

ORIGINAL



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cc <massage@hawaii.rr.com>

bcc

Subject Land Use Commission Hearing on 2 Oct 08 ref Makakilo Quarry

Ms. Lorenzo, please include my opposition to Grace Pacific's extension of the quarry permit in the public hearing. I am unable to attend the hearing in person. Thanks, Mark Schnabel (808) 783-6236



Quarry Testimony 1 Oct 08.doc

LAND USE COMMISSION
STATE OF HAWAII
2008 OCT -2 A 7:23

1 Oct 2008

Members of the Land Use Commission
Honolulu, HI 96813

Ref: Public Hearing on State Special Use Permit: Ewa – State Special Use Permit –
2007/SUP-6 (RY) Grace Pacific Corporation – Extension of the life of the
Makakilo Quarry by 24 years to the year 2032

Subj: Testimony in Opposition to the Permit Extension

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Planning Commission,

My wife and I strongly oppose the request by Grace Pacific to extend the life of the
Makakilo Quarry by 24 years to the year 2032.

We are residents of Kapolei and home owners in the Villages of Kapolei. We are
residents of the State of Hawaii and tax payers in the State of Hawaii and City and
County of Honolulu. Our property is located about 800 yards (rough estimate) southwest
of the quarry in A'elo Village 2 subdivision, Lot#2-303. We receive the negative effects
of the quarry operation, to include: dust, noise, pollution, smell, and unsightly landscapes.
Prevailing winds are from the northeast thus placing Villages of Kapolei downwind of
the quarry. We have been subject to these negative impacts since we bought our home in
2001 and are now watching more and more of the Pu'u Makakil being carved away.

We strongly oppose the extension of the Makakilo quarry permit which extends the life
of the quarry by 24 years and allows further excavation of Pu'u Makakilo from the 500
foot contour level to the 700 foot line. Although Grace Pacific has stated and presented
plans that indicate they will mitigate the noise, dust, smell and scarring of the hillside by
relocating its processing operations from its current site into the existing quarry north of
H-1, these negative impacts will continue to be a burden to nearby residents, community
organizations and businesses for many years to come. My main personal issues are with
dust, pollution and destruction of my view, while the community at large has issues with
the five impacts of dust, noise, asphalt smell, pollution and destruction of the hillside.

I am aware of the efforts by Grace Pacific to communicate with community boards and
provide funding to local organizations and schools as a good neighbor but this has also
dissipated opposition and causes the community to just take the short view. I have found
some inconsistencies in their presentations and have concerns with trust. Examples
include their denial of any responsibility for downwind dust, stating the prevailing winds
do not go from the quarry to the Villages of Kapolei, stating there is no other Grade A
Basalt rock in the Waianae mountain range, hearing different stories on responsibility for
re-naturalization, stating there are no toxic chemicals from hot mix asphalt production,
and stating they would relocate the entire asphalt treatment plant to Campbell Industrial
Park and then changing to say they will conduct split-based asphalt production. Also,
who will ensure promises are kept and progress is made as submitted? There will be
significant changes in personnel at both Grace Pacific and the Hawaii Government over
the years. What plan and system will be in place by the City or State to check and verify

their promises and proposed actions? Who is representing future organizations, businesses, schools (West Oahu Campus) and residential developments/home owners in Kapolei? Who is representing their interests in this process? They will have to live with the results. If the permit is approved, can it be extended for a lesser period – say 10 years vice 24 and can the elevation be limited to the 550 feet level vice 700?

I think we need to take a long range perspective on a decision like this. The quarry operation is totally incompatible with the planned development and future growth of the 2d city of Kapolei. When the quarry started in 1973, the site was remote from urban development and the quarry operations went unnoticed for well over 20 years. Operations were supposed to terminate in 25 years but have continued to this day (35 years later). Their purchase of the adjacent golf course land gave them the opportunity to continue and to expand. Today, the quarry is surrounded by booming development - growing housing areas, schools, thriving businesses, recreation (golf and parks), the West Oahu Campus, and much more to come. The existing 72 acre quarry is already an unsightly hole in the ground with exposed vertical rock walls part way up the Pu'u with attendant dust, noise and the odor of asphalt. The dust caused from the blasting, rock crushing and loading operations is considerable and has been reluctantly tolerated by the community for years. There is no way Grace Pacific can totally mitigate and hide the rock extraction. The quarry operation needs to be terminated at the end of its existing permit (2013) and the area contoured and re-naturalized as soon as possible.

We support development but only smart development of our community. The quarry will grow as a blight on the landscape and will ruin the beauty of Kapolei mountain scenery for decades to come. Quality of life for the residents of Kapolei and Makakilo will be adversely affected in the long term, real estate values reduced and the desirability of living in the area will decline. I recommend the City/County and State Governments assist Grace Pacific in relocating their operation at a more remote location in the Waianae Mountains.

We urge the Planning Commission to disapprove this extension request and close the quarry at the end of the current permit. The vertical walls should be reduce and reformed to mitigate the scarring and the quarry area be re-naturalized.

Sincerely,

Signed

Mark and Sara Schnabel
91-1019 Hokuimo St.
Kapolei, Hawaii