso Gaspewg, "However sensitively you develop a quarry, it's an industrial business." This statement comes from the company that has received a 10 per cent tax discount.

The article entitled Glenanda Disappearing Down the Glory Hole, goes on to say: "Glenanda quarry can be seen from Down, 11 miles away as the crow flies." Kelly Rock Ltd. will be two to three miles away from parts of the Cabot Trail.

Much of what you can see from the Cabot Trail at St. Anne's Bay and Kelly's Mountain. In other words, this world famous attraction is about to be disturbed.

Kelly Rock Ltd.'s initial proposal, for which it is seeking permits, involved 30 acres — that is, 30 acres are necessary for the crane and plant facilities. Why then, the transfer of 600 acres of " Crown land." The conclusion is obvious — crane, cracker, chafing, cleaning to accommodate that of the company's estimate of two billion ton reserve. Are there two billion tons of granite in 60 acres? You won't need to go up in an airplane to see the results of this long-term devastation.

What adverse effects are expected as a result of this quarry? Canimmer fishing will be damaged by blasting, silting, vibration, heavy metal leaching, and the potential threat of all spills and polluted ballast-water.

If the quarrying industry is not threatened, as Mr. Mackinn suggests, then one wonders why the fishermen have been in negotiation with the regulatory agencies and with the company itself. Negotiations have centered on a damage fund, defined shipping lanes, and the provision of a tug toock the expected 60,000 ton ships. These large vessels will come in from two to three times per week should this quarry get approval.

What happens to the environment, the wildlife, birds, local well water, and the air? Excessive dust pollution, noise and damage to wildlife will have an impact. Ellen Greta Brown mentions those who "promote conservation for conservation's sake." The problem is different. The concerns are constant and they concern us all.

She recommends that the mountain be conserved only in possession of it by the people of the Rock. She claims that the mountain is "nothing to anyone that it is not going to keep on giving for centuries — the scenery, the trails, and towns along the highway." I'm afraid Ellen Greta Brown is in the minority party.

On Sept. 25, Mackinn from Cape Breton reserves gathered on the road heading to the site area and a demonstration was held in protest of this project. This Micmac population is determined to preserve its historical, spiritual, and cultural connections with Kelly's Mountain. This sacred mountain — Nakke'mewsejik (Place of My Grandmother) — is a shrine for the Micmac community.

Ellen Greta Brown doesn't believe that traditional Micmac hunting and fishing grounds are located on the mountain. She says "that is in some other area, not Kelly's Mountain. Sure they walked there, but they didn't walk everywhere.

Murdena Marshall, a graduate of Harvard University with a Masters in Education and an associate professor of humanities at UCCB, feels differently. She feels strongly about the historical significance of this mountain. Not only do Micmac go there to hunt and fish, but they go to this "place of honor" to offer prayers and thanks. Offerings are made in traditional ceremonial form.

She affirms that the area is vital to her community, and the Glaceape Cove are an important monument for all native peoples.

Even the company's Impact Assessment Proposal, on Page 28, concludes that "based on the existence of the cave and the mythology, it can be concluded that there must have been cultural events in the cave." Murdena Marshall believes that Kelly's Mountain, with its Glaceape Cove, is an historically significant to the native population as the Fortress of Louisbourg to the non-native population.

Ellen Greta Brown criticizes the results of a poll taken from 47 people in Victoria County voting last. These people were asked if they agreed with the quarry operation. Murdena Marshall's response to this study is very straightforward: "In Eskasoni, there are 2,400 people, and no one came to ask them to vote, and that only one vote. There are 3,500 people on Cape Breton Island who have ancestry in the Glaceape Cove, and no one has asked them to vote.

This Cape Bretoner stands with the many Cape Bretoners who are devoted to saving Kelly's Mountain. Kelly MacGuire, Sydney.
Environmental Impact Assessment

Nova Scotia coastal quarry project awaits decision on operating permit

The problems and difficulties associated with licensing a new aggregate production installation in urban areas such as Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver are well documented. However, little has been said about the efforts required to secure a permit in rural areas. In the following report, Canadian Aggregates presents a case history of a proposed quarry in a sparsely populated, relatively isolated region of eastern Nova Scotia where the licencing process is no less challenging.

