

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 5:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Brenda L Aardema

City : Marblemount

State : Washington

PermitProposal : Marvelling Quarry

Comments : Kiewit Infrastructure Co has painted a picture of how little their mining project would effect neighbors, several communities, tourists, animals, the land, water, etc. I live 3 lots away. I own part of that mountain. We live here because of the beauty, wildlife, and quiet. As I drive to and from work each day, I enjoy looking at the mountains, including ours, that they want to take the trees down and haul the rock away. I can see that mountain the last 3-4 miles coming home, and from my home. During the spring, summer, and fall, we see lots of tourists cycling, motorcycling, and driving on Rockport Cascade road and Highway 20. Rockport Cascade road has no shoulders. How are these big trucks going to affect our tourism. They have far under-reported the noise they will be creating. We will be hearing the generators, drilling, blasting, diesel brakes, truck repairs, and trucks all too loudly. And if they have to do repairs in the evenings or work late to meet a deadline, how will we relax or sleep. The traffic on not just our road, but also on highway 20 will increase dramatically. Are they reserving money to pay for road repairs? I know The wildlife will be affected. With all that logging and blasting, the deer, bears, bobcats, coyotes, fishers, birds, and the other animals will leave. There are protected, tracked species on and around this mountain. With the blasting, what rocks and trees will be rolling down from our mountainside, endangering us and our home. What if our well is affected? We can't afford to drill again, and aren't allowed to anyway. We are very against this project for all these reasons.

From Host Address: 174.216.21.101

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 5:48:54 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : BRENDA AARDEMA
[REDACTED]

City : MARBLEMOUNT
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : On their Biological Report, they state The federally protected, state endangered Canada Lynx is not in the area. We own part of the mountain that is ony just over 500 feet away from their proposed area. We have trail camera pictures from this last year of Canada lynx passing through a few times over our property.

From Host Address: 161.208.26.32

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 3:15:50 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 6:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Russell T Aardema
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marvelling Quarry

Comments : Kiewit Infrastructure Co has painted a picture of how little their mining project would effect neighbors, several communities, tourists, animals, the land, water, etc. I live 3 lots away. I own part of that mountain. We live here because of the beauty, wildlife, and quiet. I am worried about the school busses that drive on our road, including the one my granddaughter rides. How will those big trucks affect them? During the spring, summer, and fall, we see lots of tourists cycling, motorcycling, and driving on Rockport Cascade road and Highway 20. Rockport Cascade road has no shoulders. How are these big trucks going to affect our tourism. They have far under-reported the noise they will be creating. We will be hearing the generators, drilling, blasting, diesel brakes, truck repairs, and trucks all too loudly. I am home most the day As I am retired. I don't want to hear all that loud noise all day. And if they have to do repairs in the evenings or work late to meet a deadline, how will we relax or sleep. The traffic on not just our road, but also on highway 20 will increase dramatically. Are they reserving money to pay for road repairs? I know The wildlife will be affected. With all that logging and blasting, the deer, bears, bobcats, coyotes, fishers, birds, and the other animals will leave. There are protected, tracked species on and around this mountain. What about Skagit River and fishing? And Illabot Creek? And the fish hatchery up the road? I am sure they will be affected. With the drilling and blasting, what will be rolling down from our mountainside, endangering us, our grandchildren, and our home. What if our water is affected? We can't afford to drill again, and aren't allowed to anyway. We are very against this project for all these reasons.

From Host Address: 174.216.21.101

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 6:01:33 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 7:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : David Adams
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry, PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070
Comments : Please accept and consider my comments on the named proposal. Please keep me informed

I have been a resident of the Rockport area for more than 40 years close to the SR 530, Rockport Cascade Rd intersection. In that time there has been significant industrial forestland activity, which includes, blasting, road-building, logging and hauling in our area. To my knowledge there has been no operation even close to the scale of this proposal. Therefore this proposal requires the highest standard of impact analysis, an EIS. The time period of the permit should be limited to 10 years, one that can realistically be analyzed for its environmental and community impact. If at the end of that first ten years Keiwit (or whoever at that time is owner/operator of the quarry) has been a good neighbor in the community and no unforeseen serious environmental issues have arisen a permit can be extended or modified at that time.

Length of Permit Requested

The permit period should be limited to 10-years. The applicant has requested a 100 year time-frame for their permit. This is unreasonable given the limited ability to address long-term impacts. Impacts to traffic, economy, health, air, water, fish, wildlife and climate change over 100 years, cannot adequately be addressed in such a limited review of this type. Even an EIS cannot adequately address impacts on such a scale.

Noise

Require limited operating hours respectful of residents and visitors. Require noise studies while operations are underway, at least quarterly, and if there is significant concern raised by residents. The noise generated by the operations 12 hours a day 6 days a week will be detrimental to the entire area, both residents and tourists. Operations should be limited to reasonable hours, 7AM-6PM to allow school children and residents quiet enjoyment of their homes and to get adequate rest at night. Operations should cease on the weekends when both residents and tourists should reasonably expect use and enjoyment of the area.

Traffic and road impacts

Complete a thorough review of the traffic impacts, infrastructure impacts, and require mitigation. Provide for analysis of traffic impacts while operations are underway to address ongoing issues. The county road is narrow with poor visibility and limited shoulders. Highway 20 carries high volume of recreational traffic, including cyclists, in the summer months. All roads are used by local residents, businesses and school buses. The increase in traffic, both employee vehicles, log trucks and the large tractor trailer required to haul rocks, should be further analyzed. Hauling should be limited to weekdays from 7Am to 6PM. The increase in traffic and its impact on local roads also needs to be addressed. The proponent should be responsible for road subgrade and surfacing improvements, as well as signing and lighting. The speed limit approaching on the Rockport Cascade

road should be reduced to 25 MPH from the Martin road intersection to the intersection of Rockport Cascade Road and SR 530 to minimize the use of compression brakes near homes in the area. This is already an issue with residents on both sides of this intersection.

Local Economy

Conduct a full analysis of the impacts both to the local economy and on local residents. Local residents and businesses would suffer economic losses from the proposed operations. Property would be devalued due to the noise, traffic and pollution. Business would suffer loss of tourism revenue. It is already hard for tourism related business to remain viable in the Marblemount/Rockport area with relatively short operating seasons. Noise pollution and activities associated with a quarry are not compatible to eco-tourism or even those who come to the area just to enjoy the outdoors. The proposed project will serve to stifle the further development of these cottage industries that the upper Skagit so desperately needs.

People would suffer bodily harm resulting from increased traffic accidents. Human health would be adversely affected by noise, dust, stress and traffic. The quality of rural life many residents value would be lost.

David Adams
Rockport.

From Host Address: 104.235.180.73

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 7:01:50 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 10:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Judith Akins
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL 19-0033 Kiewit Quarry Expansion

Comments : I am writing my comments on behalf of the Mt. Baker Group Sierra Club. Our Group represents approximately 2,500 members in Whatcom, Skagit and San Juan Counties. (Our Skagit membership is 750 .) The Mt. Baker Group has been doing trail maintenance in the Diobsud Creek area for 23 years. Our members enjoy hiking, biking and wildlife viewing in the surrounding area of Marblemount, as well as enjoying local restaurants on the way to the North Cascades National Park. I mention all this because as you may know Sierra Club is dedicated to exploring, enjoying and protecting the environment. I was first alerted to this proposal by a member in Skagit County. After reading through the proposal and trying to delve into the details in such a short period I have many concerns.

First of all, for such a lengthy proposed timeline, 100 years, there seems to be a lack of proper environmental study. An Environmental Impact Study should be conducted. While realizing this is on private land with property owner rights, it also has serious impacts on the environment, as well as the health and safety of the community, which the County must protect under Skagit County Comprehensive Plan.(Article XI Section 11 of the State Constitution)

This site sheds water into fish-bearing streams that flow into the Skagit River. Unmitigated impacts on aquatic ecosystems containing federally threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (Chinook, Steelhead, Bull Trout, etc.) should be investigated. Already much time and thousands of dollars have been spent this year by our State in trying to save the Southern Resident Orca, especially what we can do to preserve and increase salmon habitat. Any threat to the Skagit will likely threaten the salmon habitat there. Other species use this habitat, such as the Peregrine Falcon, and fisher that use the area for habitat and so a study is needed on the plants and animals that would be impacted by logging and mining and whether this would permanently cause the eradication in the area; to quote, "Noise, air and water pollution would impact fish and wildlife habitat on adjacent lands. The landowners own these lands for wildlife habitat ." (O'Brian, Seattle City Light.)

Air, noise and water quality should also be addressed. The proposal indicates that there could be 6 day-a-week blasting, cutting, and transport in large trucks, for 12-18 hours a day. What impact will this have on the young children, older citizens and those with chronic diseases such as asthma, cancer and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder .

