



January 15, 2020

Dante Di Gregorio, H.B.A., J.D.
Estimator/Project Manager
Bruno's Contracting (Thunder Bay) Limited
665 Hewitson Street
Thunder Bay, ON | P7B 5V5

Dear Mr DiGregorio

Re: Proposed Kangas Pit near One island Lake

Since 1972, Environment North has functioned as a regional non-governmental environmental organization. Our Head Office is in the City of Thunder Bay. Our goal is to benefit the community by protecting the environment and increasing the public's awareness and understanding of environmental issues. We promote sustainable communities and conservation through research, education and community advocacy. Our areas of focus are the boreal forest, energy generation and its use as well as the conservation of various natural resources.

Environment North strives to improve and protect the ecological sustainability and socio-economic well-being of all peoples in Northwestern Ontario through specific actions and activities that revolve around respect and shared responsibility for air, water and land, the essentials of all life.

This letter is to raise our concerns regarding the proposed Kangas Pit near One Island Lake in Fowler Township. Much controversy surrounds resource extraction activities since they are rapidly increasing in this area and are close to wetlands and the inland freshwater systems of lakes and rivers that drain into Lake Superior which is part of the Federal Governments' Great Lakes Protection Initiative. They are also close to private properties, local roads and secondary highways.

Decisions regarding resource extraction pose high risk to communities and the natural environment. The comment period does not provide ample time to review and consider your application and supporting documents in a meaningful manner. Being reviewed under MNRF's Class Environmental Assessment process is particularly troublesome. Class Environmental Assessments assume similar types of impacts occur for a similar operation and can thereby be generalized throughout various contexts. Each situation and environmental context is unique which makes generalizations not only difficult but impossible. In addition, there are additional pits being proposed in this same vicinity following on the heels of recent forestry activity yet there is no consideration for the cumulative impacts of these activities on the natural environment, species at risk, hydrology, health and safety and other social concerns. Long term and/or irreversible social and environmental impacts can result.

Environmental stewardship and resilient communities require a regional, comprehensive approach to ensure that resources are used properly and in a sustained manner. Government and industry need to be accountable for what they leave behind from industrial activity, not only for now but for future generations.

We oppose this fast track to aggregate pit development and ask that you take pause from pushing forward with this Kangas Pit application and take the appropriate amount of time to conduct a higher level of environmental assessment as well as a comprehensive review of the cumulative

effects from all the industrial activities occurring in this area within a meaningful consultation framework. Please provide a written response to this letter. Thank-you.

Graham Saunders
President, Environment North

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