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To: Editor

This is important!

The proposed expansion of the Yacolt Mountain Quarry is an issue potentially affecting most of Clark County and I hope citizens will get informed and express an opinion.

I am opposed to the Quarry expansion. The superficial examination that county staff gave to the proposal ignores dust and other particulates, ignores the explosives which are an integral part of the mining operation and says nothing about how the proposal will alter the experiences of people using Lucia Falls Park, the Pomeroy House, and the East Fork of the Lewis River. Traffic studies that consider a gravel truck pulling a trailer the same as a sedan and market studies that fail to mention that a significant portion of the quarry output is shipped to Oregon cannot be taken seriously.

The Washington Growth Management Act lists 14 goals. The staff report chose to look at only three of those goals. The staff report did not consider the Property Rights or Open Space and Recreation goals. In failing to consider those goals the staff ignored the plight of the citizens effected by the quarry and did not recognize the environmental and recreational significance of the East Fork of the Lewis and the harm that could result from expanded and prolonged operation of the quarry.

The public testimony on the proposal is several hundred pages long and almost all is in opposition to quarry expansion. It is articulate and demonstrates that the quarry has had a significant negative impact on people's lives, on their ability to enjoy living in rural Clark County, and on the value of their properties. If the quarry is allowed to expand those negative effects will continue for years, perhaps decades.

Make your voices heard!

*Jann's family has owned their property since the 1920's.*