This plan will impact the daily lives of families in their homes; their daily activities, pets and livestock. There has to be a better plan to mitigate the impacts. Why must this happen so many hours on so many days of the week ? A careful study may suggest a time frame, seasons, time of day, etc. when the impact would not be as great. People have told me that they chose this area for its quiet and solitude; what will happen to this quiet over

100 year period?

Lastly, to address the exploration part of this proposal. This community is the gateway to the North Cascades National Park. Millions of people travel from all around the globe to come here to enjoy the beauty of our region. Six weeks from now Highway 20 will be open and the traffic will build until the snow quietly descends again and slows things down except for the intrepid winter enthusiasts. Highway 20 from Marblemount, through Concrete, Lyman and Sedro Woolley and out to I-5 gets a bit busy, to put it mildly. What happens when these trucks enter into the congestion? What happens to the road bed that incurs damage from these heavy trucks? The traffic expected is excessive. Rockport Cascade Road is a chip sealed road with no shoulder and there is currently nothing written in Kiewit's mitigation plan that they will maintain or repair damages to the road. Is the County prepared to pay for the road maintenance and repair due to this project? Will this become a place that people will want to avoid? What does that mean for tourism in the North Cascades?

Finally, even though it sounds as if the quarry rocks maybe well used, this too should be studied for impacts on the coast and elsewhere. The Mt Baker Group believes that only through careful study of all the possible effects in all areas can proper judgment be made. We hope that you will also see that this is the best route. We look forward to engaging with you on this issue.

From Host Address: 76.28.209.195

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 10:46:50 PM

John Cooper

From: Pam Aldridge
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 9:14 AM
To: John Cooper
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Marblemont project

I have a couple concerns regarding the traffic impact on HWY 20. Has there been any conversations about the 7 elk crossings between Concrete and Sedro Wooley?

Also about the random traffic that darts in and out of the Lyman Store complex parking lot.

There are some signs that call out the usual crossings of elk but there are several areas that remain unmarked that are also regular crossing areas. Have the truck drivers been made aware of this situation? Has there been any talk of reducing speed limit through at least the stretch in Birdsvew that is crossed a couple times a day?

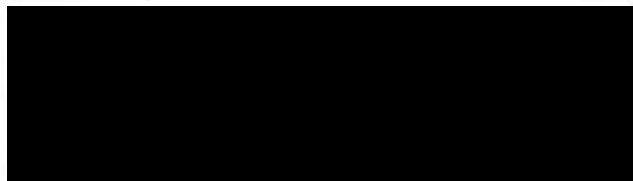
My next concern would be the stretch of Hwy 20 from Pipeline rd. to West of the Lyman Store parking lot area? This is already a problem area as cars dart in and out of the parking lots several openings and it can get very busy through that area. There is no real direction for entry or exit, and it is not uncommon to have two or three cars coming and going from one opening at the same time, add in a semi with a large rock, traveling 50 Mph and we have a recipe for disaster. There have been several accidents at this location over the years. It seems that a speed limit decrease as well as a turn lane should be in place there.

Another area would be a turn lane at the Minkler Lake Rd. If a couple of cars are stopped for oncoming Eastbound traffic waiting to turn on Minkler, which is a regular occurrence, the truck coming West bound may round Minkler corner to a line of stopped traffic with no time to even prepare to slow or stop. This is also a place that several tragic accidents have occurred, this added large truck traffic will surely warrant a fix in that stretch of Hwy 20 as well.

I drive this road twice a day for over 30 years, and have seen way too many accidents in these areas to not be concerned about adding 75 trucks a day, carrying such heavy loads. I hope these are some areas that will be addressed before someone else loses their life.

Thank you.

Pam Aldridge



Pam Aldridge

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 10:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Linda Allasia
[REDACTED]

City : Redmond

State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Linda Allasia

Comments : Please do not allow the new mining/quarry outside of Marblemount! Almost 45 years ago, my husband and I bought 5.8 acres in Marblegate. This evokes many special memories of camping, hiking and fishing. My husband passes away and I haven't gotten up to our land in awhile. But now the grandsons are perfect age to introduce them to this family treasure. My property value plummeted due to the water rites issue, and now with the inevitable noise and water pollution , what will happen to the property values then? This area has always been a quite haven to rejuvenate my soul. Please block this new business!

From Host Address: 71.231.179.49

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 10:43:53 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 10:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Linda Allasia
[REDACTED]

City : Redmond
State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Comments : Resubmitting with Proposal Name:

Please do not allow the new mining/quarry outside of Marblemount! Almost 45 years ago, my husband and I bought 5.8 acres in Marblegate. This evokes many special memories of camping, hiking and fishing. My husband passes away and I haven't gotten up to our land in awhile. But now the grandsons are are perfect age to introduce them to this family treasure. My property value plummeted due to the water rites issue, and now with the inevitable noise and water pollution , what will happen to the property values then? This area has always been a quite haven to rejuvenate my soul. Please block this new business!

From Host Address: 71.231.179.49

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 10:47:38 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 5:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Susannah Arnhart
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am in opposition to the Marblemount Quarry. The increase in noise and traffic will have negative impacts on eagles who rely on the upper skagit for habitat. It will also negatively impact tourism, and the quality of life of residents. There will not be enough jobs created to make a net positive impact.

From Host Address: 49.104.37.170

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 5:42:14 PM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 2:39 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments - PL19-0033

From Dept Email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 2:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Marsha Ballentine

[REDACTED]

City : DuPont

State : WA

[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry,PL19-0033

Comments : We own residential land parcel 46184 at 60805 Rockport Cascade Road. We are speaking out AGAINST this land development permit. This would cause ecological harm; noise pollution; dangerous road conditions for exiting and entering our property (blind curve Rockport Cascade Hwy). Also, water restrictions affecting all lands in Skagit County should restrict this development. Our natural beauty of our area, along with the peaceful quiet and wildlife is why we invested in our 7 acres. This would all be disturbed and destroyed by the impacts of this commercial operation. DESTROYED! No! No! No!

From Host Address: 24.19.137.36

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 2:32:21 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 12:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Richard C Bannerman
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Klewitt's Marblemount project

Comments : I have not seen an official and professionally done environmental impact statement. They are planning on removing a mountain, rock by rock. The mountain has an environment and will be impacted. I was just there a couple of days ago and saw hawks and eagles circling overhead. Klewitt has given assurances and denials. I would hazard a guess that in every other site where they have ended up being fined they did as well.

No EIS = full stop.

From Host Address: 50.34.191.121

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 12:17:16 PM

John Cooper

From: James Bannister [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 10:40 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Re: Marblemout quarry comments

Thank you I wrote another one, I found a link and so I think that one was accepted, not as well written but I was pretty tired by the time I wrote my second and third. Thank you sir for contacting me. Remain hopeful the insanity of this project will not be a good fit for our community.

On Mar 26, 2019, at 7:47 AM, John Cooper <johnc@co.skagit.wa.us> wrote:

Ms. Bannister, thank you for contacting me. I'm not sure why your email was kicked back to you. Please send your comment email directly to me at this email address. If anyone else you know has a problem,, please inform them to use this email address as well. Sorry for the inconvenience. I will check into the problem with the comment link.

Sincerely,

*John Cooper, LG, LHg
Geologist/Hydrogeologist/Natural Resource Planner
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
johnc@coskagit.wa.us
(360) 416-1334*

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 7:07 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: Feedback Submission

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 10:35 PM
To: website <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: Feedback Submission

Department : Planning and Development Services

Name : Patti Bannister.

Email : [REDACTED]

Other : I sent in my comment opposing the rock quarry in Marblemount. It kicked back my comment, saying it exceeded by 52 words, I eliminated 52 words still did not accept. Please extend the comment period. I would also like to know if you received it? Perhaps it would be helpful if you posted that on this page. Could you please let me know if you recieved my comments minus the 52?

Thank you,
Patti Bannister

From Host Address: 107.77.205.19

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 10:32:08 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Patti Bannister
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete

State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Rock Quarry Marblemount

Comments : I am opposed to the rock quarry, I live on Hwy 20 in Birdsvew. I know about the traffic here, I am close to Lusk Rd and next to the turn off to go to Mt. Baker. I am very concerned over this quarry and what a danger it will be. In the summer a last minute turn signal blinker will appear from a happy family in route to their reserved campsite, Lusk and Baker, or any number of turn offs for that matter.

I am concerned for the community who travel this road everyday, we sit in the hot sun from time to time due to road closures of an accident, or God forbid a fatality. It shuts down 20, you have to wait sometimes a hour to make it to a detour, it cuts us off from any emergency services we need due to a limited medic unit, tied up in such accidents.