By Robert L. Comedian, Editor

The $50-million coastal quarry project being proposed by Kelly Rock Ltd. near Sydney, N.S., to produce high quality concrete, asphalt and other construction aggregates is on hold pending approval from the provincial Department of Environment. The proposed Kelly Rock project is a quarry on Kelly’s Mountain about 30 km west of Sydney and 6 km northeast of Englishtown in Victoria County, Cape Breton Island. The quarry is to be located on the top of Kelly’s Mountain with main processing, storage and shipping operations located on the shoreline of St. Anne’s Bay.

Kelly Rock Ltd. was formed last year by Sydney-based Municipal Ready Mix Ltd., to extract and process the large reserves of high quality granite and ship the aggregates to the construction markets along the east coast of the United States. At the outset, the company intends on using portable crushing and screening equipment to process approximately 2 million tonnes (2.2 million tons per year) of mainly concrete and asphalt aggregates. As demand for the Kelly Rock products grows, a high capacity stationary facility will be established to produce up to 5.4 million tonnes (5.9 million tons per year).

EIA report under way

Roy Wilson, Kelly Rock’s vice president, told Canadian Aggregates that an in-depth environmental impact assessment (EIA) is being carried out as part of its application for an operating permit that will be submitted to the Nova Scotia Department of the Environment. The EIA is being conducted under the direction of the Sydney firm of Nolan, Davis & Associates (N.S.) Ltd., Consulting Engineers and Geologists. In addition to presenting a technical description of the project from an engineering and design perspective, the EIA contains a comprehensive study that investigates not only the environmental impact of the proposed Kelly Rock project but also the socio-economic effects it will have on the local community and the province in general. Working with the consulting engineers are a team of sub-consultants and specialists who are examining in detail the following topics: aquaculture, shipping, tidal conditions and currents, weather patterns, wildlife, commercial and recreational fishing, local culture, noise, heritage, archeology, employment opportunities, view plans from the Cabot Trail, Trans Canada Highway and surrounding St. Ann’s Bay area, tourism, traffic, air, water and ground pollution, storms and wells, and noise and vibration from the processing and blasting operations.

The EIA will be studied and evaluated by officials in the Department of the Environment in conjunction with the other provincial and federal regulatory agencies that may have an interest in the project. The findings and conclusions will be presented to the provincial environment minister who will then decide whether an operating permit for the new quarry will be granted. Wilson says that should the operating permit be issued, construction of the plant will commence as soon as possible.

Although the proposed quarry project began before the province’s new Environmental Impact Assessment Act became law, Kelly Rock felt that, for a number of reasons, the project should be evaluated under the new Act and is re-submitting its application for an operating permit. According to Wilson, the primary reason for this re-submission is that the Act is the sensible and responsible approach from all points of view. For over 30 years, Municipal Ready Mix has
been active in Cape Breton and is highly regarded as a good and conscientious corporate citizen. He explains that as a venture of municipal officials, Kelly Rock has every intention of maintaining this reputation in all of its business dealings. Also, by subjecting the project to the rigors of the environmental review process and addressing whatever negative impacts that may be perceived to exist, the project is in a stronger position to receive the necessary approvals while, at the same time, mitigating opposition.

Wilson says that an important component in the evaluation of the proposed quarry project has been the company's proactive consultation with local citizens and the media in order to ensure a true and accurate picture of the project is presented. He believes open and accessible information is key to the region's fishermen to explain the nature of the project and to dispel their fears that the valuable lobster beds in St. Ann's Bay will be affected by the shipping facilities. In fact most of the lobster fishing takes place in shallow waters well away from the deep water wharf and shipping lane. Concerns of scallop and crab fishermen were also addressed.

Wilson says that the quarry project's time schedule has been delayed slightly due to the implementation of the new environmental act and its opposition from a small vocal group who are arguing that the project will have a negative impact on the environment, fishing and tourism. Several other larger groups, however, are solidly behind the proposed quarry. The groups supporting the project feel that as long as the proper steps are taken to protect the environment and fisheries and provided that the quarry is a good neighbour, the long-term benefits of the project outweigh the possible negative effects.

