

From: northbaj@att.net
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2009 7:42 PM
To: Thu Bui
Subject: Lehigh Southwest Cement Co.

Dear Ms. Bui,

I was unable to attend the hearing held in Cupertino on the cement plant, as my husband had surgery. However, I would like to tell you how I feel about the plant.

My husband and I have lived in Cupertino for 40 years. We live just blocks from the intersection of Highways 85 and 280. I drive almost daily to a nursing home at Stevens Creek Blvd. and Foothill Blvd., even closer to the quarry. As you probably know, the cement trucks come down from the plant on Stevens Creek Blvd. and then onto Foothill Blvd. to get to the 280 freeway.

We have never been bothered by the presence of the plant. However, when we bought our home in 1969 we toured the area, and we knew the trucks come down that hill. Those who have chosen to buy a home on the plant's side of Foothill Blvd. should have known about the trucks before they purchased there. If they did not know, they did not do due diligence and have only themselves to blame. Most of the homes and apartment houses in the Stevens Creek School area are much newer than the plant, so those people should have no complaints about the trucks.

As far as pollution damaging the lungs of citizens, it is my understanding that for many years now, since before Lehigh took over the plant from Permanente, the pollution level has been far below the government limits for pollution. I am not aware of any tests near Stevens Creek School, the nearest elementary school, that have indicated danger to those children. All I have heard is that it is safe air to breathe.

This plant provides much of the cement for building in the entire San Francisco Bay Area and beyond. While it is not a large source of employment at the plant itself, it certainly provides a large amount of employment in other firms that build using cement. If our state is to survive financially, we cannot afford to drive out companies that provide the jobs and materials that build our state. We cannot survive as a service industry state with none of the industrial capacity.

I am sorry the plant trucks bother some people, and that others fear the plant's pollution. They could certainly move if they are bothered that much, the plant was there first.

Thank you very much,

Barbara A. Jones
10380 Castine Ave.
Cupertino, CA 95014

408-257-9385