



Essential materials for building a strong Ontario

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 4, 2012

STUDY GIVES PASSING GRADE TO WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY IN CARDEN PLAIN AREA

*Local Aggregate Producers Complete Cumulative Impact Assessment of Quarry Operations to
Satisfaction of Ministry of Environment*

MISSISSAUGA, ON — An independent evaluation on the impact of quarries on local water systems is delivering positive reassurance to families and businesses in Central Ontario.

The study was completed at the request of the Ministry of the Environment, and assessed the potential impacts of quarrying activities on groundwater, surface water and wetlands in the Carden Plain area.

In a detailed report released today, Golder Associates Ltd. concluded that cumulative effects of the quarries on groundwater, drinking water wells, wetlands and water flows in creeks and rivers “are expected to be negligible.”

Not only were the water levels and quality found unaffected now, the Golder study further determined that area residents will see no significant change in groundwater levels in their water supply wells in the future.

QUOTES

Kris Marentette, Senior Hydrogeologist, Golder Associates Ltd:

“Ontario families have a right to expect good clean drinking water and protection for waterways and wetlands. This study indicates that the simultaneous development of multiple quarries in the Carden Plain area over the next 20 years is not expected to cause adverse cumulative effects on groundwater quality or supply and surface water features.”

Moreen Miller, CEO, Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association:

“Just as hard as they work to help build safer highways and better schools and hospitals in Ontario, our aggregate operators also take environmental issues very seriously. We are pleased this study reassures the residents of Carden Plain area that we care about their families and their natural surroundings.”

Press Release

FACTS

- The project was initiated in October 2009 and was completed early in 2012.
- In total, 11 quarries in the Carden Plain area were identified and included in the study.
- The long-term cumulative effects will continue to be monitored.
- The study was commissioned by the Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (OSSGA) for the Ontario Ministry of the Environment.
- Pits and quarries employ over 7,000 Ontarians directly and another 34,000 indirectly.
- For more information on this study: www.ossqa.com.
- For rock solid facts on aggregates and quarries: www.theholestory.ca

About the Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association

The Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (OSSGA) is a non-profit industry association representing more than 250 producers and suppliers of essential industry products and services. Follow us on our website www.ossaga.com and on Twitter @_ossqa.

Importance of stone, sand & gravel

Stone, sand and gravel help create the high standard of living we enjoy in Ontario. About 160 million tonnes of aggregate are extracted annually from our pits and quarries, used for building our schools, homes, hospitals and better highways. It's even found in windows and toothpaste.

For further information

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Press Release