The main benefits of the project have been identified as follows: permanent jobs for some 700 local citizens in an area where the annual unemployment rate ranges between nearly 9 and 12 per cent; the injection of millions of dollars into the local economy which largely depends on increasingly unviable west coast fisheries; an additional tax base for Victoria County; and increased foreign exchange earnings both provincially and federally.
Another benefit is increased emergency medical aid and fire protection services for local areas due to the plant's staffed first aid station and heavy equipment fleet.

The negative impacts have been quantitatively identified and adjustments to traditional fishing methods as they relate to navigation, the placing of fishing gear outside of the proposed shipping route, the relocation of a small number of loggers, and the remote possibility of oil spill from a maritime accident at the entrance to or within St. Anne's Bay.

Enclosed operations

The plans for the buildings, quarry, tunnels, and shipping facilities needed for the project have been taken into account to optimize the local population's and the environment's, including the flora and fauna, state Wilson.

The project has been conceived to reduce and eliminate any adverse effects the quarry might have as much as possible. The quarry design is based on the use of the "Glory Hole" technique which precludes the need for an open rock face. Quarrying activities will take place on top of the mountain out of the public which will facilitate a waste facility. Furthermore, all aggregate processing operations will be safely utilized by the local environment by recycling the waste products. The village of Englishtown is 5.5 km from the site. However, in spite of the relatively remote location of the quarry, a number of fairly elaborate measures will be taken to maintain good public relations. A water-spray dust suppression system will be used on the primary crusher in the quarry and a dust collector will be used on the quarry drilling rig. All buildings, conveyors, and storage facilities will be enclosed with metal sheeting to minimize dust and noise emissions. Additionally, the sheeting will be colored to blend into the surrounding landscape as well as reduce the visual impact of the plant from the shores of St. Anne's Bay. As many trees as possible will be kept during construction to screen the project. No off-highway trucks will be used in the quarry. Instead, the company will rely heavily on using conveyors to transport raw load to the primary crusher. Modern blasting techniques will be utilized to restrict noise and vibration and seismographs will be used to monitor and record any blasts. Screens will be fitted with rubber media from this phase of the processing operation.

A reclamation plan has also been prepared which will ensure the natures of several areas by allowing the quarry to flow to form a man-made lake, cutting down the quarry walls to allow easy entry and exit to the property, planting vegetation on exposed surfaces, removing or selling the buildings and equipment, and providing public access to the highland site for recreational purposes. Measures designed for clearing the quarry operation will be developed as quarrying proceeds, says Wilson.

History

Kelly's Mountain was first looked at as a source of high-quality construction aggregates by Municipal Ready-Mix in the spring of 1988. Much of the mountain is crown lands and the initial discussions were held with the province concerning possible use of the area as a quarry. Permission to set up a quarry was not requested at this stage but the idea was considered acceptable unless major problems with the project were identified. By the fall of 1988, two possible quarry sites were identified and the initial environmental report was submitted to the province late that year. While the eastern side of Kelly's Mountain was initially considered, attention turned to the present site, referred to as the Sixth Quarry, on the western side of the 490 million-year-old granite mountain. This site was preferred, states Wilson, because of the deep water access for ships provided by St. Anne's Bay. After securing permission in the spring of 1989, to build access roads into the proposed site from the various government authorities, namely Environment, Transportation, Lands and Forests, and the Federal Department of fisheries and Oceans, Kelly Rock completed several environmental studies. In addition, the company carried out a major exploratory drilling program. Concurrently, open public meetings were held with local citizens, commercial fishermen and town councillors which formed the baseline for Phase I of the EIA. Issues raised at those meetings together with the input from seven regulatory agencies are being addressed in Phase 2 of the EIA.

Project overview

At present, the quarry is planned to be 60 m (200 ft) deep with up to 700 m (2300 ft) long walls. Reserve is sufficient to last 20 to 40 years. The maximum rate of extraction is expected to be 5.4 million tonnes (5.9 million tpy). To begin production, an area of 20 ha (50 acres) will be stripped and the topsoil stockpiled for reclamation purposes.

