Presentation to the Battle Ground School Board

When Construction on a Concrete Batch Plant that also recycles cement with a crusher is in close proximity to any school, the health of our children becomes a front and center concern.

We have a proposed Concrete Batch Plant being planned to be built at 7511 NE 101st Street, off NE 72nd Ave.

While the concrete plant itself presents a number of issues, it is the process of crushing cement that I want you to focus upon. When cement is crushed, drilled, broken, sawed, or otherwise changed the processed used will creates silica dust. That dust when airborne is small unseen and deadly. Silica dust causes hardening of the lungs. There is no recovery from this disease.

There are no less than three schools within the 5-mile radius of the proposed location for this heavy industrial operation. The students of Glenwood Elementary, Lauren Middle School, and Seton Catholic Preparatory School will all have their health and safety jeopardized by the operation of the proposed plant.

Anyone who is outdoors will inhale some measure of this toxin. We are concerned for our children, our grandchildren and ourselves.

I live in a very active neighborhood, Cedar 49. Many walk their dogs, in addition to the evening and early morning strolls along the various streets of our closely knit neighborhood. We have many residents who currently have respiratory issues. Ask yourselves what will this batch plant recycle activities contribute to the declining health of those with existing issues?

What is an acceptable level of toxin that the human body can tolerate before death? These are unknown to us at this time. Here is what we believe, no amount of avoidable toxins are acceptable when we the public can stop it. Living with N-95 masks and associated PPE and are not practical for any homeowner and children in the playgrounds.

The public must become aware of the dangers and health risks this heavy industrial zoning change means. Our legislators should review how this was allowed and why the neighborhoods that are next to this property did not get notified about the process, the meetings, and the decisions related to this property in time to make comments objecting to the zone change. The system must get fixed, out comprehensive plan should protect the neighborhoods from the developers placing heavy industrial zoned areas right next to vibrant neighborhoods.

Help us in our fight regarding this unfortunate change in “spot zoning” that was allowed to take place in order to open up the opportunity for this concrete batch plant to be built next to our vibrant neighborhood. This change is zoning puts all of our good health at risk. Is the concrete batch plant and zoning change worth the health risk to our youth and our citizens?

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