

# Summary of Oct. 26, 2009 Public Information Session on Blasting

Enzo Bertucci – Project Manager

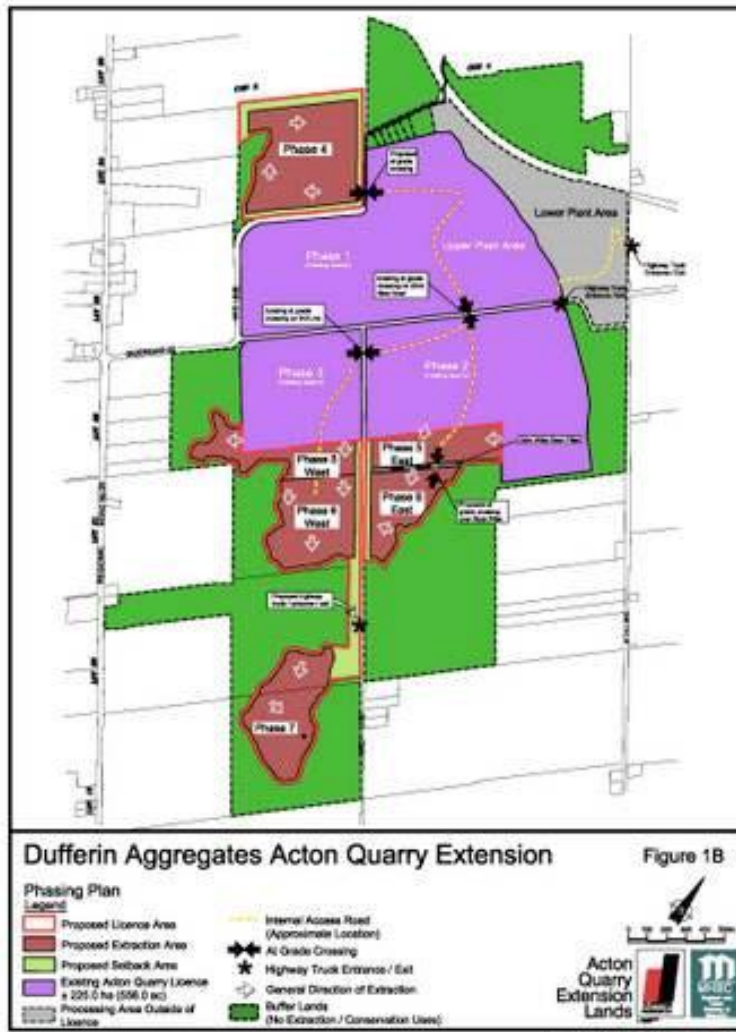
Dufferin Aggregates Acton Quarry

Community Liaison Committee Meeting

January 26, 2010



# Update of Application Status was provided by Andrea Bourrie



- Application was made on March 19/09. The Joint Agency Review Team (JART) process is in progress.
- The originally scheduled timeline for the JART review and final report preparation is approximately 24 months from the submission date.
- JART Peer Review comments are underway. We have responded to a number of the comments already and are working presently working on responses on others.
- We have met with members of the JART review team on issues related to the Natural Environment Report.
- A status report that was expected this fall is most likely delayed until spring 2010.

