

Noise Evidence Report -Miss R Camon.

Good Morning,

I have been attending the Public Enquiry for Lea Castle Farm Quarry.

On Friday the 8/11/24 the NRS Aggregates presented their Noise Expert Ms Rachel Camon, as I had to leave the enquiry before lunch time I did not have the opportunity to ask questions on her evidence, if possible I ask you , if I could be permitted to put forward my observations on her evidence that she presented.

As Ms Camon came well prepared with her evidence, however although she quoted facts and figures from her findings she failed to acknowledge minor but important facts on how she came to her conclusion of her evidence.

1) what did she base her findings on?

When she spoke about the noise of the conveyor near the bridle path.

As she described the noise to the inspector as a kind of whooshing noise.

Was whooshing noise based on a brand new or used conveyor was the conveyor idling with no weight on it or was the conveyor working at full capacity? What type of conveyor did she base her evidence on, as they vary a lot on noise.

Did she take into account the noise when the conveyor was being loaded?

As this conveyor is going to be over the Bridle Path It was very obvious to me that Ms Camon had no knowledge of horses even though the Bridle Path was a very impressive part of the plan that NRS where using to sell the benefits to everyone.

Horses have very sensitive hearing and can rotate their ears, although they cannot pin point exactly where the noise is coming from they know what direction and will run in the opposite way, horses can be very frightened and go into panic mode with noise and when they are frightened it is not a good experience to riders or anyone near by.

She spoke about human hearing which is not the same as a

Horses hearing frequencies is from 55 to 33,500 hertz compared to humans 19 to 19,000 cycles per second in humans.

In my opinion this working conveyor which as been requested to be placed under a bridle path is very dangerous thing to do and breaks health and safety at all levels when you are dealing with all types of horses and all different standard of riders.

2) Ms Rachel Camon spoke about the noise from machinery and when questioned she agreed that the Tipper Trucks were more or less much the same magnitude of noise levels as a tractor in a field pulling agricultural machinery.

Again I would like to question her findings on how she came to this conclusion.

It seems that Ms Rachel Camon is not aware of working tractors on farms and their use.

A farmer will have 1 tractor if lucky 2, the farmers tractor is used not only in a field but is used in and around the farm yard.

A Tractor that is idling speed is 85 decibels.A tractor at work is 100 decibel's, (that's the Tractor Only)

Now if it is correct in what the noise experts claims in her report then 1 farmer 1 tractor which will only spend a limited time in a field the busy time for farmers is hay making time and harvest time and that is based on weather permitting.

Now the Tipper Truck again was Miss Rachel's Camons findings was it based on new Tipper Trucks or used Tipper Truck, which will definitely alter her findings. I believe they are proposing to be 150 Tipper Trucks in and out of the site 6 days per week times that by 1 tractor in a field is a lot of noise. If you can imagine 150 tractors in a field 6 days a week as you would exceed the rules on noise pollution. Ms Camon used the tractor as a sample which I thought was miss leading, as it looked like agriculture machinery is what we are used to so we should not worry. The reverse sirens on the Tipper Trucks was never taken into consideration Each reverse siren can range from 77 to 102 decibels.

If you take into consideration the **On Site Vehicles**

Bulldozers

Front Loaders

Backhoes Loaders

Conveyors

Excavators

Crushers

Screeners

Graders for Roads

Diggers

Dump Trucks

Water Carts

Work Vans

Workman's vehicles

Generators

Now Ms Rachel Camon on her reports explained that the noise we hear is the pressure of the engines, however that is a half truth of noise on a quarry site.

As vehicles that are working will develop all sorts of clanking and banging problems from other part of the vehicles such as Knocking- could be faulty injectors

Squealing- worn brake belts

Rattling or clunking- loose bolts

Exhaust-

and so on, multiple the amount of machinery times the overwhelming problem's that working machinery can incur.

Plus The 150 Tipper Trucks in and out of the site 6 days per week shows that in her noise evidence report that was given would need to be challenged.

I know that Ms Rachel Camon is an expert in her field and had been involved in many cases regarding noise and many of these cases were for sand and gravel quarries, I ask her how many sites did she re-visit after they were up and running and how many sites did she re-visit to re-calculate her findings were correct for her evidence in future cases

(as that would be an excellent way of saying I am good at my job)and that she had taken the right decision for that particular quarry.

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