I cannot believe anyone would think that so many gravel, or boulder hauls with massive trucks is a safe sound plan. Campers, impatient drivers underestimating the length of the trucks passing. All of Hwy 20 will be impacted, Sedro Woolley roundabouts, and all of Cook Rd. Noise, dust, all hours of the day. Kids cross Hwy 20 to go play at the park in Concrete, cars pull in and out, off and on Hwy 20 , congestion in the summer, ice in the fall, snow, traffic slowing to avoid Elk. It is not a question of if a fatality accident will happen as a direct result of a long haul gavel truck loaded with a massive boulder, it a question of when! Just the size of the boulder is going to be a distraction as people take their eye off the road or feel they need to yield to the size. The trucks are long beds, an impatient driver will surely underestimate their distance to pass safely.

My husband and I moved up here after paying years of property taxes on our home and rentals in Skagit, Awe yes, to finally get away, close to retiring, rest, enjoy some peace and quite! I take no pleasure in the thought of ear plugs, although we have an occasional logging truck, it will now be, if allowed, an endless stream and roar of gravel trucks.

What worries me most is the accidents that will increase, and dangerous conditions it will play on commuting for those of us who just want to get home safe and sound.

The dust? Can you assure me their will be no blow off? Can I still eat berries from the bush and apples from the tree? Will it affect breathing conditions in the elderly who live close to a constant flow of trucks? How can one even consider not thinking of the families it will affect, what about Marblemount and that community?

How will it affect the river? Do we really know the impact? Tourism?

How many of families take their Sunday drive with the family after church upriver? After all Skagit has been through, Anne Jackson and others murdered, bridge collapse, mall shooting, and our neighboring Oso do we really have to impact all those escaping for a little breather , a quick retreat from the city by taking away the safe harbor of a quite drive?

Will driving by the river feel the same, dodging a massive truck? How quickly do they break by the way? I sure hope everyone thinks long and hard on this because knowing the roads and oversized R.V. campers looking to have that family holiday with kids singing in the back and Dad trying to navigate that sharp turn , will that over sized boulder and long bed truck be able to lock up those breaks quickly enough?

What about the Eagle festival? Those stops along the road, where sometimes they are just a tad not off the road enough? Or the sudden stop to observe the Elk, Buffalo or Eagles.

If I don't want to live here any longer will I still get the same value for my house because when noise is so bad?

Or because a staging area is set up in Birdsvew for the quarry? Is there a staging area planned for Birdsvew?

How do we know the impact? What does removing that much of a mountain of rock look like? And for what a couple dozen jobs after the logging is done? Is it still going to be the same?

Let them get the high density rock somewhere else do not destroy the heartbeat of the Upriver soul, do not allow what is left of beauty and untouched wilderness to be blasted, do not allow them to destroy that, the heartbeat where so many children experienced their first mountain school, and camping trip.

This place we all call home, this place that is everyone's, the place where untouched beauty and wildlife survive and the sound of Elk and Bear, can still be heard.

I implore you for the safety of all of us, for the healing most of us need to rejuvenate, for the place where tourist flock to experience, please, do not dare say, "its just a few gravel trucks" and allow this to happen, it will be impacted so drastically, and I honestly think that there will be fatalities.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Bannister

From Host Address: 107.77.205.19

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 12:01:02 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 9:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Cullen Beckhorn
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : We're asking for an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

We're asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

From Host Address: 172.58.40.81

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 9:03:27 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Paul Bedard
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount quarry

Comments : Please allow longer comment period,not a good use of our natural space

From Host Address: 172.58.41.158

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:15:27 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Emily Bedker
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I strongly oppose this project for multiple reasons. I believe that this project would create significant noise pollution, put strain on an already stretched rural emergency response team, harm wildlife populations on the border of the National Park, and endanger the water quality of the Wild & Scenic Skagit River. These are only a few of the many central reasons to oppose this project that is guaranteed to harm the Marblemount community, a community of people who love and live close to the land.

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:58:28 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 9:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Paula Berg
[REDACTED]

City : Bow
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : I am opposed to this proposed project for many reasons including: noise, air and water pollution impacting surrounding human and non-human communities; fuel from trucks, blasting chemicals and other pollutants from the project leaking into the local aquifer and nearby Skagit River; disruptions to federally-protected species including peregrine falcons -- which nest on nearby cliffs -- and chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout; and impacts to the region's important tourist economy.

Please consider an extension to the deadline and require a full EIS because the impacts reach far beyond the quarry area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

From Host Address: 74.94.69.169

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 9:16:16 AM



700 5th Ave. | P.O. Box 34023 | Seattle WA 98124-4023
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seattle.gov/light

twitter.com/SEACityLight facebook.com/SeattleCityLight

RECEIVED
MAR 29 2019
SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

March 29, 2018

JOHN COOPER
NATURAL RESOURCE PLANNER
SKAGIT COUNTY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
1800 CONTINENTAL PLACE
MOUNT VERNON, WA 98273

RE: Comments on Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Dear John,

Seattle City Light (City Light) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Environmental Checklist and associated documents for the proposed Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount (project). In short, City Light contends that the current environmental documentation does not contain sufficient detail or analyses to make a threshold determination. Specific areas of concern include:

- Water quality impacts
- Impacts to threatened/endangered and other protected species
- Impacts to a Wild and Scenic River
- Increased traffic

Based on review by our subject matter experts in the areas of water quality and protected fish and wildlife species, City Light asserts that this project will likely have a significant adverse effect to the environment and should thus require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

As background, the Skagit River and its tributaries near the proposed project site provide important habitat for all native salmonid species and host the largest run of Puget Sound Chinook salmon. City Light has made significant investments in salmon recovery and wildlife habitat protection in the Skagit River watershed and owns multiple parcels of conservation lands adjacent to the project parcels. In total, City Light parcels share 8,800 ft of common border with the project parcels.

First, the impacts to water quality in areas downslope of the site and along the haul route on Rockport-Cascade Road need to be analyzed more completely, including a more thorough stormwater analysis, given the potential for the development to alter hydrology and increase fugitive debris, dust, and pollutants over a 100-year period. The quarry and "undersized stockpiled area" could lead to changes in hydrology, resulting in water quality impacts to streams off site. Of concern are the potential long-term impacts to O' Brien Slough (P110610, P110611, P110612, and P45530) which contains refuge habitat for Coho salmon and rearing habitat for Chinook salmon.

Second, impacts to protected species need further evaluation. In addition to the O' Brien Slough parcels to the west of the project site, City Light owns contiguous parcels north and south of the proposed project. These properties are managed to conserve wetland and riparian habitat and promote development of mature conifer forests to support a wide variety of species, including the federally listed northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet. For example, City Light's Parcel P45307 contains a stand of mature coniferous trees within 1/4 -mile of the proposed quarry that may be suitable habitat for these species but no assessment of spotted owl or marbled murrelet use has been completed. The project's effects to these two species should be evaluated by determining presence of suitable habitat and species use within the zone where noise levels will be elevated above ambient levels. Based upon our initial analysis, the "Action Area" should include all project-related noise inside and outside the project footprint, including blasting, heavy equipment operation, and truck traffic along Rockport-Cascade Road.

Other concerns regarding the project include the following:

- Blasting and other noise impacts to bald eagle winter communal roosts documented in O'Brien Creek and Illabot Creek watersheds;
- Impacts to peregrine falcons, which have been anecdotally reported to occur in the immediate area;
- Increased truck traffic, which may result in a higher number of vehicle-wildlife collisions, killing or injuring animals such as deer, elk and federally-listed wolves which are known to be present in the general area; and
- Weeds resulting from ground disturbance and topsoil storage, which can then spread onto City Light's adjacent conservation lands as well as along the Skagit River.

Based upon the above, City Light urges Skagit County to make a threshold Determination of Significance and require an EIS to further evaluate all environmental impacts of the project. Further, we believe that the optional DNS process under WAC 197-11-355 should not have been used in this instance since there was not a reasonable basis to determine that a significant adverse environmental impact was not likely.

Again, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments and look forward to working with the County.

Sincerely,



Lynn Best
Chief Environmental Officer
Seattle City Light



cc: Debra Smith, City Light CEO and General Manager
Michael Haynes, City Light COO
William Andersen, City Light Skagit Senior Operations Manager

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 3:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Sharon Bilbrey
[REDACTED]

City : CONCRETE
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am in the healthcare field. How to address this issue is Greek to me!!

I live in Cape Horn. Moved here for the peace and tranquility, beautiful tall trees, small-town charm. Quiet. I don't know much of anything having to do with mining/rock quarries. Don't wanna know. What I do know is this.. It's slow and easy up here. Good for the soul. I wanna look up and see mountains covered with tall trees. I want this to continue to be a place of refuge as it is for so many of us. Growth? I'm sorry but I don't care a bit about it. The more Concrete grows, the less it stays everything that drew us here in the first place. Am I gonna look up at the mountains and see more and more patches of what used to be? Seriously? It makes me sick to drive up 20 and see how many trees have been taken down. It's sad. So is that what's proposed with this quarry thing? Then count me out!! Like I said, I know healthcare lol, but I don't know this or the right words to say. I have a small voice in this, nevertheless, it's a voice and someone will hear it.

