

July 6, 2023

To the Chester DRB:

It is our understanding that Julian Materials LLC is seeking a conditional use permit from the DRB. They wish to expand quarry operations while blatantly ignoring existing permit guidelines and even operating illegally where they don't have permits. As neighbors to the quarry, we have been providing audio and visual evidence to the ANR and the town of Chester to document their non-compliance.

In 2000 we build our home on Clemons Rd. We were never bothered by the quarry operations of the preceding owner. They abided by their permits and the operations were unobtrusive. Things have drastically changed in the past 2-3 years. We are now exposed to continuous drilling sounds, rock tumbling noises and the seemingly non-stop pounding from the hydraulic hammer within our residential neighborhood. This is going on all year long, from early morning to late afternoon, 6 days a week. We'd like to share some personal examples how this has impacted our daily lives and health.

1. Karen walks our road daily. Often around 6:30 AM. Instead of enjoying the quiet character of our neighborhood, she listens to heavy truck traffic going in and out of the quarry and down Rt. 10. The hammering/drilling/rock tumbling is often starting up that early as well.
2. We are both gardeners and love the peacefulness of Vermont. Now our gardening time is accompanied by the annoying soundtrack of the hydraulic hammering. It is not pleasant or peaceful.
3. In the spring, summer and fall we like to have the windows open for the fresh air. Again, we have to put up with the constant knocking of the hammering. In our own home.
4. We enjoy sitting on our porch and reading in the summertime. It is hard to concentrate on what you are reading with the repetitive pounding going on. Sometimes, when the noise stops for a bit, it is like you can still hear it faintly in your own head.
5. Late last summer, we had workers staining our house. One of them was up on a ladder when they blasted at the quarry, and it really shook them up. No warning or notice. Luckily, no one was hurt.
6. Headaches and increased blood pressure over the stress of this on-going situation.

Allstone quarries DON'T abide by the existing permits, they operate illegally and pollute the environment, therefore we believe that they should not be granted a conditional use permit. Thank you for your consideration.

Karen and Bob MacAllister
355 Clemons Rd.
Chester, VT 05143
802-875-4213