



**Your Project.
Our Passion.**

June 28, 2019

Deb McCabe, Planning Supervisor / Zoning Administrator
Township of Ramara
2297 Highway 12
Brechtin, ON
L0K 1B0

Dear Ms. McCabe:

RE: Response to Peer Review of Traffic Impact Study – 3rd Submission
OUR FILE 1515A

This letter has been prepared in response to the 3rd submission peer review comments received on April 17, 2019 from the Township of Ramara peer reviewer (Tatham Engineering). The comments were submitted as part of Tatham Engineering's review of TMIG's traffic impact study dated September 2018 for the proposed Fleming quarry extension located at 3230 Switch Road, Township of Ramara.

In their 3rd submission, Tatham Engineering provided comments on five items. On four of these items, Tatham Engineering concluded their original comments have been addressed and that no further response is required.

We provide the following response to the final outstanding comment from Tatham Engineering:

Comment: The consultant notes that recent improvements to Switch Road (completed by the Township) has mitigated any outstanding physical issues, and that additional condition assessments will not result in any further improvements.

Through discussion with Township staff, it is our understanding that the recent improvements to Switch Road were limited to pulverization and repaving of the road surface - no improvements to the road base were implemented to increase the structural integrity of the road. While the noted improvements will provide some structural improvement through the paved surface, they are not necessarily sufficient to accommodate the continued loadings relating to gravel trucks. While we agree that any visual inspections at this stage will not yield any valuable information, it cannot be inferred that the road is suitable to accommodate gravel trucks. In order to properly assess whether or not the road is built to a suitable standard, a geotechnical study would be required, and structural improvements completed to address any deficiencies identified. It is noted that a small section of Switch Road (from Rama Road to a point 85 metres east of Rama Road) was improved by the County of Simcoe as part of their reconstruction of Rama Road. The structure of this section of Switch Road could be confirmed through a review of the County's construction drawings.

In the absence of a geotechnical study to confirm the existing structure, it is recommended that the quarry operator assume responsibility for maintenance



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and/or repair of Switch Road from the site access to Rama Road to ensure appropriate conditions are maintained to the satisfaction of the Township.

While not addressed in the TIS, it is understood that there is a second access to the quarry property, located on Switch Road approximately 1.2 km east of the existing access. Although the second access is currently closed, should the quarry operator wish to re-open this access, the noted structural assessment of Switch Road would need to be extended easterly to the second quarry access - thus also extending the potential reconstruction limits along Switch Road.

Response: Fowler is requesting further information and clarification from the Township as to what would be required from Fowler if they were to agree to the peer reviewer's recommendation to assume responsibility for maintenance and/or repair of the approximately 165 metres along Switch Road from the site access to Rama Road.

Fowler currently pays an annual aggregate levy of 20.2 cents per tonne of aggregate shipped from the quarry, of which 12.32 cents per tonne (61%) of that levy goes to the township. At the current rate, the proposed maximum annual tonnage limit of 300,000 tonnes would provide the township with an annual income of \$36,960.

The existing quarry property was also taxed at a rate of 2.446356% in 2018 and if approved, the proposed extension will be taxed at the same rate as the existing quarry. Together it is expected that the aggregate levy and taxes the township currently receives from Fowler would cover the costs related to the ongoing maintenance of the approximately 165 metres of Switch Road that the peer reviewer is recommending Fowler assume responsibility for.

It also has to be recognized that this is a public road owned by the township and Fowler does not have authority to make minor improvements to this road without authorization from the township.

In regard to the peer reviewer's comment on any potential re-opening of the second access point further down Switch Road for the quarry, this access point is located outside of the portion of the property licenced under the Aggregate Resources Act. As such, this access point would not be utilized for purposes relating to the operation of the existing or proposed quarry. This access point simply serves as a secondary access point to the eastern portion of the property as there is no way to access it from the western portion of the property due to the wetland that bisects the property. Fowler has no plans to utilize the access point for anything more than to maintain the existing water monitoring wells in the eastern portion of the property.

Yours truly,



James Gordon
Material Manager
Fowler Construction Company Ltd.

cc. *Moreen Miller, Brandy Creek Consulting*
Brian Zeman, MHBC
James Newlands, MHBC