

November 12, 2015

To the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Village of Tuckahoe Planning Board, and the Village of Tuckahoe Board of Trustees,

Please place this letter in the record.

I have resided in the Village of Tuckahoe for 84 years.

The only exception was when I served in the Korean War from 1951 to 1954.

From 1960 – 1983, I was the Chairman of the Tuckahoe Board of Police Commissioners.

During those 23 years, I was repeatedly elected as the Chairmen by a bi-partisan group.

I am a lifetime member of the Tuckahoe Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2285

I have also served on the board of directors of the VFW Post 2285.

I am also lifetime member of the Knights Columbus.

Since 1954, when I returned from Korean War, I have continually, publicly, raised concerns about the hazardous conditions of the Marbledale Road Quarry Dump.

I have publicly stated, on the record, at many Village meetings, that the toxic and hazardous waste in the Quarry Dump poises serious health threats to our community.

When I returned from the Korean War in 1954, I got off the train, and put my duffle bag on my shoulder, and began walking home. I turned onto Circuit Avenue, the street where I was born. As I was walking up, I could not believe the foul air and the stench. I could not believe that anyone could live there.

I asked my father what was going on, my father said that they were filling the quarry with waste.

I asked what the community was doing about it, and my father said that we were told to keep our mouths shut.

Despite my father's instruction, I began to approach the owners of the property, Trap Rock Corporation and the Woodbine Corporation, and local officials.

It became clear that the horrible dumping was taking place because the local politicians and officials allowed it.

For approximately 27 years, I witnessed an immense amount of industrial and toxic dumping in the quarry.

I witnessed repeated spontaneous combustion of the site.

There were Eastchester Fire Trucks parked in front of the Quarry because of the constant fires.

As they kept filling the quarry with toxic debris, ash, and all sorts of containers of combustible chemicals, the area would ignite.

I had many conversations with the health department. We, in the community, called them about the smell, and the smoke, and the horrible air. We complained to the Health Department frequently from the 1950es through the 1970es.

There was a file kept in the Village of Tuckahoe Clerks office. The file contained all of the records of complaints about the Quarry Dump, and information of dumping in the Quarry, and the Board of Health inspection records. I saw the file in the 1970es, and it was over 10" thick. I was allowed to read it, but I was not allowed to copy it. The file contained complaints from residents, information of complaints to the Department of Health, and from Congressmen. The residents were formally complaining about the toxic health dangers of the site.

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When I requested the file again, the file containing the information about the Quarry dumping, complaints and inspections, it had disappeared. Over 27 years of history of complaints of the Quarry and inspection documentation. I would like to know where that file is.

The owners of the Quarry Dump were the Woodbine Corp, and the Trap Rock Corp. Trap Rock Corp was owned by Steve and Joe Luciano.

The owners of the Quarry Dump got paid per load.

There was a shed that was manned by 2 people, Jimmy DiMaria, and Paul Regliano.

They were employees of Woodbine and Trap Rock.

Every time a truck pulled up, Mr. DiMaria or Mr. Rogliano had the dumper sign a sheet.

That is how they kept track of the billing, and who was charged for the loads.

I witnessed major and continual dumping by:

- 1) The Town of Eastchester, all municipal and industrial garbage, this included a lot of ash, and debris that didn't burn, from the Town of Eastchester's garbage incinerator.
- 2) The Village of Bronxville, all municipal and industrial garbage.
- 3) The Village of Tuckahoe, all municipal and industrial garbage.
- 4) Burroughs Welcome - a pharmaceutical company, now known as Smith Kleins, they dumped loads of chemicals, un-sellable pharmaceuticals, and pharmaceutical containers into the Quarry Dump.
- 5) US Vitamins dumped all the chemical research, compounds, and containers into the Quarry Dump.
- 6) Revlon dumped all chemicals, testing debris, compounds and chemicals into the Quarry Dump.
- 7) Lee Oil & Chemical Corp dumped oil, waste and barrels of chemicals in the Quarry Dump.
- 8) General Diaper Corporation washed diapers with chemicals & dumped all discharge and waste into the Quarry Dump.
- 9) Eastern Metal, metal works manufacturer, dumped chemicals, metals, and waste debris into the Quarry Dump.  
Mr. Rocco Idria, of Eastern Metal, wrote a letter to the Village of Tuckahoe detailing many of the pollutants that Eastern Metal had dumped in the Quarry.
- 10) The Printers on Lake Ave, in the Village, dumped lead, dyes, chemicals and debris for over 27 years.
- 11) Tuckahoe Ice Corporation dumped all of the Freon barrels, chemicals, and work product debris into the Quarry Dump.
- 12) Woodbine Corporation, dumped black top, road building debris and chemicals, construction chemicals & debris and automotive debris into the Quarry Dump.
- 13) Trap Rock Corporation, dumped black top, road building debris and chemicals, construction chemicals & debris and automotive debris into the Quarry Dump.
- 14) Freeman Industries, manufacturer of chemicals and chemical preparations, dumped chemicals and chemical preparations into the Quarry Dump.
- 15) Kings Electronics company, on Marbledale Rd., made electronic connectors & dumped waste, work byproduct, chemicals, and electrical components into the Quarry Dump.
- 16) Diesel, fuel tanks, and other chemical storage tanks were located along the Quarry, and leaked and dumped into the Quarry Dump.
- 17) Pine Sol distributorship dumped waste and debris into the Quarry Dump.
- 18) Conlin & Company, Building Supply Corp, delivered Coal, fertilizer and building materials. They dumped debris and ash into the Quarry Dump.

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I have also witnessed a great amount of loss of life, over 200 people in this immediate area, died of cancer.

The contamination in the Quarry Dump seeps and travels.

This current hotel project has not correctly represented the toxic contents of the Quarry Dump.

This hotel project does not have the public interest in mind.

In the 1950es, the local politicians, and local business owners valued money over the health and beauty of our community. They turned our shining marble quarry into a dangerous toxic foul smelling dump. Now, all these years later, we are in the same situation. Business owners and local politicians value their money over the health and welfare of our community. They do not have the public interest in mind.

This is one of the most contaminated pieces of property in Westchester County.

It is very dangerous to underestimate, and misrepresent, what is in there.

There are too many unanswered questions about this project.

About 10 years ago I sent a detailed description of what I had witnessed dumped into the Quarry to the D.E.C.

Where is that information?

What will happen to the rest of the contaminated Quarry Dump?

The hotel project site is not the entire dump.

And, the toxic gasses that will be pumped into our air by venting the toxic site through the hotel?

There isn't any data showing what those toxic gasses are, and how they settle in, and impact, our community.

The proposed Hotel is huge, why have we not seen any renderings in context of the site and the ridge?

At the current size, the top of the hotel will pass the top of the ridge.

Why does it need to be so large?

Why can it not be something that is more in scale with the area?

And, the buffer zone? After the Quarry Dump was closed, and the property was subdivided, there was a 150' buffer zone. I was assured that the buffer zone would never change. But, now the buffer zone has been reduced to 25'.

I only wish that Tuckahoe could be valued and protected. There is more money to be made by proper care of a community, then by forcing a giant building onto toxic site. Our neighbors in other communities protect and value the welfare of their residents, and community. In those communities the property values are high, and those communities are confident that their welfare is valued and protected.

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