How to do this?

I would imagine that there are a lot of folks like me up here who want to oppose this, but find it overwhelming.

A petition maybe?

No clue. But if you guys could just tell me where to sign, I'm on it. :)

From Host Address: 66.235.37.243

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 3:15:27 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 6:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : sharon d. bilbrey

[REDACTED]
City : Concrete

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : My husband and I both have severe ptsd. This environment helps us. Please, please don't do this.

From Host Address: 66.235.37.243

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 6:08:53 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 5:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jai Boreen
[REDACTED]

City : friday harbor
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Quarry

Comments : Bad idea. Threat to Skagit. Too much truck traffic. There must be available rock closer to jetties on the coast.

Bad idea. Threat to Skagit River. Too many trucks. There must be suitable rock closer to jetties on coast.

From Host Address: 63.225.179.190

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 5:00:54 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Carl H Brameus
[REDACTED]

City : Bow

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : The location of the proposed expansion of the quarry is in my opinion too close to the Skagit River and the many nature areas around Marblemount. I have read the Biological Assessment. However, I do believe that the proposed practices will protect the environment around the area sufficiently.

I believe the increase in traffic and the additional explosive blasts will have a severely negative effect on both environment and people living in the area for a long time to come.

I am asking you to deny the permit to expand the mine.

From Host Address: 46.244.28.21

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:42:03 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 6:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Alexa Brandt

City : Rockport

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : The plan to greatly expand the existing small quarry on Bear Mountain in Marblemount, WA is extremely concerning because of its inevitable negative cultural and environmental impacts. The act of extracting this rock will subject the wildlife and residents of the area to loud blasting throughout the day. This is more than simply annoying sounds. Blasting of this sort will create intense noise pollution, not to mention light pollution, which will greatly impact wildlife that live in the area, not to mention the removal of the trees and rocks that make up their physical habitat. The logging of this area will also increase the likelihood of landslides and rock slides. The upper Skagit region is home to many endangered species (wolves, fishers, salmon, bald eagles, etc.) and this blasting will pollute the air and water feeding into the Skagit river that all of these animals and people rely on. People come to the North Cascades to find peace and enjoy a rare piece of our country that still feels wild and remote. An operation like this and the high traffic it would require would completely destroy that draw from tourists and would negatively impact property value of those living in the Marblemount community. Additionally, as a resident of the upriver community, I am concerned about the impact this project would have on our already very limited Emergency Medical Services. If there were an accident on the project, it would not be a minor one. The medical resources we have up here are limited and the potential draw on those from this project would create less available support for residents and visitors to the National Park.

From Host Address: 50.125.100.236

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 6:02:29 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Adam Conor Brayton
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry
Comments : To whom it concerns,

I would urge that you reconsider your plans to develop the quarry project into something that grows beyond our scope and falls into the realm of uninintended consequences. I believe the proposed development, which includes logging and loosening up rock, could have catastrophic outcomes if conditions for a rock or mudslide were to befall that area. The proximity to residences and high rainfall around here seem to be a recipe for disaster. This is not to mention the proximity to Cascade Creek, a scenic river. The reasons why this should not go through are more than I can express in words, but let it suffice to say that I do not approve.

Best regards,

Adam Brayton

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:38:53 PM

Tuesday March 26 2019

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

Dear Planning Department:

I've just heard of a plan by Kiewit Construction Company to mine big boulders from a site near the Rockport Cascade Road.

I am very concerned.

As I understand it, the company plans to log ninety acres and remove all the vegetation, then commence blasting the mountain to obtain the large boulders which will then be loaded onto big trucks to be hauled to use for jetties along the west coast.

There are many factors about this proposal which concern me. Here are a few which come to mind:

1. Increased traffic along Rockport Cascade Road, SR 530, and SR 20.
2. Disturbing the peace due to the noise of blasting
3. Disturbing the wildlife in the vicinity
4. Pollution of the water flowing into Illabit Creek, Jordan Creek and Skagit River.
5. Loss of tourism due to the impact of the project.
6. Danger due to the big trucks traveling to and from the site.
7. Impacting our roads and highways

Thank you for representing my concerns.

Sincerely yours,

John C Bromet

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 9:15 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Michael E Brondi
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : Attention: Skagit County Planning Department March 28, 2019

I am writing to express concerns and request additional information and a longer comment period regarding the proposed Keiwit mining operation near Marblemount.

My wife, Anne Schwartz and I have lived and operated a commercial farm in Rockport for 40 years. We live in a neighborhood of 9 homes near the corner of State Route 530 and the Rockport Cascade Road. Anne and I have served as Emergency Medical Technicians and volunteer's firefighters for the Rockport Fire Department for those same 40 years.

We have scanned the "Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount" document found on the Skagit County Planning Department website and appreciate the thoroughness but question certain aspects of its accuracy and conclusions. For instance, we have reviewed the traffic impact analysis and find no mention of the elk which cross SR 530 regularly near Rockport. We have responded to vehicle-elk collisions on SR 530 and can expect more as elk populations grow. There are several other examples.

Thank you for considering the following issues.

As EMTs we have responded to dozens of medical emergencies and motor vehicle accidents and are very aware of the risks to people, wildlife and pets from increased traffic. We experience this every year when the passes on Rt 20 are opened and tourists and travelers to eastern Washington increase traffic dramatically. Adding many large and small trucks daily will certainly negatively impact traffic safety here and all the way down Rt 20 to I-5.

We have concerns about the long hours of operation of the mine and the associated disturbance of blasting and machine noise to the Marblemount community. Mine work 6am - 6pm six days/week with the likelihood of longer days and Sunday work if it is profitable for Keiwit will have a huge negative impact on Marblemount...sound travels very well in our bowl-shaped valley.

If the mine is permitted we would like to see operational hours reduced to 5 days per week, 10 hours/day during long daylight hours and 8 hours per day during reduced daylight hours in winter, especially during hazardous road conditions.

We have concerns that the road bed of the Rockport Cascade Road may not be suitable for the proposed level of heavy truck traffic and will disintegrate more quickly. Because of its remote eastern location, the Rockport Cascade Road is often among the last roads to be plowed. This winter it still had ice weeks after roads in the lower valley were snow free. Heavy truck traffic, especially during thaws, will increase damage to the road and will require Skagit County to spend significantly more on plowing and maintaining this road.

The increased truck traffic at our corner will have a major negative impact on the quality of our lives. We will be subjected to all the noise of every truck slowing down to turn the corner, and then accelerating to travel speed. We want to ensure that drivers do not use their compression brakes and that the speed limit on the

Rockport-Cascade road be reduced to 35mph from the Martin Ranch Road to SR 530 (at least). In winter, with short daylight hours, visibility is greatly reduced on these roads and snow and ice regularly make our roads among the most treacherous in Skagit County.

We are concerned that the amount of proposed truck traffic will greatly impact our own ability to walk or run with our dogs, ride our horses or simply enjoy a late afternoon walk in what had been a rural, quiet neighborhood with very little traffic. Our farm business will be negatively impacted since we like to offer our customers a quiet farm visit experience. The quality of life benefits we get from choosing to live in our rural community will be eliminated 6 days a week, and maybe more. This is at odds with the stated goals of the Skagit County comprehensive plan and we ask that you adhere to that plan.

We have additional concerns about potential impacts to water quality, especially over the long term. Please insure that there will be ongoing observations and evaluations of mine operations by Skagit County with mitigation of negative impacts required.

I personally would prefer that the Cunningham mine be allowed to operate under its current permit and that Keiwit be denied the permit to expand this mine.

It would be very helpful to have the opportunity to address our questions in a public forum. Please, at least, extend the comment period since our community is only now being made aware of the magnitude of the proposed mining operation.

Thank you for your consideration and response to these concerns.

Respectfully,

Michael Brondi
Blue Heron Farm and Nursery



From Host Address: 50.34.215.204

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 9:13:33 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 10:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jodi Broughton
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am very concerned about the proposed expansion of the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount.

Kiewit Infrastructure has proposed expanding the existing quarry from 20 to 79 acres, a nearly fourfold increase that would dramatically affect the local landscape. The company plans to remove 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone over the lifetime of the project, an environmental impact that can never be wholly mitigated. Furthermore, the project requires denuding 90 acres of forested land to remove 2.7 million board feet of timber. All of this would be happening in close proximity to North Cascades National Park and federally designated Wilderness Areas. This expansion is inconsistent with the goal of an intact North Cascades ecosystem.

