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Cheltenham Quarry: Respecting Our Neighbours Through Future Operations Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

General Background

1. Why is Brampton Brick undertaking this project?

- Brampton Brick is pursuing an alternative extraction plan on lands north of the existing Cheltenham Quarry in a two-step process.
- The primary objective is to maintain operational efficiencies while reducing impacts to the community and our immediate neighbours by moving future extraction to a northwest portion of the site.
- Should approvals be obtained to extract in the northwest portion of the site,
 Brampton Brick will permanently forgo extraction permissions on the currently approved Phase 3.

2. Where is the new licensed area proposed to be located, and how close will the proposed operations be to residents?

- Please refer to maps here for the areas proposed for future extraction and the currently approved Phase 3 site.
- There are no anticipated changes to current operations at this time.

3. What type of material is extracted from the Cheltenham Quarry?

- The quarry is exclusively for the extraction of shale, which is used in the production of bricks.
- The shale extracted from the Cheltenham Quarry is vital to the production of bricks used for the construction of homes, businesses, and other structures across Southern Ontario.

4. What are Brampton Brick's plans for the Phase 3 portion of the site currently approved for aggregate extraction?

- Should all necessary proposed amendments and changes to licensing permissions be secured, Brampton Brick would surrender the current Phase 3 extraction permissions permanently.
- The future status of the current Phase 3 portion of the site will ultimately be determined through engagement between Brampton Brick, the Town of Caledon, and the local community.

Local Impacts

5. Will the proposed operations create more atmospheric pollution, such as dust?

- There are no anticipated changes to operations at this time.
- Anticipated extraction activity is expected to be a continuation of current practices.
- As per present, any future operations will be required to meet provincial standards.

6. Will the proposed operations be noisier than the current operations?

- There are no anticipated changes to operations at this time.
- Anticipated extraction activity is expected to be a continuation of current practices.
- As per present, any future operations will be required to meet provincial standards.

7. Does Brampton Brick use blasting for excavation?

- Brampton Brick does not use blasting in its operations at Cheltenham Quarry and does not hold the required provincial permits to do so.
- In contrast to limestone and other harder aggregates, shale quarry operations do not typically require blasting due to the soft nature of the material.
- Material is extracted using a large bulldozer, which breaks up and collects the loose shale.

8. How will the new location impact truck traffic?

- There would be no anticipated changes to the volume of materials shipped from the site as compared to current.
- There are strict agreements in place with the Town of Caledon that govern hours of shipping and approved routes from the site to the plant.

9. Will the proposed operations impact nearby hiking trails?

This proposal will have no impact on any official hiking trails. Any unofficial trails
that are on Brampton Brick property are unsanctioned. Hikers should exercise
caution and only use official trails.

10. What impact will this have on private water wells?

- Prior to the commencement of any new extraction operations Brampton Brick will be required to submit a comprehensive hydro-geological study.
- Any proposal will be required to demonstrate no negative impacts to private wells.
- Existing approvals require regular monitoring of on-site wells and potential impacts on the surrounding groundwater system. This monitoring would continue should approvals for the alternative area be obtained.

11. Where will the overburden for the new site be placed?

- The overburden will be used to construct the required berms on-site.
- Per provincial requirements, overburden will be deposited in such a way as to ensure nutrient-rich topsoil is maintained.

Process and Timelines

1. What process is Brampton Brick undertaking with the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC), the Town of Caledon and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to secure these approvals?

- Brampton Brick has submitted an application to the NEC to re-designate alternative extraction lands from "Escarpment Protection Area" to "Escarpment Rural Area."
- The NEC will now circulate the application for public review and comment. After the public review period, NEC staff will prepare a recommendation report to the NEC to make a decision on the application.
- The proposal can be viewed on the Environmental Registry of Ontario here. The comment period will close on August 8, 2023.
- Should Brampton Brick's application be successful, Brampton Brick will immediately proceed with seeking a re-designation of the alternative extraction lands from "Escarpment Rural Area" to "Mineral Resource Extraction Area" to permit aggregate extraction.
- Approvals will also be required from the Town of Caledon through an Official Plan Amendment and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry via a licence under the Aggregate Resources Act.

2. Will there be future opportunities for the community to provide input?

- The NEC will be circulating the application for public review and comment in the near future.
- Through this anticipated two-step process, there will be multiple opportunities for public comment and feedback.

3. If approved, when will this project begin?

- Subject to receiving all necessary approvals envisioned in this proposal, extraction of shale is not expected to begin before 2030.
- Should this proposal not proceed, site preparation on the currently approved Phase 3 portion would be expected to commence no later than 2025.