A "slab" will be opened in the formation of an easily permit to permit water surface to drain through a treatment system into a brook. Working quarry walls with a height of about 10 to 12 m (30 to 35 ft) will be progressively widened by drilling and blasting. The north and south faces of the slab will provide rock for the crushing plant. Inside the quarry, cost rock will be fed by wheel loader into the primary crusher from the primary, a conveyor belt will carry the crushed stone to the groyne hole where it will be discharged down a 180 m (600 ft) shaft to aretain tunnel. Feeders will recover the crushed stone onto a conveyor in the tunnel for delivery to the other processing stages.
The glory hole and tunnel design will allow the quarry to be developed without disturbing the surrounding area. Two tunnels will be built. One tunnel will contain the conveyor while the other will be used for maintenance. Both tunnels will provide escape routes should a rock fall or other emergency occur. Ventilation systems will control carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide and carbon dioxide as well as oxygen levels underground.

The tunnel conveyor network will transport the stone to a covered stockpile just outside the mountain at the lower level where the main crushing and screening installation is located. Sized products will be stored in bins from which the crushed stone will feed into conveyors for delivery to the ship loading facilities. Along the way, screening screens will be employed to remove dust and deleterious material prior to the stone being loaded onto the ship.

The proposed shipping facilities feature a 2000 tonne/h (2250 tph) rail-mounted shiploader which will travel along the length of the wharf parallel to the ship. The wharf will be constructed to support the shiploader and its flexipit conveyor as well as being able to handle ships of up to 60000 tonnes (66000 tons) capacity. It will be located 100 m (500 ft) from shoreline to accommodate the 17 m (55 ft) draft required by such vessels.

Two spillways are being considered for the harbour facilities: a pipe pile-based wharf with or without a breakwater and a floating wharf utilizing the so-called "Flexipit System" with or without a breakwater.

The "Flexipit System" comprises large floating pontoons which are prefabricated and towed to the site where they are anchored to the seabed. A bridge would be strung from the wharf to the shore. Kelly Rock anticipates one or two Panamax-class self-unloading vessels per week will enter St. Anne's Bay.

If the Kelly Rock project is approved, it will bring to three the number of high-volume coastal aggregates operations that are located on Canada's Atlantic seaboard. The other two are Construction Aggregates' Porteau Cove granite plant near Sydney, N.S., and Newfoundland Resources and Mining Co.'s limestone quarry near Stephenville on Newfoundland's west coast.
$46m granite quarry proposal divides Cape Breton village

By Randy Jones

ENVIRONMENT REPORTER

A river runs through it—or at least it used to. In the heart of Cape Breton's Rocky Mountain Valley, the Kelties Mountain granite quarry proposal has been stirring up a hornet's nest of controversy and debate. The proposal, which would involve the extraction of 1.2 million metric tonnes of granite per year, has sparked concerns about environmental impacts, community concerns, and economic benefits. Some residents are worried about the potential for noise, dust, and vibrations to disrupt their way of life, while others see the project as a potential boost for the local economy.

The quarry, located near the small community of Kelties, is proposed to be developed by Kelties Mountain Granite Ltd. The company plans to extract the granite from a large outcrop of granite rock that extends for several kilometers. The proposal includes the construction of a large mining operation that would involve the use of explosives to remove the rock, followed by the installation of machinery to transport the granite to a processing plant.

The community of Kelties is divided on the issue. Some residents are enthusiastic about the potential for new jobs and economic growth, while others are concerned about the impact on their quality of life. Local businesses are also split, with some seeing a potential boon from increased activity, while others are worried about the potential for noise and dust to disrupt their livelihoods.

The proposal has sparked heated debates and public meetings, with residents and community leaders expressing their concerns and concerns. The project has also drawn the attention of the provincial government, which has imposed conditions on the development to mitigate potential environmental impacts.

In the end, the decision will rest with the provincial government, which will review the proposal and make a decision based on a thorough environmental assessment. The community is hopeful that their concerns will be taken into account, but also recognizes the potential economic benefits of the project. As the debate continues, the community remains divided, with both sides determined to make their voices heard.