Among the specific impacts of the proposed quarry expansion that particularly concern me are the following:

- Construction of a 1.3 mile gravel road for the purposes of removing timber.
- Noise pollution from blasting and other heavy industrial activity occurring within less than one mile from about 30 homes. The nearest home is only 600 feet away.
- Increased risk of accidents along the Highway 20 corridor caused by the addition of large, slow-moving trucks. Highway 20 is already a dangerous road with fast-moving traffic and many blind curves. In the summer, the North Cascades Highway is full of tourists, who flock to this region because of its scenic beauty, abundant wildlife, and rugged mountains.
- Visual impacts from deforestation and mining activity associated with the quarry. These would be damaging to the area's rural character and to recreational and tourism opportunities.
- Potential effects on sensitive or protected wildlife species, such as salmon, peregrine falcons, newly released fishers, and much more.

I do not think the interests of the Marblemount/Diablo area are best served by a major industrial project that will dramatically alter the local landscape for at least the next 100 years (the period for which Kiewit Infrastructure hopes to obtain a permit to operate the project). In practical terms this amounts to permanently changing the character of the area in ways that would be harmful to local residents, wildlife, and the very qualities that make this part of rural Washington unique. It is for these reasons that I oppose this project.

Please extend the comment deadline and consider doing a full Environmental Impact Statement so that the full impacts of this project might be weighed.

Thank you, Jodi Broughton

From Host Address: 73.239.180.244

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 10:29:38 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Janis Buckner
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am writing in opposition to the proposed Marblemount Quarry. I am requesting that we are given more time to allow our community to be apprised of this proposal and to allow for each person's voice to be heard.

Please help us keep the Skagit River and the Upriver Community Wild & Scenic!

Thank you!
Janis Buckner

From Host Address: 50.34.223.200

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 4:49:28 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 9:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kimberly Burrows

[REDACTED]
City : Marblemount

State : WASHINGTON (WA)

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Dear Skagit County Planning and Development Services,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed Kiewit Infrastructure Marblemount Quarry. My home, where I live with my husband and 2-year-old daughter, is just 1600 feet from the proposed site. I have several concerns based on my review of the detailed project description and believe that this project will put my families health, safety, and welfare at risk.

I urge you to extend the comment period to provide adequate time to review the extensive project permit. Additionally, as a property owner located in close proximity to the proposed quarry, I am requesting direct notification of all developments in the application process.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Burrows

From Host Address: 174.216.18.247

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 9:33:07 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 9:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Robert Burrows
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Comments : Attention John Cooper:

These are some initial comments, I'm sure to have more to follow as I wade through the voluminous application materials. Thank you again for posting those online. Given the volume of information and the limited time to review it before March 29 I would like to request an extension of 90 days for this initial review period. Given the materials were posted online nearly a week into the review period and now reasonably accessible to those of us who live in Marblemount, I assert an extension is a reasonable request.

Given what I have learned about the project so far and despite what I understand the zoning to be (includes a mineral overlay), this project is wholly incompatible with the human and natural community in Marblemount. For example, at "ground zero", our neighbor, who is elderly and has health problems, lives just 600 feet from the proposed project boundary. She, like so many of our neighbors and ourselves we chose to live in Marblemount because of the quiet rural setting. I do not believe it is hyperbole to say if this project were to be allowed to move forward, the noise, dust and damage to the natural world that she reveres so much would kill her.

We (myself, wife, and 2 year old daughter) live just 1600 feet from the proposed project boundary and also stand to have our lives be profoundly affected for the worse if this were allowed to move forward. In the table of contents for the Permits and Technical Studies I do not see a clear title that indicates there was any consideration of the impacts of the operation on human health. What kind of studies are there about noise and vibration on human health and well being from operations similar to this? Particularly for residential areas in such close proximity?

From Host Address: 174.216.18.147

Date and time received: 3/20/2019 9:49:56 PM

John Cooper

From: Rob Burrows [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 1:59 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Comment on Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Mr. Cooper, I submitted my comment via the online form, but here it is again as you mentioned we could do:

My family and I live 1600 feet from the proposed quarry, the nearest home is within 600 feet. Like most of our neighbors we are distraught at the prospect of this monstrosity. The prospect of living next to 12 to 24 hour noise including engines, backup beepers, blasting reverberating around the valley, dust, and who knows what else is viscerally sickening. How could this not threaten the drinking water in our well because the runoff with explosive residue and failed charges (ANFO), diesel, lubricants, etc. would all infiltrate into the groundwater we draw from. We would fear for our safety in our home from falling rock from the cliffs above our house that are part of the same rock formation the blasting would happen on. The traffic would destroy our roads and disturb our neighbors down river. In the summer it would clog Highway 20 already full of logging trucks, RVs, motorcycles, folks driving to work, and everybody else just trying to get somewhere.

My wife and I have already lost sleep, quality time with our 2 year old, preparing the garden, other fun time, and peace of mind in our scramble to learn about this project and craft our own and a community response and rebuttal. Most of our neighbors are in a similar mental state. We are a small village but we are strong. It takes grit to live upriver in a relatively remote place, away from amenities, in 80 inches of precipitation a year, but it is also something we love. We relish a rural lifestyle. We have tree farmers, homesteaders, organic farmers, public servants, scientists, tech geeks, small business owners, barbers, cooks, dishwashers, servers, fisherman, hunters, skiers, climbers, students, teachers, children, retirees, and everybody in between. We struggle with the opioid crisis like everywhere else. We may not be rich with money but we are rich in quiet, clean air, clean water, starry night skies and rain soaked ones, the amazing forests of gigantic moss covered trees, forestry lands and protected lands, wildlife and fish all sitting at the base of some incredibly steep mountains. This community is a gateway to the North Cascades, the most beautiful mountain range on earth (in my humble opinion). It provides a respite for tourists and weekend adventurers in a budding tourism economy. This quarry would destroy that new bud and bring few if any steady jobs to Marblemount.

From what I've been able to surmise from the application materials, the application is a poor sales pitch that glosses over important details and seriously minimizes the impacts of the project. It all together ignores other impacts, most notably those to people's health and well being. It is incomplete and flawed and Skagit County should reject this project outright and save us all the trouble of the long regulatory process, the community fight, possible legal battle, etc.

The proposal favors the property rights of a few instead of those rights of many more for 100 years!. Allowing this quarry project to proceed at all would be an unbalanced decision and goes against the vision of respecting property rights in the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan Vision. Planning, land use regulations and zoning are supposed to protect individual and community rights in the following ways:

- by avoiding nuisances through ensuring against incompatible neighboring land uses;
- by providing predictability that enhances the value of private property;
- by providing codes, ordinances and regulations that organize a community's physical layout;
- by protecting and conserving the natural resources that provide us with clean air and water;
- by protecting our heritage by preserving both natural and man-made resources, and scenic and cultural areas that generate civic pride;

- by assuring that each generation has responsibilities as a trustee of the environment for future generations;
- by attaining the widest range of land uses without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences; and
- by recognizing that each person has a fundamental and inalienable right to a healthful environment and that each person has a responsibility to contribute to the protection and enhancement of the environment;
- by recognizing existing non-conforming land uses and the development rights associated with them.

John Cooper

From: Rob Burrows [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 11:47 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Re: Call for Marblemount Quarry questions?

Thanks for the clarification. Please let me know if the NODA and comment period gets reissued. If so I'm okay to wait on the call/meeting. If not, can you talk tomorrow (Thursday)?

Also, a confusing email was forwarded to me regarding the comment period. I'll forward it to you.

Rob

On Wed, Mar 27, 2019, 7:59 AM John Cooper <johnc@co.skagit.wa.us> wrote:

Rob, sorry about the miscommunication. I meant to say NODA, not MDNS. A lot of people calling me now and a lot of email communications. To be clear, we are not at a point where we have made or can make a SEPA threshold determination.

Sincerely,

John Cooper, LG, LHg

Geologist/Hydrogeologist/Natural Resource Planner

Skagit County Planning and Development Services

1800 Continental Place

Mount Vernon, WA 98273

johnc@co.skagit.wa.us

(360) 416-1334

From: Rob Burrows [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 4:40 PM
To: John Cooper <johnc@co.skagit.wa.us>
Cc: Jose Vila [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Call for Marblemount Quarry questions?

Mr. Cooper,

I have a basic understanding of SEPA with respect to WDFW Hydraulic Project Approval permits, but my further confusion illustrates a need to talk. What is your availability for a phone call with a few of us on Wednesday or Thursday of this week?

Rob Burrows

On Tue, Mar 26, 2019, 2:34 PM Rob Burrows <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Mr. Cooper,

I looked up the MDNS acronym, but did you mean reissue the notice of development? How is the county at an MDNS at this point?

On Tue, Mar 26, 2019, 1:25 PM Rob Burrows <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Mr. Cooper, Thank you for your response.

MDNS?

Okay, but what are those factors and criteria for determining your next process? At the least can you give me SCC reference please? Or a policy page on the Planning website?

Thank you, Rob Burrows

On Tue, Mar 26, 2019, 1:17 PM John Cooper <johnc@co.skagit.wa.us> wrote:

Mr. Burrows, Our attorney has decided to take a week before re-issue of the MDNS with a second comment period. However, just in case, please write me a simple comment letter so, at the very least, you obtain standing in the process.

