

I respectfully submit these comments in regard to the proposed Dixie Lee Vulcan quarry expansion in case 7-B-26-UR.

The proposed expansion is incompatible with the continued growth of our community. Our Hardin Valley area has experienced significant residential growth and development in recent years. Expanding heavy industrial operations in the middle of this growth creates unnecessary conflicts between residential and industrial land uses. As residential development continues alongside existing residential dwellings, land use decisions should reflect this transition by prioritizing the health, safety, and quality of life of existing and future residents. Expanding heavy industrial operations into an area that is rapidly growing residentially is inconsistent with sound long-term planning.

One of my primary concerns is the increased blasting proximity that would accompany the expansion. Even when blasting complies with regulatory standards, residents frequently experience noticeable ground vibrations, noise, dust, and the shaking of homes. These repeated disturbances create stress and anxiety for families, raise concerns about impacts to homes, and diminish residents' quality of life. As quarry operations move closer to residential areas, these impacts become even more significant.

As our community continues to grow, local planning decisions should prioritize land use that supports long-term residential development, public safety, and property values. Approving a quarry expansion at this stage would move our community in the opposite direction by extending industrial activity closer to existing and future neighborhoods, which sets a precedent that is inconsistent with responsible comprehensive planning and smart growth principles. Property owners have invested in homes with the expectation that surrounding land use would remain reasonably compatible with residential living. Continued industrial expansion discourages future residential investment.

The commission has the responsibility to consider not only today's needs, but also the long-term vision for our community. This decision should reflect where our community is headed, not where it was decades ago. As residential development continues, preserving compatibility between land uses becomes increasingly important. I urge decision-makers to carefully consider the cumulative impacts of increased blasting proximity, noise, dust, vibrations, and the incompatibility of quarry expansion with the area's rapid residential growth. Our community deserves thoughtful planning that protects the health, safety, investment of homes and property, and quality of life of current residents while supporting responsible future development.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the commission to deny the proposed quarry expansion in case 7-B-26-UR, and instead support planning decisions that protect residential neighborhoods, promote compatible land uses, and preserve the quality of life for current and future residents. Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.