The proposed granite quarry is expected to generate significant economic benefits for the community, including new jobs and increased activity. However, the potential environmental impacts and community concerns must be carefully considered before any decision is made. The community remains hopeful that a balanced approach can be found, allowing for economic growth while protecting the quality of life for all residents.
Town split on Kelly's Mountain open mine

By Paul MacNeill
TRURO BUREAU

KELLY'S MOUNTAIN

An environmental study currently underway for a proposed open-pit granite mine at Kelly's Mountain has resulted in local citizens drawing battle lines in the sand.

Residents in Kelly's Mountain and surrounding areas are split on the idea of the mine. While merchants and business establishments in the area are in favor of the project, some local residents, environmentalists and native groups have all expressed opposition to the idea.

Kelly Rock, controlled by Municipal Ready Mix, is a $1-million project to construct the third largest open-pit mine in the world.

The Kelly Rock project has been granted approval for 4,000 acres of Crown land and from the province and $30 million in tax credits from the federal government.

Nelson Edge, a local merchant and outspoken proponent for the mine, says his group has independently researched and studied the project and cannot come up with any conclusive reasons why the project should not go ahead.

Mr. Edge said a survey taken in the local area showed 88 per cent of the residents are in favor of the mine.

Mr. Edge also says the majority of fishermen and tourist operators have voiced their approval of the project.

On the other hand, environmentalists claim the Kelly Rock project will result in job losses for the fishing and tourism industries.

Leon Dubinsky, an English resident opposing the mine, says the government planned to “rubber stamp” the project and were not prepared to do a major environmental study on it.

Mr. Dubinsky says heavy shipping in prime lobster grounds and acid mine water runoff will have a detrimental effect on the fishery. He says wildlife conservation and potential health problems must be taken into account.

The spiritual significance of Kelly's Mountain to native people has led to strong opposition within the native community. Lawrence Bernard, a native leader fighting against the project, says the sacred burial sites of ancestors located at Kelly's Mountain should remain undisturbed.

A spokesman for the provincial Department of the Environment said public hearings for residents expressing concerns about the project are expected to be held later this year but no date has been confirmed.
AFTER A SERIES OF PUBLIC MEETINGS THERE ARE STILL PERSISTING CONCERNS WITH KELLY ROCK'S PROPOSED SITENORIAN GRAVEL QUARRY. RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY THE SAVE KELLY'S MOUNTAIN SOCIETY ON QUARRIES DISCLOSES INFORMATION THAT SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF ST. ANN'S BAY. WE UNDERSTAND THE NEED FOR VIABLE EMPLOYMENT IN THIS AREA, BUT WE MUST EVALUATE THIS NEED IN TERMS OF WHAT THE FUTURE MIGHT BE IF AN INTERNATIONAL SCALE QUARRY IS ALLOWED TO DEVELOP HERE. IT IS IMPORTANT TO FACE ALL POSSIBILITIES HONESTLY. WE RECOGNIZE THAT PEOPLE WANT TO TRUST THE KELLY ROCK COMPANY AS A GOOD CORPORATE CITIZEN AND THE CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AS PROTECTION AGAINST MISHAPS, BUT, PROFIT CAN OUTWEIGH GOOD INTENTIONS AND GOVERNMENT CONCERNS CAN SUFFER. BEFORE WE ENTICE TO OTHERS OUR SHARED FUTURE, WE MUST BE SURE THAT A THOROUGH STUDY HAS BEEN DONE AND THEN CAREFULLY WEIGH THE COSTS AND THE BENEFITS. PLEASE TAKE TIME TO READ AND THINK ABOUT SOME OF THE CONCERNS PRESENTED BELOW.

