

October 19, 2015

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OCT 20 2015

Don Barrella, Plannr III
Napa Co. Dept. of Planning, Building & Environmental Services
1195 Third St. #210, Napa CA 94559
707-299-1338 donald.barrella@countyofnapa.com

Napa County Planning, Building
& Environmental Services

Attn: Don Barrella, PC and BOS

Note: Please include these comments in the Public Administrative Record for the Syar EIR.

- 1.) Syar Napa Quarry (SNQ) is not abiding by the stipulations of its operating permit to keep the mine's exposed surfaces watered to a moisture content of 3% or better and it is, therefore, not controlling its fugitive dust. With our photos we have documented that Syar Napa Quarry's bad practices and sporadic, insufficient watering have allowed huge amounts of dust including respirable silica to billow into Napa's common air space. We have documented quarry dust being kicked up into the air from the wheels of trucks leaving SNQ while merging into traffic on Napa-Vallejo Highway and at the end of Kaiser Road. SNQ production needs to be cut back because it doesn't have the water allotment to water the required amount needed to control the dust at its present production level. (See Steve Booth's water data, 10-16-15 Comment Letter on Water Usage for Dust Control at SNQ).
- 2.) The SNQ dust problem (PM10) has been calculated to be at a magnitude of 10 times worse than assumed in the Syar EIR. That is why the SNQ's permit to operate must include independent monitoring of dust at the perimeters and in the neighborhoods, and to be paid for by SNQ is obligatory. This is done at Marin County's San Rafael Quarry and is not an unusual quarry requirement. We especially need monitoring here because the prevailing wind blows Syar dust and emissions right over and *into* the City of Napa.
- 3.) The Machine Operator's local should be standing up for SNQ employees to get the worker health safety education and upgraded quarry safety practices and protective gear they need to halt employee exposure to respirable crystalline silica dust and the array of toxic emissions being spued out of the old AC plant that has not been updated to reduce pollution and in the processing of recycled materials that contain an array of toxic chemicals that are billowing from the processing areas and create an even larger health threat than aggregate processing does. (Yet, more data that was omitted from the Syar EIR.)
- 4.) We have determined the baselines used in the Syar EIR are inaccurate and whole categories of foundational information have been stated inaccurately or omitted. We did some research on the authors of the road dust models used in the EIR and discovered they are lobbyists for the mining industry.

5.) Remember when we banned the use of leaded gas? The State of CA is moving toward banning other really bad fuels that are still being used in our state. Our Air District and Napa County can help this along by banning the use of the worst diesel products being used at SNQ.

6.) One would assume our Air District is there to protect the air we breathe. Our Air District says it is complaint driven. I have had personal experience turning in Dust Complaints to our Air District, BAAQMD. Although my experience has been disappointing, our citizens have to stay vigilant and turn in complaints when we see dust or detect nuisance odors. When you turn in a complaint, one inspector, who has to take care of two counties, drives to SNQ, currently from Fairfield, and parks at the entrance and calls the Quarry manager. Operations at SNQ pretty much stop temporarily so the dust will stop. It does not appear the inspector comes dressed appropriately for inspection at the Quarry in protective clothing and respirator in hand. The inspector does not appear to bring along equipment such as a moisture meter to check the moisture content of the roadways in use and the aggregate piles at the AC and AB plants to see if the moisture content is 3% or better. The Syar EIR says SNQ is doing this currently and 3% or better is the standard for dust control. The inspector does not check the processing areas to see if the water spray equipment is fully operational on the crushers and conveyors and take some photos or wear a body cam to record it. With real inspection, the inspector would obtain verifiable proof on which to report the situation at SNQ. There is much more I can say about this, but that will be at a meeting with BAAQMD. We have many things to talk with the Air District about to improve the way they are handling dust and odor complaints in the field. Based on our experience, we can not depend on our Air District to accurately assess SNQ complaints.

7.) The Syar DEIR is riddled with contradictions. Just *one* example out of the many—is it 2 million tons/yr, 1.3 million tons/yr or 810,000 tons/yr of production allowable? What is it going to be? The County has to settle on what the conditions are going to be and *eliminate* all the rest of the multiple choices that have been left in the DEIR, I think. If the County doesn't bring clarity and compliance, Syar will essentially do what ever it wants to the detriment of our society and health safety. Our aggregate is a finite resource that should be extracted at a controlled rate to make it last. Napa County does not have to worry about Syar's wealth, which is extensive, but it does need to worry about the conservation of Napa County's aggregate resources which are limited.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Booth
Stop Syar Expansion
stopsyarexpansion@gmail.com

Barrella, Donald

From: Keith E. Anderson <kedith@napanet.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 12:18 PM
To: Barrella, Donald
Cc: Keith Anderson
Subject: SYAR Industries proposal before Planning Commission

Mr Donald Barrella;

My wife and I have lived in the County of Napa, and then in the City of Napa, for the past 35 years.

We have noticed the quarry and the Syar trucks loaded with rock products and the other local building products.

We have no connection with the company and have no axe to grind, but we strongly support their request before the Planning Commission.

It is a "no brainer" that Napa County should have their own source of badly needed products for road construction and maintenance.

The alternative would be to truck it all in from long distances and then there is the employment the company provides - both a positive.

Mining isn't as pretty and neat as vineyards are, but mined products are every bit as necessary for the needs of the County.

