

## Environmental Organizations

RE: Zone Change and Ordinance Amendment Request OA-06-03 and ZC-06-04  
Green Crow Corporation  
Request for Mineral and Aggregate Resource Overlay Zone for mine areas.

As Oregonians and homeowners in the Oceanside area, we are very concerned with the impact of the Green Crow Corporation requests on the extremely fragile environment of the Oceanside area. It is our consensus that the proposed expansion of the 'Lighthouse Quarry', the expansion and consolidation of the 'Mt. Meares Quarry' and '600 Line Quarry and the Overlay Zone for the 200 Line Quarry will significantly affect the quality of life or even the existence of some natural and endangered wildlife in the Oceanside, Netarts, Cape Meares and other adjacent rural areas. Thus far, it appears that county officials have moved very quickly to approve Green Crow's request without proper reviews and little communication with the communities involved. We are seeking any advice, experience and assistance you can provide as we try to stop what we feel is a disastrous decision.

As residents and homeowners, we chose this area to enjoy its exceptional beauty and natural bounty. Our homes when built had to adhere to strict building codes because of the fragile environmental make-up of this area: the dunes, cliffs, beaches and coastal rainforest. Should not these same concerns be addressed when considering the impact of the expansion and use of the previously mentioned quarries?

If this fragile eco-system is to be protected, then the drilling and blasting within the quarries six days a week, plus the almost continuous hauling of around 140,000 truckloads of rocks must be seriously evaluated. Such activity has the potential to dramatically damage this fragile area and cause irreparable harm to the pristine area of the Cape Meares Loop. Oregon's land use laws were developed and agreed to by the citizens of Oregon to protect the exceptional scenic values of the Oceanside area! Traffic, noise, scenic, wildlife, water quality impacts should be identified and mitigated, if possible. If they cannot be mitigated then the proposed expansions should be denied.

One only has to walk along the beaches of Netarts, Oceanside and Agate Beach, following the winter storms, to see the fragile nature of the topography; slides occur regularly because of the instability. Another concern of our community is the effect all quarry expansions will have on the adjacent water shed area which is the source of our water. These quarries are located very close to the main source of our supply. Has this concern been adequately addressed and studied? Has an assessment of the impact to any endangered species (i.e, bald eagles, red ??? hawk) been done?

Our discussions with other concerned residents in the area as well as other Oregonians who visit the Northern Oregon Coast have identified the following primary issues that we feel need to be addressed before there is any consideration of approving Green Crow's proposal:

- The erosion of the bluffs and beaches below and adjacent to the quarries
- The aesthetic and noise impacts on one of the most scenic and ecologically diverse areas found along the Oregon coast. The impacts on these exceptional resources are definitely well beyond what would be considered an accepted conditional use anywhere in Oregon or any state for that matter.
- The impacts to sensitive wildlife such as eagles, elk, deer, bear and their habitat due to noise and excavation.

- The damage to county roads and the safety of the traveling public.
- The threat to our homes, since they are primarily built on sand and also the affect of noise, scenic and other impacts on our property values.

We believe that the quarry projects will cause drastic, irreparable destruction that far outweighs any economic benefit the quarries may present. There are no doubt other much more acceptable quarry sites found in the Coast range within acceptable distance of Tillamook that do not have the impacts of this proposal.

We have submitted these concerns as well as others to county officials. However, thus far, we have every indication that county officials have moved expeditiously and without proper citizen review to approve Green Crow's request to change the zoning law from forestry to mining. We are in a race against time and would appreciate any advice and assistance you can offer in support our fight to preserve the fragile, tranquil and beautiful area that we and others call home.