

From: emmausofsv@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2009 11:52 AM
To: Thu Bui
Subject: Renewal Title V permit public hearing

Mr. Thu Bui,

I will not be able to attend the Public Hearing and Public comment opportunity for the proposed Renewal Title V Permit for Lehigh Southwest Cement Company which is scheduled for this Thursday, September 17th at the Quinlan Center in Cupertino. So I am providing you my comments and questions via this email which I would have wanted to express in person.

After perusing the September (I believe it was then) SJ Mercury News article on the findings of the recent air quality test of Lehigh Southwest Plant's emissions, I was glad to hear there wasn't a trace of any known carcinogenic elements. But I was surprised to hear that the days the test was done, the plant was not in full operation. So my concern is that the findings obtained were not truly accurate. My question: Will there be any further test done before the permit is granted so that an accurate assessment is made on public health and safety before the final renewal permit is granted?

I am also concerned about the ecological and aesthetic consequences of having this plant in operation in a highly dense residential area. I have lived in the Bay Area since 1978 and in Cupertino since 1992 and have noticed the slow and extensive excavating of the hillsides. It is an 'eye-sore'. In the past it was relatively a small area and now it seems like the whole hill side has been ravaged. Green is replaced by brown/gray which indicates plant life and wildlife has been destroyed or minimized.

I once flew over the plant and could not help but notice the depth and breadth of the excavation and to even see a 'lake' in the middle of it all. Is there a limit to the amount of the land and hillside you are going to unearth and dislodge? When is enough, enough? Is there a statute of limitations for the use of that area of land? Is it in terms of acreage or in terms of years?

I would appreciate your comments on this?

Sincerely,

Russ Ikeda