We really cannot formalize our decision making process until we finish the comment period. The comments will be the deciding factor on how we proceed.

I inquired with our attorney about the public meeting. She is agreeable but wants to defer to a later date (April +/-) until our strategy has been formalized.

I am available at the office but you may want to make an appointment as I am not always accessible.

Sincerely,

John Cooper, LG, LHg

Geologist/Hydrogeologist/Natural Resource Planner

Skagit County Planning and Development Services

1800 Continental Place

Mount Vernon, WA 98273

johnc@co.skagit.wa.us

(360) 416-1334

From: Rob Burrows [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:54 PM
To: John Cooper <johnc@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: Re: Marblemount Quarry Comment period and questions.

Mr. Cooper,

A few questions:

Are you able to extend the comment period for the Marblemount Quarry project? Please let us know. If not I will plan to take some time of work this week to review the application materials. I work full time and have toddler to spend time with at home so my time is limited, but I have so many questions and concerns to put into my comments to the county.

Do you have a summary of the county's decision making process you can share? I haven't had time to dig into the SCC to fully understand it.

I understand Jose Vila has been in touch with you about the possibility of coming up here to Marblemount to answer community members questions. If that is not feasible for you before this initial comment period ends. Could a group of us schedule a meeting with you at your office?

Sincerely, Rob Burrows

On Thu, Mar 21, 2019, 4:10 PM John Cooper <johnc@co.skagit.wa.us> wrote:

Mr. Burrows, the code for the notice of development application allows for a comment period to extend from no less than 15 days to a maximum of 30 days, SCC 14.06.150 (2)(b)(viii). However, we will continue to take comments throughout the processing time period for the application which may take as much or more than 1 year to complete.

John Cooper, LG, LHg

Geologist/Hydrogeologist/Natural Resource Planner

Skagit County Planning and Development Services

1800 Continental Place

Mount Vernon, WA 98273

johnc@co.skagit.wa.us

(360) 416-1334

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Robert Burrows

[REDACTED]
City : Marblemount

State : WA

2

6

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : For the sake of those of us who live in close proximity (my family and I live 1600 feet from the quarry) and all those in Marblemount who would be adversely affected by impacts that cannot be mitigated (noise, visual scar, likely ground/well water contamination, loss of wildlife habitat, etc.) please find a way to stop this project. So many of us, likely the majority of Marblemount residents want no part of the project. Such a massive long-term project would drastically change the character of a special place in Skagit County. It could never be the same if this project went through.

From Host Address: 174.216.18.247

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:25:56 PM

March 26, 2019

To: Skagit County Planning and Development Services

Attn: John Cooper

As a long-time resident and property owner of Rockport who lives near the Rockport – Cascade Road, please accept these comments on the **Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount proposal**. This references SEPA application PL19-0032, Grading application BP19-0070, Forest practice conversion application PL 190047 and Mining Special Use permit PL 19-0033. I recommend the following be considered:

- 1) Please extend the comment period by as much as is allowed, at least the 30 days, in order for the entirety of affected residents to be notified of this proposal.
- 2) I have read the entire submission available on the Skagit County website. I am struck by the fact that a great deal of information is available (a good thing), but very alarmed that in almost all instances of descriptions of affected environment, noise, transportation details, etc, the Kiewit conclusion is stated that "No additional mitigation measures are necessary based on project design and operational plans." I am extremely concerned that Skagit County Planners will accept the casually-stated summaries that this project will have no real affect on this mostly-quiet, rural part of Skagit County that is in fact a gateway to a premiere national park!
- 3) I am particularly concerned about these areas:

Blasting: This section of the proposal does at least recognize that "at distances of 800 feet or more (this would seem to describe every residence in Marblemount and Rockport?) **drill noise could be noticeable**. The mitigation stated for this? The contractor who did this segment advises "**It would be wise to prohibit drilling during nighttime hours or on Sunday and holidays.**" Please understand that my household prefers that our daytime hours of working and recreating out in our yard and neighborhood be peaceful and quiet as well!

Transportation: While 260 daily vehicle trips through our neighborhood may not sound like big numbers of traffic for the populated areas of western Skagit County, this is extremely undesirable to consider this for the Rockport-Cascade Road and that stretch of Highway 530 through Rockport. It is already quite difficult at times to safely pull onto Highway 20 westbound from near the Skagit River bridge. This is a huge change for traffic in this small town. Especially since stated that 75% of the trips would be commercial trucks. Yet, the proposal states "Truck traffic is not forecast to impact the Rockport neighborhood. The posted advisory speeds on SR 530 north of Skagit River Bridge are 25 mph. Mitigation is not required." I find this over-simplified and ask that Skagit County Planners consider

this carefully in context of a small rural town and how this added traffic could NOT impact the Rockport neighborhood.

Recreational Uses of the area: Again, the change this will have for Marblemount and Rockport is completely minimized for what it will mean. The Rockport-Cascade road is frequently used by my neighborhood (including myself) for these activities: walking, running, bicycling, and horse-riding. Yet again, the proposal summarizes: **"Would the Proposed Project displace any existing recreational uses? No Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on, if any: None necessary."** I must ask if the planners who are considering this proposal would advise *your* family to continue activities as listed above, with the blasting, mining, and traffic if added to your neighborhood?

Affect on Sensitive Areas: Again the proposal has minimized very likely impacts to sensitive areas such as parks and wilderness areas. The proposal states: **The proposed MRO expansion would not directly use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for governmental protection. There are no parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains or prime farmland within the proposed expanded MRO area.** While the mining area is not IN a wilderness or park or other sensitive area, it is actually nearby almost ALL of those listed descriptors. It is my observation that much of Skagit County government has a tendency to ignore the fact that a large national park exists here, and that the west-side entrance to this park is near Marblemount. I ask that the planners recognize that this is a special thing. This is a real gem that exists in Skagit County. Please recognize this and your role in protecting the surrounding "gateway" proximity towns of Marblemount and Rockport and the associated quiet, rural environment.

Property Values: It is an easy assumption that if the impacts of this proposal come to fruition as stated in the proposal, no one will want to live within miles of it. Actual property values (whether assessed by Skagit County as such or not) – will plummet. Many of us will not want to live where we now enjoy a relatively quiet part of Skagit County, but given that no one else will either, the ability to sell and relocate will be difficult.

In summary I encourage Skagit County Planning and Development Services to reject this proposal due to the immense negative impact to the Marblemount and Rockport areas. It is contrary to the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan in many ways.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Kelly Bush

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Martha Campbell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I believe that this project would have overwhelmingly negative effects on both the human and natural communities of Marblemount without bringing any benefit to the residents of the surrounding communities. This community does not have the capacity to support the increased traffic on the highway, does not have the capacity in Emergency Medical Services to cover this dangerous operation, and the residents of the surrounding communities would have their quality of life significantly impacted by the noise and traffic. The area where the quarry is proposed serves as habitat for many species unique to the North Cascades, including bobcat, bear, and even fisher and wolfs. This quarry should not be allowed to proceed.

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:41:54 PM

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Regarding Proposed Marblemount Quarry
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 5:11:47 PM

Dear Commissioners,
Greetings!

I am commenting on the following permits:
PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046
BP 19-0070

As a college student who cares deeply about protecting our county's beautiful ecosystems, I respectfully oppose the Marblemount Quarry.

I ask you to require a full environmental impact statement of the effects of the project on the river and its salmon. Also, the chip bed roadbed of the Rockpoort-Cascade Road was never designed for that volume or weight of truck, and this road is thus likely to be heavily impacted.

This quarry would not be beneficial for our community as it would increase truck traffic and noise pollution (and thus threaten our outdoor tourism industry, which my community relies upon for its income). Please once again, require an EIS for the Quarry!

Thanks for your time and kind consideration,
Rebecca Canright

[REDACTED]

--

Did you know that hummingbirds, dragonflies, dogs and butterflies can all see in ultraviolet wavelengths?

"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin." -William Shakespeare



Peace, compassion and love for all beings.

John Cooper

From: Rebecca Canright [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 5:11 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Regarding Proposed Marblemount Quarry

Dear John,
Greetings!

I am commenting on the following permits:
PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046
BP 19-0070

I hope it is okay that I am sending these comments to you, I was told this was one place they could be submitted. Thanks a lot.

Comments:

As a college student who cares deeply about protecting our region's beautiful ecosystems, I respectfully oppose the Marblemount Quarry.

I ask you to require a full environmental impact statement of the effects of the project on the river and its salmon. Also, the chip bed roadbed of the Rockpoort-Cascade Road was never designed for that volume or weight of truck, and this road is thus likely to be heavily impacted.

This quarry would not be beneficial for our community as it would increase truck traffic and noise pollution (and thus threaten our outdoor tourism industry, which my community relies upon for its income). Please once again, require an EIS for the Quarry!