INDUSTRIES HAVE BEEN MADE INTO FOUR QUARRY OPERATIONS: IN FREDERICTON N.B., WINDSOR N.S., CAMSO N.S., AND GLENELANDA SCOTLAND. CITIZEN COMPLAINTS INCLUDE NOISE, DUST, CRACKED FOUNDATIONS, LOWERED WATER TABLES, AND THE NEED TO GROWTHLY RECALL WINDOWS UP TO 12 KMS AWAY FROM THE BLAST SITE. EVEN WHERE THE QUARRY IS COVERED, AS IN FREDERICTON, THERE ARE COMPLAINTS OF DUST ASSOCIATED WITH BLASTING, DUMPING, LOADING, AND TRUCKING.

KELLY ROCK LTD. SAYS THEY WILL SHIP THEIR PRODUCT. HOWEVER, THEY PROPOSE TO COMMENCE PRODUCTION BY JULY 1, 1980, BEFORE COMPLETION OF SHIPPING FACILITIES ARE COMPLETED. THIS WOULD INDICATE THAT GRavel WOULD INITIALLY BE MOVED BY TRUCK, SOMETHING THE COMPANY HAS SAID IT WILL NOT DO. THIS NEEDS TO BE CLARIFIED.

INITIALLY THERE WAS A PROMISE OF 100 JOBS WHICH KELLY ROCK LTD. NOW ADMITS IS CLOSER TO 80. ALTHOUGH REQUESTED, NO BREAKDOWN OR LISTING OF THESE JOBS HAS BEEN PROVIDED. THE WINDSOR JUNCTION QUARRY PROMISED 100 JOBS ALSO. ONLY 30 WERE ACTUALLY CREATEd, 20 OF WHICH WERE SKILLED PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS UNABLE TO BE FILLED LOCALLY. IN THE BEGINNING, A LOT OF LABOUR JOBS WILL BE CREATED. AS CONSTRUCTION IS COMPLETED, HOWEVER, MANY JOBS WILL BE ELIMINATED BECAUSE THE WATER QUARRying IS HIGHLY AUTOMATED. ADDED TO THIS CONCERN IS THE FACT THAT THE PARENT COMPANY OF KELLY ROCK LTD. IS MUNICIPAL READING OF SYDNEY WHOSE OTHER OPERATIONS ARE ALL UNIONIZED. THESE UNIONS HAVE A NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED MEMBERS WHO MAY WANT TO CLAIM PRIORITY FOR JOBS AT THIS SITE.

FURTHERMORE, THERE ARE SERIOUS OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH WORKING AT A QUARRY. SILICOSIS, TUBERCULOSIS, AND BRONCHITIS (LUNG DISEASES) ARE FOUND TO BE MORE PREVALENT IN QUARRY WORKERS AND "DUSTERS" (FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS EXPOSED TO DUST CARRIED HOME BY WORKERS ON THEIR CLOTHES AND CARS). HEARING IMPAIRMENTS AND EXSUSITATORY DISEASES ARE ALSO CAUSED BY THE TOOLS FREQUENTLY USED IN QUARRY OPERATIONS. IN FACT, AUTOMATION OF QUARRIES IS NOW UNIVERSALLY SOUGHT FOR MACHINES ARE MORE EFFICIENT THAN MEN AND FEWER MEN MEANS FEWER HEALTH RISKS.
If you’re driving to or from Cape Smokey ten years from now, will you be saying: “I wish I’d done something” or will you be saying: “I’m glad I did.”

Kelly Rock Ltd. models their quarry plan on the existing quarry in Glenanda, Scotland located on the remote shores of Loch Linhe.

Glenanda’s management states that quarriesing “is an anti-social business.” All access to this site is by sea or air. Most of the local employment is generated by the importation of people and equipment to the site. This quarry is to be covered. After 7 years of operation, however, it is still a “construction project” so no buildings are in place to minimize the dust, noise, and vibration. We include the picture of Glenanda to help you visualize how much of the face of Kelly’s Mountain will have to be excavated to make room for conveyor belts, heavy equipment, crushers, access roads, administration buildings, stockpiles, etc. This phase of the quarry will be clearly visible from Jersey Cove to Cape Smokey.