# Status of Acton Quarry Application

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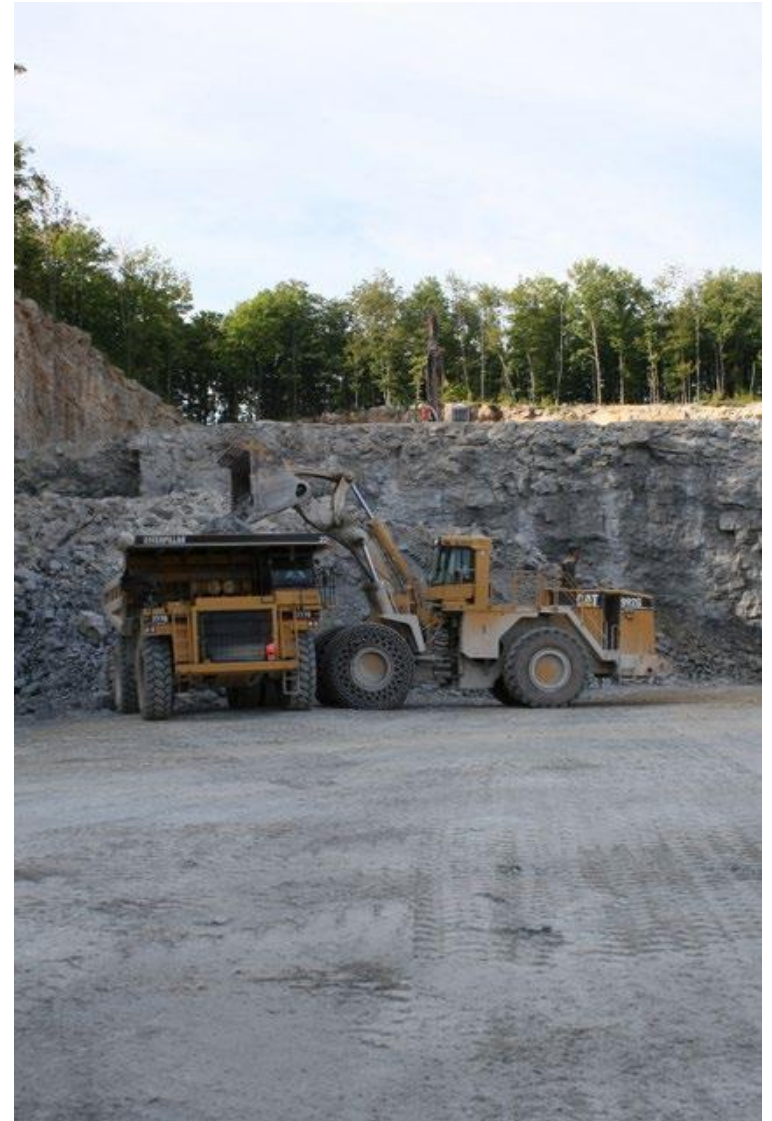
- Along with the information exchange with JART, there is the need to have meetings in order to work through the issues.
- Sub-committee meetings are also being organized to allow the professionals in various disciplines to maximize their review/comment effectiveness.
- Town of Halton Hills had a presentation at Council on Nov. 9/09 to provide an update of the extension application along with the Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendment applications.
- Andrea Bourrie made a deputation to Council providing them an update on behalf of Dufferin Aggregates as well as being available to answer any questions.

## Next Portion of the Presentation Focused on “Blasting 101”

- Andrew Curic from Golder Associates provided a technical presentation on the blasting principles that are used at the Acton Quarry. He demonstrated how Ontario Ministry Guidelines fared against other U.S. States in both Air Concussion and Ground Vibration readings.
- Andrew also spoke about the characteristics that could cause a blast to misfire and provide a disturbance to area residents.
- Charts were displayed that illustrated the typical Ground & Air Vibration readings in Acton and how they were well below the numbers it would take in order to experience damage to one’s home.

# Final Section of the Presentation Updated Quarry Initiatives

- Rob McDougall closed out the presentation with an explanation of what has happened at the Acton Quarry since the last public meeting on May 5/09.
- He briefed everyone on the types of changes that have been implemented during blasts in order to minimize the impacts to neighbours, such as: the use of plugs and balls to ensure no stemming ejection, additional use of weather forecasts, profile the blast face to ensure no face ejections, and increased the amount of stemming to reduce vertical rifling.
- Results seem to show an improvement. Final conclusions cannot be made until further testing is completed



At the end of the presentation the audience was engaged in a Q & A session.

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- Some of the questions that were asked included;
  - What type of emissions are present in the explosion?
  - Is there a Co2 contribution due to blasting, if so to what degree?
  - Can blast fatiguing cause damage to area residents homes?
  - Is it safer to have a home built on bedrock or soil?
  - Can a receptor further away from the closest one have a higher reading for either air or ground vibrations?
  - How does Ontario Standards match up against other Canadian Provinces?
  - Does blasting affect species at risk?
  - What is the difference between dBL's and dBA's?



# Community Engagement

Presently we engage the community in a number of different ways such as:

- Open houses
- Tree planting events
- Public information sessions
- Bus tours



With the Acton Extension Application approaching the 1 year mark, it is important to seek out new opportunities to get feedback from community and stakeholders

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- What is the best avenue to get our message out?
- How do we educate public on the importance of this application and the benefits of its approval?
- Who are the key groups within the public sector that we need to sit down with and have a conversation?
- What are our best options for joint projects and partnerships?

These are all questions that we are asking the Community Liaison Committee to provide their input on.



# Brainstorming Session



# Brainstorming



# Dufferin Aggregates

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