Thanks for your time and kind consideration,
Rebecca Canright



--

Did you know that hummingbirds, dragonflies, dogs and butterflies can all see in ultraviolet wavelengths?
"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin." -William Shakespeare



Peace, compassion and love for all beings.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Re: Regarding Proposed Marblemount Quarry
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 5:14:26 PM

Apologies, I neglected to include my mailing address:

[REDACTED], Rockport, WA 98283

The project I am commenting on, just to be clear, is:
Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

On Tue, Mar 26, 2019 at 5:11 PM Rebecca Canright <[REDACTED]>
wrote:

Dear Commissioners,
Greetings!

I am commenting on the following permits:
PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046
BP 19-0070

As a college student who cares deeply about protecting our county's beautiful ecosystems, I respectfully oppose the Marblemount Quarry.

I ask you to require a full environmental impact statement of the effects of the project on the river and its salmon. Also, the chip bed roadbed of the Rockpoort-Cascade Road was never designed for that volume or weight of truck, and this road is thus likely to be heavily impacted.

This quarry would not be beneficial for our community as it would increase truck traffic and noise pollution (and thus threaten our outdoor tourism industry, which my community relies upon for its income). Please once again, require an EIS for the Quarry!

Thanks for your time and kind consideration,
Rebecca Canright
[REDACTED]

--

Did you know that hummingbirds, dragonflies, dogs and butterflies can all see in ultraviolet wavelengths?

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Peace, compassion and love for all beings.

--

Did you know that hummingbirds, dragonflies, dogs and butterflies can all see in ultraviolet wavelengths?

"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin." -William Shakespeare



Peace, compassion and love for all beings.

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 4:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Christine Carty
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro Woolley

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation Near Marblemount

Comments : I am writing in opposition to the proposed quarry operations. There should be a full EIS required for activities planned to disrupt for 50-100years! Careful study should be required! The following are some of my concerns:

- Effects on wildlife from blasting allowed 12 hrs/day, 6 days/ week AND MORE WHEN "NEEDED"
- Safety of high explosives stored in a remote area near a major dam
- Clearcut of timber as collateral damage
- Will profits be given to the state?
- Is concern about global warming just lip service?
- Does desire to begin this year trump environmental concerns and a full evaluation process?
- Currently sought permits for part of the area would be used as de facto excuse for expansion later
- Road will allow easy unauthorized access
- Loss of value for all homes within a wide area
- Destruction of quality of life for area residents

From Host Address: 172.92.206.14

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 4:52:58 PM

From: [Linda Castell](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure CO. Quarry at 59252 Rockport Cascade Rd. PL 19-0032,0033,0046 and BP-19 0070
Date: Thursday, March 28, 2019 5:19:01 PM

0Dear Skagit County Commissioners,

My husband, Robert Huet, and I own a cabin at [REDACTED], approximately 3/4 of a mile from the proposed quarry. Our concerns about this quarry are 1) traffic congestion and degradation of the Rockport Cascade Rd. (RC Rd.); 2) noise pollution; 3) worsening air and water quality; 4) impact on the wildlife and endangered salmon.

The traffic Impact Analysis report of the Proposal estimates that 260 vehicle trips will be made daily 6 days a week (1,560 trips total/week) The RC Rd. is a chipped, sealed road with no shoulders. Where are the bicyclists and pedestrians supposed to go when confronted with those big trucks? Who is going to be responsible for maintaining the road or repairing the damage done by those heavy trucks? What plans do you have to monitor the increased traffic from the quarry and ensure all those vehicles are complying with speed limits? How safe will it be for the children being transported on buses 4 times daily to embark and disembark?

I am especially concerned about the noise pollution, particularly the blasting. We bought the cabin as a place to enjoy the peace and quiet with our dogs. We spend most weekends year round and several weeks there every summer. We have an older dog who is terrified of gunshots. Thus we could no longer use the cabin with our dogs while blasting occurs. Sound carries very well in this valley and the Sound analysis report of the proposal was really primarily conjecture, not based on fact. With the noise, traffic congestion, probable dust and decreased water quality, our property would likely suffer decreased value and be difficult for us to sell even at a loss.

The proposed quarry is in an area which is often windy. The afternoon winds are likely to bring dust and exhaust fumes right toward our homes. It is difficult to understand how during rain storms leaks of fuel, blasting chemicals, etc. will not occur and affect our local aquifer and the Skagit River. We are all downhill from this quarry and most of us rely on shallow wells for our water supply. Who is going to monitor the wells and aquifer to ensure our water supply stays safe?

I am especially concerned how the noise, air and water pollution would impact fish and the wildlife habitat on adjacent lands. We often see evidence of black bears on our property and I have seen them crossing the RC Rd. west of the quarry area. Currently, a big effort is occurring to increase salmon runs and ensure more salmon for the Orcas to feed on. I fear that this quarry could negatively impact those efforts.

We sincerely hope that you will not allow this quarry to go forward.

Sincerely,
Linda Castell

[REDACTED]
Bow, WA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 2:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Linda Jean Castell

City : Bow

State : WA

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry on Rockport Cascade Road

Comments : Due to the extensive nature of the application for this Quarry, I request a 90 day extension in order to read and study all documents carefully.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Linda Castell

From Host Address: 96.89.150.123

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 2:27:19 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 12:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Sharon Chase

City : Sedro Woolley
State : WA

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry, SEPA application PL19-0032, Mining Special use permit PL19-0033
Comments : I live between highway 20 and Cook Road. I must use these roads any time I leave my home. I am concerned about the impact of more huge, heavy trucks on safety, wear on the roads and traffic congestion. All of these are now a concern without this added Marblemount mine expansion feature. How could the county find this negligible? In fact, not long ago Sedro Woolley felt that they needed to contain the impact of large logging and commercial trucks taking highway 9 to escape the checks on their weight and condition along highway 5. I have not noticed any less trucks coming off Highway 9 from the north which will dove tail with these mining trucks from Marblemount. I also am concerned for the Park experience of the locals and the important tourists who visit not only Pressentin Park and North Cascades National Park but must share the narrow roads of highway 20 with large trucks loaded with huge boulders or large trucks racing back to load more huge boulders. How is the safety of these trucks going to be regulated? Are the drivers going to be checked for alcohol and drug use are will they be overworked and be too drowsy to drive? Now is the time to work these safety issues not after someone dies. If the county decides this is a wonderful idea then at least make Kiewit Infrastructure Co maintain all the roads they will impact and put in place improved traffic controls , such as wider roads and more lanes, traffic light improvements and truck bypass arrangements. They should be footing the cost of their impact. The quality of life of Skagit County residents matters.


From Host Address: 50.34.215.168

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 12:32:51 PM

John Cooper

From: Robert Cinque <shelter@nwlinc.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 6:27 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: quarry

John
More time is needed to assess this! Please don't rush it or cave into big business pressure.
Robert Cinque


Marblemount wa 98267

 Virus-free. www.avast.com

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 5:10 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Wade B. Clark Jr.
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro-Woolley
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Comments : This proposal would put more lives at risk on an already overused road system and ruin the character and environment in the Marblemount area It's a complete travesty and should NOT be allowed to happen.

From Host Address: 50.34.181.72

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 5:08:29 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 1:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Judy Clark
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro Woolley
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : This should be a no-brainer and I am TOTALLY AGAINST IT. Hwy 20 is a nightmare these days with the extra Janicki traffic to their Punkin Center site, plus tourist traffic headed east over the pass. Logging such a huge area and desecrating the countryside is ruining wildlife habitat and destroying the peaceful environment that folks who live there enjoy. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH! When will it all end?!? There has to be some limits set for raping hillsides. No No No. NO

From Host Address: 50.34.181.72

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 12:59:20 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 3:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Heather Collins
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

Comments : This project will be wonderful for the community! It looks like plenty of contingency plans are in place for any accident, and to make sure that the environment is impacted as little as possible. The amount of money coming back into the county and local communities will bring more life back in to Skagit county.

From Host Address: 66.235.37.225

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 3:16:40 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 8:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kirsten Colton

[REDACTED]
City : Concrete
State : WA

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : SEPA application: PL19-0032 — Grading application: BP19-0070 — Forest practice conversion application: PL19-0047 — Mining special use permit: PL19-0033

Comments : This is a terrible idea. The impact on highway traffic and noise pollution will **not** be negligible, and the destruction of a forest ecosystem so close to the river shows lack of foresight. Please do not approve this permit.

From Host Address: 50.34.173.62

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 8:25:17 PM

From: [Kirsten Rice](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Proposed Marblemount Mine
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 8:20:45 PM


Hello,

I'd like to comment on the following:

- SEPA application: PL19-0032
- Grading application: BP19-0070
- Forest practice conversion application: PL19-0047
- Mining special use permit: PL19-0033

This is a terrible idea. The conclusion that the impact on highway traffic and noise pollution would be negligible is ridiculous, and such disruption of a forest ecosystem close to the Skagit River shows a lack of foresight. Please do not approve of the expansion of this quarry.