Keith and Edith Anderson
99 S Newport Drive
Napa CA 94559

707 257 0813

Barrella, Donald

From: David Sawyer <rndsawyer@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 10:26 AM
To: Barrella, Donald
Subject: SYAR

Put me on the approve list. We need high paying jobs, a local source of aggregate and building materials, and support for a great local job creator. I have live here for 50 years and have seen the demise of Kaiser Steel, Mare Island, and the rest of our industrial base. I can not see any positives in delaying this approval.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

David Sawyer
1 Abbey Ct.
Napa, CA 94558
707-812-0974

Barrella, Donald

From: Paulette Jonkovsky <pj1201@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 7:49 AM
To: Barrella, Donald
Subject: Syar Quarry Project

Dear Mr. Barrella,

I am not able to attend the Wednesday, October 21, 2015 meeting for the Syar Napa Quarry Project.

I am asking you to certify the Project EIR and approve the project so that Napa County has a local supply of quality aggregate to improve our roads and infrastructure. Syar has been a good neighbor, employer, supplier and is critical to our local economy.

Please vote in favor of the project.

Sincerely,

Paulette Jankovsky
1201 Mt. Veeder Rd
Napa, CA



JOHN R. ROBERTSON
Sheriff - Coroner

NAPA COUNTY OFFICE OF SHERIFF-CORONER

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OCT 19 2015

Napa County Planning, Building
& Environmental Services

October 8, 2015

Donald Barrella
Napa County Department of Planning, Building & Environmental Services
Engineering and Conservation Division
1195 Third St. #210
Napa CA 94559

Re: Syar Firearms Range

Mr. Barrella,

Upon the completion of the Syar Gun Range Lead and Arsenic Cleanup Project in December of 2003, the Napa Sheriff's Office converted to lead-free ammunition for all firearms training (except rifles). Employees are required, under the supervision of our Range Staff, to load their handguns with provided lead-free ammunition while participating in firearms training at the range. Employees from the California Highway Patrol, Napa Valley College Police Department and Napa State Hospital Police Department are also required to use lead-free ammunition while participating in firearms training at the range.

The Sheriff's Office also installed bullet traps to avoid further lead and arsenic contamination from any lead rounds being used in rifles. The Sheriff's Department has maintained the bullet traps as needed to prevent lead and arsenic contamination.

If you have further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Respectfully,


John R. Robertson
County of Napa, Sheriff

Barrella, Donald

From: Gail <gail.randol@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 12:52 PM
To: Barrella, Donald
Subject: Syar Industries

I support the Napa Quarry Project. It is very necessary to Napa.
Gail Randol

1064 Delbrook Drive
Napa, Ca. 94558

Barrella, Donald

From: Ross Workman <rosswork@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 8:31 PM
To: Barrella, Donald
Subject: SYAR-- Stop The Torture

Don—

I really hope you can bring this saga to an end. SYAR must be the most patient applicant Napa County has ever had. But enough is enough. Please approve this necessary and not harmful project Napa needs.

Thanks,

Ross Workman
14 Peninsula Ct
Napa

254 7292



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

Barrella, Donald

From: Leslie Bucher <lbbk@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 9:18 PM
To: Barrella, Donald
Subject: Approve Syar Quarry Project

Napa needs affordable high quality aggregate. I am a 60 plus year Napa native and I have never written to support anything. The opposition to this project has me fired up. Syar has been a great neighbor and is a necessity for the county. Do opponents know the importance of aggregate to build roads, bridges, foundations, or even bike paths? They require "rock" and it needs to be good quality and nearby. The occasional blast is not an issue.

Please do what is good for the community and approve the project now!

Thank you.

Karl Bucher, resident and business owner

Sent from my iPad

Barrella, Donald

From: Wallace Francis <wallace@wallacefrancis.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 17, 2015 11:07 AM
To: Barrella, Donald; mattpope384@gmail.com; tkscottco@aol.com; napacommissioner@yahoo.com; McDowell, John; heather@vinehillranch.com; Wagenknecht, Brad; Luce, Mark; Dillon, Diane; Pedroza, Alfredo; Caldwell, Keith
Subject: save Skyline Park

Dear all-

I am writing to you to express my opposition to the current plan to allow Syar Industries to expand their operations and remove two hills that are currently part of Skyline Park. I do not believe the benefit outweighs the costs. I do not agree that the Environmental Impact Report accurately represents the threat to the health and well-being of the citizens of Napa and I have grave misgivings regarding the credibility of Syar Industries. I do not believe their track record demonstrates that they have the best interests of our citizens in mind. I have grave misgivings about what appears to be a presumption in the minds of anyone that this permanent, environmental change which our children and their children will be left with can be legitimated under the guise of good business. I do not think that anyone who supports this position is either truly informed or in touch with what is happening around them. The products that will be produced by the destruction of this fragile nature preserve are not sufficiently valuable to the community at large (and are available elsewhere as well) to support this decision.

Although it is a common misconception that our environment has the power to absorb the impact that our species has upon it, there is little scientific evidence to support this assumption and a vast body of information pointing to exactly the opposite proposition. Although the current struggle has been portrayed as an attempt to protect the natural beauty that surrounds us, it is, in fact, at it's core a struggle to preserve the air, water, and soil that provide us with life. The psychological benefit of open-space, although of paramount concern, is not the true basis of the concerns.

Finally, I urge you (as many of you already do) to re-examine this conflict and move it away from a "nature versus business" false dichotomy and toward a state-of-the-art resolution in which interests may coincide rather than oppose one another. This need not be a zero-sum game.

Very truly yours,

Wallace Francis

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Wallace Francis
Attorney at Law
100 E St. Ste 307
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
phone: 707-544-1134
fax:707-581-1870

Barrella, Donald

From: Patrick O'Neill <poneill1993@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 10:53 AM
To: Barrella, Donald
Subject: I support Napa Quarry

Dear Mr. Donald Barrella,

I support the Napa Quarry Project and encourage you to approve the project for its value to the local economy, job creation, and as a critical source of local aggregate for Napa County.

Regards,
Patrick O'Neill
4457 Sandalwood St
Napa, CA 94558