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Jon Dale.

## Quarry Inquiry speech

Hello, I live at Woodlands. My front door sits within 20 yards of the proposed site, I believe that phase 1 will be most close in proximity to us. I have decided today to speak mostly in reference to the Appendices in the Reg 25 response available on the Baxter Group website. With regards to Appendix 1, viewpoint 6, it states;

*Owing to the proximity of the viewpoint, close range views of bunds associated with Phase 4 would be available. And The bund within Phase 1 would be slightly more visible at distance.*

If I am to understand this correctly, close range refers to the proximity to our property. I consider my neighbours, whose houses are a 5-minute walk in any direction, to be close range. The bunds proposed at Phase 1 are a 10 second walk from my front door. A more accurate description of their proximity may be: practically on the door stop of. As for the bunds at Phase 1 being *slightly more visible at distance*, it beggars' belief. The bunds will be a constantly visible feature of the landscape right outside my home. I find these assessments to be misleading and woefully inaccurate representations of the actual landscape to which they refer.

Moving on to Appendix 2, specifically in relation to the and I quote:

*increased biodiversity and positive nature impacts*

How, in any way, does destroying the feeding grounds, underground homes, open pathways and habitats of animals that live in this area constitute a positive impact on nature? As far as I am aware the burden of enforcing Baxter's hopes for the end product of these sites in creating more biodiverse areas will fall on LCC and anyone in proximity to the site who may notice that promises and plans are not being followed through. Perhaps instead of attempting to "mitigate" the effects caused by such a massive project, we could not have it at all. And I do mean massive, as this area has not seen a proposed plan like this in decades.

On to Appendix 3, this section implies that pollution to air quality and the effects of dust will be negligible. When I spoke in Preston some months back, I spoke about how my father had spent the remaining years of his life in fear of the dust that WILL be created by this quarry. Having died from complications due to his COPD I am sure that you can appreciate his fears were not unfounded. My mum also now has

COPD, that with the clean country air remains stable and has less impact on her health so far than that of my late father's. However, COPD is a progressive condition in that it doesn't get better, it only gets worse. Regardless of whatever proposed measures are put into place, the dust and pollution to air quality will be significantly worse than it would be without a quarry. This is common sense, it isn't a statement of technical words and jargon. If there is a quarry, there will be dust, there will be impact to health, there will be a reduction in the quality of air for the surrounding area and I fear, there will be a detrimental effect on the health of my family.

Appendix 4 and the non-technical summary. My property is listed as one that will be most affected by this quarry, in that plans have been put in place to minimise the effects of the quarry on it. 3m high bunds are to be placed outside the front of my home. I am not satisfied with the "protection" that this will create and do not believe that any height of bund would be sufficient. It seems to me to be a placatory gesture to imply thought for neighbours of this proposed site and nothing more. Dust will cascade over bunds of this height, straight through any open windows and into the house. To leave my home, go out through the front and what will be there? A bund within a 20-yard distance, if not less.

As the issue of flooding has been touched upon today, I would like to state that our garden is currently boggy and flooded. It has been this way since October to present day. This is a common occurrence during that period of time and many of the fields surrounding us, also deal with this issue on a yearly basis. I suspect that if this summer is a wet one, as has been the case in years past, the garden will remain flooded. I have little confidence that a quarry will make the situation better, only worse.

I could go on for longer but there are many others with salient points to make with regards to the folly that is this proposed quarry site. The community of Preesall, especially those in close proximity to the site are not for this quarry. Many who don't live close don't want it either. Nothing but harm will come of this and any representation stating otherwise, simply doesn't get the point.

Thank you.