

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Ruth Lyons Esq. Malloy](#)
Subject: [SUSPICIOUS MESSAGE] Cabbage Tree Road Sand Quarry
Date: Monday, 19 March 2016 5:52:42 PM

To The Planning and Assessment Commission

Re: Cabbage Tree Road Sand Quarry

I wish to express my deep concern regarding the proposed Cabbage Tree Road Sand Quarry. I am completely opposed to ANY form of sand mining on Cabbage Tree Road and particularly in a location that falls within the Red Zone.

I want to share with you my personal experience to illustrate how incorrect these so called experts have been.

On September 2015 at 4 months pregnant our whole world was rocked when we read in the newspaper that our beloved home fell within the so called Red Zone.

We attended the meeting held by the so called "experts" who assured us that the map of the Red Zone gave generous allowances for the computer modelled spread of the contaminants based on their mapping data and that so long as we adhered to their "expert" advice we could be confident that my husband myself and our unborn child would not be exposed to the PFAS contaminants.

How wrong these experts were...

Since this meeting the Red Zone map has been extended TWICE and at each occasion these same experts have assured us again and again that their data was now correct and they had again made generous allowances.

Unfortunately however there was a far more significant aspect of our family's life where the failure of these so called "experts" so tragically let us down.

During my pregnancy I consulted these experts at every community meeting that was held. I was told on every occasion that any level of contamination in my body would not be passed on through the umbilical cord to my unborn child. I was told by the environmental experts that there was insignificant risk of contaminant exposure to my child so long as I adhered to their advice. My family went above and beyond the health advice in a vain attempt to ensure our unborn son was protected.

At 9 months of age his blood was tested along with mine and my husbands. Heartbreakingly my beautiful baby boy returned a blood reading that showed his little body was almost 3 times as contaminated as my own his birth mother. My husband who is the person who attended to all outdoor property maintenance had a blood reading almost 7 times higher than mine.

How? That was the only word we could ask our doctor tears flowing from us both. Our baby boy had only ever lived at our property when we implemented the precautions. He had never even touched the ground due to our worry about exposure to the soil. My doctor stated conclusively that our baby boys blood levels clearly indicated environmental exposure. We had followed the advice from these so called "experts" above and beyond what was recommended yet still our baby boy had been contaminated by his environment.

Our doctor's advice to us was direct you need to remove him from that environment. The doctor stated that if it was his child he wouldn't even go back to that house it was not worth the risk.

I personally believe that my baby was contaminated by dust. This is the most logical conclusion I can draw as he was only ever inside the house and baby's hand to mouth contact with toys clothes floor etc was his most prominent exposure pathways.

When I questioned the experts publicly at a community forum in December 2016 about dust and challenged them to explain my sons blood level results not a single person in the panel was prepared to speak. The silence was deafening. Further to this they told me that they had drawn their conclusion regarding impact of dust exposure only based on computer modelling they had not even done any dust testing.

A sand mine will create significantly high amounts of dust and potentially elevate residents blood levels even further.

We were forced to rent in the city and place our beloved home on the market eventually selling for a loss to a cash buyer. You see due to the Red Zone banks are no longer providing any form of mortgages so it is close to impossible for most families to choose to leave the area. This is another reason why this sand mine cannot go ahead. Families are financially trapped by the Red Zone and most are unable to move away if they did not want to live near the sand mine.

This sand mine cannot go ahead. The risk of PFAS contamination spread via dust is unpredictable and unknown by the so called experts and is a risk not worth taking when residents are literally trapped living in their homes.

Yours Sincerely,

Samantha Kelly - former Cabbage Tree Road resident.