

**PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY**

**PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING**

**Haas Sons, Inc – 29 Pines Site**

**November 21, 2024**

Wayne Rapienski, 6794 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Eau Claire, WI, (Town of Wheaton)

My name is Wayne Rapienski. I live at 6794 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue, just directly east of that. I'm just concerned about extending the reclamation to 13 years. It just seems like this could go on forever and if we don't...I mean, I've seen these happen before where they just come in and they say they're going to make a gravel pit and it sits empty for 4-5 years and it's just a concern of mine. I don't think it should go 13 years, so....that's all I really have to say.

Steven G., Precision Pipeline, 3314 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Eau Claire, (Town of Wheaton)

I'm Steven G.... from Precision Pipeline. We have a building just above the purple square and then the lot to the left of the proposed access road in the orange square. So we have that area right there. It is our concern is this is going to kind of abut up right to the back of us. Has there been any consideration for, you know, sound, dust and then also the traffic along this road?

33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue has a couple of bends in it. You can see one of them in this picture and the other one you really can't see and as the road sits right now, 2 semis cannot pass on the road, so one would have to stop as it is currently, so with, you know, with the amount of increased truck traffic, I think there's going to be some issues. If you kind of wrap around our building on three sides, between truck traffic and the gravel operation, so we've got concerns.

We have general public that comes in and shops in our building, plus we have deliveries that come and go 5 days a week.

Jason Haas

To address your concerns, we typically chloride the ....calcium chloride the pit road, the access road to keep the dust down and any other concerns. We like working with neighbors to find out what your concerns are and how we can remedy them.

We don't haul usually tractor trailers in and out of there. It's almost all quad axle dump trucks so they're more maneuverable than tractor trailers.

During the height of operations, so the bottom picture there... During the operations, we have topsoil berms, usually right around the 10' high x 30' topsoil berm between....you know, basically surrounding the property to screen the public and screen any noise or dust that might occur. While we're crushing, we implement spray bars, we usually bring a water tanker to keep dust control....we're controlled by MSHA to keep our dust below 5% visible with a few.... Start year round...a little more dust during start up and shut down for a few days but then as you are producing, we have spray bars on our belts to keep our dust down below that 5% visible threshold. The only thing I would ever say that you would have an issue with would be that driveway through dust. That would be something you can give us a call and we rechloride it or bring water down if we're waiting for the chloride in the meantime. Usually we don't have issues as far as that goes. We're not expecting to be hauling five days a week all year round. It

would be in bursts, you know....we would be hauling maybe for five days a week to get a job down and then it would sit empty for a while with just piles in it. Then we would haul, you know, here and there. It's not going to be scheduled 10-25 loads a day every single day, if you know....so.

Steven G.

Do you chloride the piles that are in the pit? I do know that before we graveled our lot, just the wind blowing across, and that's a really, really fine sand material there, and I mean, it created dust that...before we graveled our lot when it was in construction, so, I mean, would you chloride the mounds as well?

Jason Haas

There is no way I can do that. I don't have the....I don't know how we'd ever .....you'd have to have some kind of fire ....to spray your piles with chloride.

Steven G.

Use something like a hydro mulch?

Jason Haas – Over the top of gravel piles?

Steven G.

I mean, something to keep the dust down?

Jason Haas - No, I've never.....we've never had to do that or have any issues with that. Wind is wind. If you're going to complain about wind, dust coming from a gravel pile, you're going to complain about smell coming from the farm. I mean, I can't control the wind. I'm sorry but that's.....I don't know what I can tell about that.

Steven G.

Your operation is going to be very, very close to our fence in the back of our building. I think where some of this proposed, I mean, you're probably not 100' away. I think we are 60' to our fence and as it's proposed, would abut basically up right up to the fence.

Jason Haas - So, see where the piles are right now, if you prefer that, we could try to keep the piles far away from your property as possible. We can reverse the way it looks. Because that's like not set in stone...you know, we're not setting up a stationary plant that's going to..... We can put our piles to the south along the south edge as long as we have enough minable area and area to put it there. We could do that, absolutely.

Steven G.

I think that would be beneficial. At least for our setup. I don't know about the other surrounding landowners.

Jason Haas – the other surrounding landowner works for us. He's a really nice guy.

Steven G.

My last comment is just the pavement on that road is in really good shape. It's new. Additional truck traffic, you know... is there anything to keep the road in good condition. Fix Potholes or repave it. Having a bond on the road, anything like that? 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue that is.

Jason Haas – I guess.....what are you guys doing are...? What kind of bond....what kind of stuff are you guys doing for the roads?

Steve – We're normal truck activity. We're not, you know, an increased amount.

Jason Bergeron – I would say historically, with non-metallic mining, that that hasn't been..., I shouldn't say has been an issue but has never been built into as a condition in a permit that I can recall. Unless you can think of something Doug in terms of road conditions? That's just kind of the nature of the...

Doug Clary

Up in Woodmohr we had a couple.

Jason Bergeron

Woodmohr?

Doug Clary

Yes

Unknown

Is that there a town road or....

Doug Clary

Town road

Unknown

Town road would be the township.

Steve G

Thanks

Wayne Rapienski

Can I just add one more thing? I was just concerned about the future of that once.... Is that going to be turned into a commercial lot after the mining is done? I mean, is zoning going out that far and there is going to an industrial.....will that be turned in after its level 13 years from now? Will it be turned into a commercial area?

Doug Clary

At this point in time, we do not know that. We know that County Hwy T is going to 4 lanes so sooner or later I would assume that there will be some type of review of that area by the Town in regards to zoning and could potentially go to commercial or stay the same.

Wayne Rapienski

So it's going from agriculture now to open mine?

Jason Bergeron - The actual base lot was in the ag district so once reclamation is done, it will still be within that ag district and someone will need to petition for a rezone to execute the scenario that you are talking about. So will have to go back to Town and County.

**Operational comments continued which is outside the jurisdiction of the reclamation permit.**

