



Club des naturalistes du
Restigouche
Naturalists Club
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January 13, 2025

To : Premier Susan Holt
Minister Gilles LePage
MLA Guy Arseneault
Town Council, Heron Bay

We, the pozzolan Study Committee of the Club des naturalistes du Restigouche Naturalists' Club, wish to make it known that we oppose the EcoRock Dalhousie pozzolan open-pit mining project that is being proposed for the area known as Dalhousie Mountain in the County of Restigouche in northern New Brunswick. Our opposition is based on two major considerations: this project poses serious threats to the health and well-being of the citizens of Dalhousie/ Heron Bay, and dredging activities that are planned for the Port of Dalhousie will threaten the already highly stressed Atlantic salmon population of the Restigouche River and its tributaries.

It is already known in scientific circles that the pozzolan that is to be extracted from the extended open-pit mine that is being proposed will release large quantities of an extremely fine, highly concentrated carcinogenic dust into the surrounding area, thus posing health threats to residents, to the students and staffs of two nearby high schools, and to the residents and staffs of nearby senior citizens facilities.

Should the extracted pozzolan be shipped from the Port of Dalhousie, port facilities will have to be dredged to deepen the water to allow for large ships to load the product for export. Those facilities are affected by the strong currents and tides that flow by them now. These currents will be carrying large volumes of the disturbed silt that is already highly contaminated by previous industrial activities in the area, not only out to sea, but further upstream by rising tides. Endangered Atlantic salmon stocks from the Upsalquitch, the Matapedia, the Kedgwick, as well as the Restigouche River migrate through these waters annually.

Focussing on the health and wellbeing of the citizens of Heron Bay and of the waters of the surrounding area in no way diminishes the important concerns of other citizens of Heron Bay, the broader area of Restigouche County, the two First Nations of Ugpi'Ganjig and Listuguj, or of neighbouring communities in Gaspé.

Pozzolan Study Committee
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