Do we realize how very very big the proposed operation will actually be? Kelly Rock Ltd. at full production, is projected to be the world’s third largest aggregate producer. 460,000 tons of granite is to be blasted monthly. The company plans to clear four thousand acres of crown land between Cape Enrage and the Trans-Canada highway. This land extends directly behind Englishtown. There is a tendency to dismiss this scenic wilderness tract as having no value beyond that of mining. However, to focus on the area of interest, Dr. D. Davis, curator of the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, has publicly refused the environmental impact assessment’s coverage on wildlife. We stated on C.B.C.’s Information Morning program, February 15th, 1990, that the company’s report had taken information provided by him from a very limited specific study and applied it to all
THE WILDLIFE ON KELLY'S MOUNTAIN. CONSIDERING THE SIZE OF THE INTENDED PROJECT, HE SAID A TEAM OF BIOLOGISTS WOULD HAVE TO DO AN ON-SITE FIELD STUDY OVER THE COURSE OF A YEAR TO ADEQUATELY DOCUMENT THE PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE DEPENDENT ON THIS AREA.

REVIEW OF THE COMPANY'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT REVEALS OTHER AREAS WHERE THE STUDY IS INADEQUATE. FOR EXAMPLE: THERE HAS BEEN NO ICE SURVEY; ALL WEATHER INFORMATION IS BASED ON THAT OF SYDNEY AIRPORT; TIDE LEVELS ARE TAKEN FROM READINGS IN NORTH SYDNEY; THERE IS NO MENTION OF THE HUNGER EASTERNLY WIND WHICH WOULD CARRY NOISE, SILT, AND DUST INTO THE RAY; THERE IS NO MIGRATORY BIRD STUDY AND NO STUDY ON THE DEMERIDING OF LIME CACE, TO MENTION A FEW. ALL OF THIS INDICATES THE NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE FOUR-SEASON STUDY TO BE DONE.

UNLIKE COMMUNITY, TOURISM AND THE FISHERIES ARE SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIES. THE FISHING INDUSTRY HAS BEEN THE LIFE-BLOOD OF THIS AREA FOR GENERATIONS. LOBSTER FISHING IS ENDANGERED AND MUST BE PROTECTED FROM INDUSTRIAL HAZARDS SUCH AS SITZAION FROM EROSION AND FLOODED SETTLING PONDS, CONTAMINATED BALLAST WATER, ILLEGAL DUMPING OF OIL-CADDEN BILGE WATER AND DISBURSEMENT OF FISHING GROUNDS BY LARGE VESSELS.

THE "INDUSTRY" THAT GENERATES THE MOST JOBS IN CAPE RYTON IS TOURISM. VICTORIA COUNTY IS DOING VERY WELL BY IT. WE MUST CONSIDER THE RISK TO EXISTING AND POTENTIAL TOURISM BY THE INDUSTRIALIZATION OF AN AREA WHOSE NATURAL BEAUTY IS A PROVEN ATTRACTION.

POSTPONEMENT OF THE KELLY ROCK LTD. ENVIRONMENTAL HEARINGS ALLOWS EVERYONE THE OPPORTUNITY TO Voice CONCERNS. IT ALSO ALLOWS US THE OPPORTUNITY TO OPENLY DISCUSS AN ISSUE WHICH CONCERNS US ALL, KNOWING THAT WHAT IS DECIDED FOR THIS AREA TODAY WILL BE FELT FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PROJECT, SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE NOVA SCOTIA ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL COUNCIL, BOX 2107 HALIFAX N.S. B3J 3B7 OR CONTACT THE SAVE KELLY'S MOUNTAIN SOCIETY, BOX 14, ENGLISHHURST N.S. B3J 3M0.

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A FEDERAL STUDY IS WARRANTED, PLEASE CONTACT: MR. ROY SHERWOOD, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, CANADA, AT: P.O. BOX 940, STATION M, HALIFAX B3J 2V0

TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE "SAVE KELLY'S MOUNTAIN SOCIETY" CAN BE MADE TO THE CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENCE FUND, 347 COLLEGE ST., SUITE 301, TORONTO, ONTARIO M5T 2Z9.
Crown Land to be given in an agreement in principle to Kelly Rock Ltd.

Land to be purchased by Kelly Rock Ltd.

2,000 Acres