

Presentation to Cabinet, WCC, 10th October 2017, reference
Sand & Gravel Minerals Plan – Sites 4 & 5.
Edward Kirkby, Barford.

Dust and Health & Safety

When this current plan was first muted two/three years ago a team from Warwickshire County Council came to the village of Barford to present the plan. That team could not only NOT identify where Barford was in relation to Sites 4 & 5, they made no mention of any Dust or Health & Safety issues, convincing the villagers that the proximity of the quarries to Barford and the likelihood of Dust and Health & Safety issues were never EVER considered.

Open-Cast-Mining, which is what this is, is probably the most efficient method of dust generation known to man, short of exploding a nuclear bomb.

We understand there will only be one processing plant for the two quarries and that sand & gravel will be moved from source to process plant via a conveyer belt, another very efficient method of dust generation.

We also have the hundreds of Lorries entering and leaving the quarry each week churning up the dust and these are not only a major source of dust generation with their huge wheels, but also diesel fumes of nitrous oxides that they generate in the process, which will be added to the dust, making a lethal cocktail.

The experts divide dust into three sizes:

- 30 microns (PM30)
- 10 microns (PM10) and
- 2.5 microns (PM2.5).

PM30s are generally believed not to travel very far, but of course in this case they will be carried out of the quarry on the wheels of the

Lorries and onto the A429 a few metres away, to be distributed by the thousands of vehicles driving passed the quarry towards Barford and the M40.

PM10s are however a different matter, this is the stuff that creates the clouds of dust you can easily see and usually remain suspended in the atmosphere for long periods of time and are capable of being inhaled into the lungs. PM10s can be carried not just hundreds of metres but potentially thousands of metres given, as here, there is nothing much in its way; other than the village of Barford of course a few hundred metres away.

Then we have the PM2.5s this is the stuff you can't see and is the real killer as it penetrates into the gas exchange region of the lungs, causing permanent damage, particularly in the underdeveloped lungs of young children.

Barford has a very successful primary school which educates approximately 150 pupils a year, we also have a successful pre-school nursery which has some 30/40 children.

The prevailing wind which carries this lethal cocktail generally blows from the quarry toward Barford School.

Barford is also blessed with an above average age adult population with a 30% increase in recent years of people over 75.

What these two groups have in common is their susceptibility to serious damage to their health caused by the inhalation of dust. With the young suffering from increased asthma attacks and the elderly from co-morbidity i.e., dust added to everything else.

Be under no illusion you are talking about dumping tonnes of toxic dust on to the heads of the people in Barford, both young and old over the life of this project.

Thank you.