

CHERI

Cheri L. Roe

PO Box 165 ~ Santa Margarita, CA 93453

Phone 805-227-4931

email- cheriroe@cwildblue.net

**Murry Wilson, Environmental Resource Specialist
Department of Planning & Building
976 Osos Street #300
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408**

May 31, 2013

RE: Concerns about the DEIR for Oster/Las Pilitas Rock Quarry

Dear Mr. Wilson,

I have lived in Santa Margarita Town since 1977. My husband and I moved to Creston in 2008 but we still own our house on 'F' Street near Encina. This house is our main investment and the value of that investment is relevant to the quality of life in a small town. We believe that the traffic, noise and air pollution will adversely affect the quality of life and the value of our investment.

I have watched Santa Margarita claw its way back from being a lower income, scruffy, isolated bedroom community into a desirable and vibrant village. We enjoy bicyclists, joggers, dog walkers, parents with babies in strollers, and children walking to school. Customers sit curbside having coffee at the coffee shop and street side on the patio at our expensive restaurant. We have potlucks, birthdays, weddings, memorials, picnics and music in the park, which borders State Hwy 58. All this has been possible because the streets have been relatively quiet and mostly safe to navigate. Diesel truck traffic backed up at the railroad tracks at El Camino Real would make our pretty little park a smelly, noisy, unattractive and dangerous venue.

The traffic that this project will cause can never be mitigated. As a community, we have had first hand experience with heavy volume, heavy truck traffic when Hanson gets permits for extra loads, whether for nighttime work or special work such as the Cuesta Grade improvements. This new quarry project will make that temporary, unbearable situation the new normal.

(Cheri Roe comment page 2)

Living on 'F' and using the only crosswalk across El Camino Real, I know that big trucks do not stop for **anyone** in the crosswalk. I know that the trucks speed through town. I know that diesel trucks sit idling in the center lane while drivers get sandwiches and drinks. I also know from experience that there is no one to call when there is a problem with drivers who do not respect traffic laws. We have been told to call Hanson with complaints but calling doesn't cause a change in driver's behavior because there is no consequence. Hanson is not able to self-police independent drivers once they leave their facility. This quarry project promises a 'dedicated toll free line will be available', but when that proves ineffective, no recourse or relief is offered. The Highway Patrol either cannot or will not effectively police the small corridor through town. A 'sting operation' would be effective only for the first stop or two before the drivers would alert each other. The Sherriff's Office does not (nor should not) concern itself with traffic problems.

Also, I have seen traffic divert itself down "I" Street during times of heavy traffic such as concerts at Pozo and bicycle rides. I believe if too much truck traffic clogs El Camino Real, other highway traffic heading east on Hwy 58 will naturally divert to residential streets.

The only solution to this problem would be that the quarry pays the County for a dedicated traffic officer who reports to the County, not the quarry. The penalties should be onerous such as shutting the quarry down for a few days, real fines for the drivers and the loss of driver's privileges to haul to and from both quarries. This should not be a problem for the quarry since they assure us that no laws will be broken by their drivers.

Most importantly, I challenge that one day in April of 2009 is not enough of a sample to draw any true conclusions about traffic circulation. Please have anyone come stand with me at either crosswalk when school is dismissed or Pozo is having a concert or Topaz workers hit town after work, or an old car/ motorcycle/ bicycle ride cruises through town without stopping and I will show you that Santa Margarita can not tolerate more traffic especially heavy trucks trying to make a deadline.

Sincerely,


Cheri Roe

RECEIVED

JUN 5 2013

CO PLAN & BLDG DEPT

Handwritten notes and signatures in the bottom right corner, including a date that appears to be 6/5/13 and some illegible text.