



TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL DISCUSSION ITEM

Committee: Committee of the Whole – Community Development

Date: September 7, 2021

Department: Community Development

Topic: Aggregate Resources Master Plan

Background: At the August meeting of the Committee of the Whole – Community Development, Committee members reviewed an Information Item regarding an Aggregate Resources Master Plan Study, undertaken by the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville and assisted by a Technical Steering Committee made up of municipal and provincial staff. UCLG has contracted Meridian Planning to lead the study.

Committee members expressed concern with the proposed mapping of bedrock resources, noting that resources are not viable if there is 10m of overburden. Committee requested that Staff:

1. Confirm the requirement to include bedrock resources with an overburden of 10m or less; and
2. Prepare a statement to express concern with the viability of bedrock resources with 10m of overburden and suggest that the mapping only include resources with overburden of 5m or less; and
3. That the statement be distributed to the Counties and surrounding municipalities.

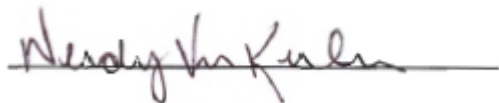
Staff have reached out to the Counties and the lead Planning Consultant for the study. It is the preference of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines to include bedrock resources with less than 8m of overburden in the study maps. This corresponds with the mapping and data available in the Aggregate Resources Inventory Report 183 for Leeds and Grenville, which is the main source of drift thickness data used in aggregate studies. We only have mapping available to reference that shows 0-1m, 1-8m, and 8-15m. The Planning Consultant indicates that the 8 metre depth is generally assumed to be the maximum amount of overburden that can be removed while still producing an economically viable product.

Discussions at the Aggregate Resources Master Plan Open House meeting on May 31st suggest that the Counties mapping be net of pre-emptive constraints. These are areas where extraction of these resources would not be feasible, including; provincially significant wetlands and lands adjacent to these wetlands; lands within and adjacent to settlement areas and rural residential clusters; and lands adjacent to lakes.

It is noted that, once prepared, the mapping does not establish the principle of developing a resource use on the lands and will not mean that the use of the lands for a mineral aggregate operation is a preferred land use over other permitted land uses. The intent is for the mapping to identify resource areas that are appropriate for protection. Basically, the mapping does not necessarily mean these areas are appropriate for extraction. When an application to develop other land uses or create a new lot is made, the mapping is used as a screening tool. The objectives of the Master Plan also include reviewing application requirements for development applications.

See Township Official Plan Section 6.16.1 “Development Adjacent to Mineral Aggregate Resource Designations, Operations or Mineral Aggregate Reserves.”

Should the Committee wish to distribute a statement expressing concern regarding the viability of resources with up to 8m of overburden, and to suggest that the mapping in the Counties Official Plan only show bedrock resources with an overburden of 5m or less, a resolution has been drafted for consideration.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Nerdy Van Kester", written over a horizontal line.

Community Development Coordinator