

Appendix **H**

MECP Resident Response Letter

**Ministry
of the Environment
and Climate Change**
Central Region
York Durham District Office
230 Westney Road South, 5th Floor
Ajax ON L1S 7J5
Toll-Free : 1-800-376-4547
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**Ministère
de l'Environnement et de l'Action
en matière de changement climatique**
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Ajax ON L1S 7J5
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October 19, 2017

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter dated October 18, 2017 outlining your concerns about dust issues affecting the residences in the neighbourhoods around Notion Road in Pickering.

Staff from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, York Durham District Office (ministry) have attended the Strada Aggregates Inc. site located at 81 Notion Road on several occasions in 2017, in order to assess compliance with their Environmental Compliance Approval, their Dust Management Plan, to observe the aggregate crushing operations, and the Notion Road area in general. The Dust Management Plan continues to be implemented at Strada Aggregates Inc. to the satisfaction of the ministry. During site visits, it was noted that very little dust was being disturbed by truck movement within the site, and that the aggregate piles were not generating dust, even during periods of strong winds.

Before and after the site visits, ministry staff made additional observations of the condition of Notion Road in general, which would indicate that Strada Aggregates is not a significant contributor to this issue. Analysis of dust particles collected by ministry staff, at an area residents home, has determined the particles are small, rounded in nature and have a talc-like texture, suggesting they are road dust, not sharp and angular, which would be indicative of dust generated from an aggregate crushing operation.

Ministry staffs have observed that the northern portion of Notion Road has soft gravel shoulders which cause dust to stir with every passing vehicle. The amount of dust stirred up varies in accordance with the size of the vehicle/truck travelling on the road. Notion Road is heavily travelled, as vehicles avoid the congested Brock Road and Hwy #2 intersection, by using Notion Road.

There are several properties on Notion Road which have unpaved dirt/mud parking lots, and a construction site, which ministry staff observed to be generating large amounts of soil and mud which was being tracked out onto Notion Road (activities on these properties are not regulated by the ministry). The road itself appears to be poorly maintained with talc-like dust along its entire length, which would indicate that the road dust is not being cleaned regularly and is being stirred-up by vehicle traffic over time. The maintenance of Notion Road and road sweeping/cleaning activities are the responsibilities of the Town of Ajax and the City of Pickering.

The ministry has made recommendations to the City of Pickering and the Town of Ajax, that in order to reduce the generation of dust, that they undertake more frequent road sweeping, address the soft gravel shoulders, and monitor the properties with unpaved yards on Notion Road, that are regulated by the municipalities.

Reports of general dust concerns or road dust resulting from construction, demolition sites, and other routine urban activities are the responsibility of the City of Pickering and Town of Ajax. The municipalities have been encouraged to amend their by-laws, work permits, site plan approvals, and building permits, to ensure that activities that they regulate are not causing off-site impacts.

Feel free to contact me if you have any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Roden', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

John Roden
Provincial Officer
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