Kirsten Colton


Concrete, WA 98237

Sent from my iPhone

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 8:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Tim Colton

[REDACTED]
City : Concrete
State : WA

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : — SEPA application: PL19-0032 — Grading application: BP19-0070 — Forest practice conversion application: PL19-0047 — Mining special use permit: PL19-0033

Comments : This comment is in regards to the application by Kiewit Infrastructure to expand the existing 20 acre quarry SW of Marblemount. This is a terrible idea for many reasons:

1. The Skagit River between Marblemount and Rockport is designated by the federal government as a Wild and Scenic River and is the focus of much conservation and restoration effort. The Skagit Land Trust, the Nature Conservancy, WDFW, Seattle City Light, the federal government and many private citizens have been spending countless hours and money to restore and protect this stretch of ecosystem and this mine proposal, lying within this geographical stretch of river, runs anathema to these efforts.
2. This mine is also close to Illabot Creek, which was also designated a Wild and Scenic River and has been the focus of a recent lower reach restoration at its juncture with Rockport-Cascade Road.
3. Best case scenario, this mine removes 60 acres of potential habitat for native species and replaces it with a rock wasteland.
4. This quarry will likely increase sediment runoff into the Skagit river through nearby streams which will negatively impact fish habitat.
5. This quarry will increase the likelihood of a landslide event.
6. 250 vehicle trips per day for 100 years is not insignificant. This represents a lot of added traffic to Hwy 20, which is already quite congested during the summer months.
7. The Skagit, Sauk and Cascade Rivers are very active rivers which flood frequently and cause regular disruptions to traffic along Hwy 20, Hwy 536 and Rockport Cascade Road which will disrupt business at the proposed mine and make its profitability suspect.
8. The noise generated at the mine will disrupt the peace and quiet that people expect to have in a wilderness area.

Thank you

From Host Address: 50.34.173.62

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 8:44:47 PM

John Cooper

From: Hannah Sullivan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:05 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Kiewit Marblemount Gravel Pit

"The ache for home lives in all of us"
~Maya Angelou

Dear County officials,

The news of the proposed Kiewit gravel pit project in Marblemount has touched all of us who live here in some way. As longtime residents of the Marblemount community, we feel it is imperative to share our concerns.

There are many layers from which to draw; for us, it is the threat of impact, both environmental and cultural. As a National Park family for over forty years, we have revered the upper valley as one of those "last best places"~often we awake to eagles chirping and calling from the river which is half a mile away. The trees drip lichen called "old man's beard" which is known to grow only in places where the air is pure enough to support it. Cyclists ride past our home on their coast-to-coast rides, bears chomp plums from one of our old fruit trees.

It is quiet enough to hear a gunshot from over two miles away very clearly.
So the thought of 75 large dump trucks and two blasts a day shakes the very foundation of the life we have so loved.

Please at the very least take MORE TIME to consider citizen concerns.

This operation will leave a lasting negative impact and scar the landscape of a pristine valley, as well as negatively impacting the lives of the residents.

Respectfully,

Gerry Cook and Hannah Sullivan
Marblemount residents

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Gerry Cook/Hannah Sullivan
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : "The ache for home lives in all of us"

~Maya Angelou

Dear County commissioners,

The news of the proposed Kiewit gravel pit project in Marblemount has touched all of us who live here in some way. As longtime residents of the Marblemount community, we feel it is imperative to share our concerns.

There are many layers from which to draw; for us, it is the threat of impact, both environmental and cultural. As a National Park family for over forty years, we have revered the upper valley as one of those "last best places"~often we awake to eagles chirping and calling from the river which is half a mile away. The trees drip lichen called "old man's beard" which is known to grow only in places where the air is pure enough to support it. Cyclists ride past our home on their coast-to-coast rides, bears chomp plums from one of our old fruit trees. It is quiet enough to hear a gunshot from over two miles away very clearly. So the thought of 75 large dump trucks and two blasts a day shakes the very foundation of the life we have so loved.

Please at the very least take MORE TIME to consider citizen concerns.

This operation will leave a lasting negative impact and scar the landscape of a pristine valley, as well as negatively impacting the lives of the residents.

From Host Address: 104.235.184.224

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 8:03:32 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 6:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : ERIC ALAN COOPER

[Redacted]

City : CONCRETE
State : WA

[Redacted]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : Good Afternoon to whom this may concern,

There are many issues involved with this project proposal and those who did the SEPA evaluation were sorely mistaken on many counts. You cannot deduce there is no wildlife by sitting for an hour in the woods. That land parcel is home to Peregrine Falcons, Fishers, Coyotes, Bear, Cougars, Eagles and a wide variety of song birds. It is also in a Migratory route.

It was admitted in the Critical Land Evaluation that it is geologically unstable with moving rocks, etc, and yet there is a residence 600 ft from the site below the rocky cliff they plan on blasting.

There are 2 salmon streams going through the parcel, Illabot Creek being one of them, they will destroy with their project.

The Recreational portion of the SEPA only listed fly fishing. There is also heavy tourism with the Cascade Pass, Eagle watchers, White Water rafters, fishing and hunting, mush room picking and a plethora of other activities that will be impeded by this project.

This company has no intention of paying for cost of damages, they have no EMS personnel per there own forms, which will weaken our own EMS system Upriver, and should an incident happen with this quarry our own fire departments don't have the training nor equipment to handle such an issue.

Then there is the issue of unsecure explosives in a locked conex but not under guard would be a concern in an isolated area. Also have explosives contained in a known wild fire hazard area.

Last issue I have is the traffic issue and the fact Highway 20 is barely maintained with just our local traffic let alone weights exceeding our normal traffic. Whose going to pay for that maintenance?

This entire project is a very bad idea, not safe for our community, not safe for our environment, and looking at a company with a bad track record with violations, I would encourage you to deny this application.

My background is in Disaster Mitigation in the Military as with all Military Leaders For 19 1/2 years, and a degree in Homeland Security.

From Host Address: 66.235.39.33

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 5:55:52 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Stephanie Cowles

[REDACTED]
City : Concrete
State : WA

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : PL19-0032,PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070 Project name is "Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount"

Comments : As a local resident, I'm concerned this proposal will have irretrievable impacts on watershed in the Upper Skagit Valley, which provides habitat to endangered fish and drinking and irrigation water to thousands of farms. I'm also concerned about hundreds of mining trucks per day on one lane loads in the area, shared with school buses, residents, tourists and thousands of cyclists every summer. Let's please strongly remit this permit proposal to further study and be sure if we approve it that the impacts are known, and the benefits to the community are clear.

From Host Address: 73.15.222.63

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 4:17:31 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 9:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ellen Cross
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Proposed Kiewit Quarry near Marblemount

Comments : I deeply oppose the Kiewit Quarry due to a range of negative impacts I am concerned about, including on traffic and human health, as well as noise pollution and potential detrimental effects on air and water quality. I'd like to request that you extend the period for public comment. Thank you.

From Host Address: 73.221.165.36

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 9:13:20 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Cheyrl Crowder
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I oppose!!!! I think this is the worst thing that could happen to the Upper Skagit (Marblemount)Our town survives on tourism which won't happen if there blasting 6-6 daily and the added traffic to roads that are already damage and barely maintained as it is .Our wildlife would dwindle ,from the contamination of chemicals use ,as would are wells ,and rivers and streams and health and well being .The strain it would put on our emergency services that already poor .I could go on but I don't see any good coming out of this ,would you put it in your backyard I think NOT . I also believe This would cause a loss of jobs to our town . Please reconsider

From Host Address: 98.142.213.15

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:01:00 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2019 7:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ed Crowder
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : Against. Our area up here survives on tourism. This will scar our area with no jobs or benefit. The noise for our area will be uncalled for. I hate to think what this will do to wildlife and fish in the area.

From Host Address: 184.75.214.83

Date and time received: 3/30/2019 7:18:29 AM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:03 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: PL19-0033

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 9:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Shawn Crowley

[REDACTED]
City : Seattle
State : WA

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I own an 8 acre parcel within the Marblegate community. I just learned of the proposal to expand the existing quarry. But for a neighbor informing me of this proposal it appears I would not have received any notice from the county.

I am requesting at least a 90-day extension of the public comment period so that property owners like myself can review the proposal materials and prepare a response.

From Host Address: 67.161.82.75

Date and time received: 3/21/2019 9:38:57 AM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:16 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Marblemount Quarry comment letter...

From dept email... I know it's yours, but which file # is it?

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 9:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Shawn Crowley

City : Seattle
State : WA

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I own an 8 acre parcel within the Marblegate community. I just learned of the proposal to expand the existing quarry. But for a neighbor informing me of this proposal it appears I would not have received any notice from the county.

I am requesting at least a 90-day extension of the public comment period so that property owners like myself can review the proposal materials and prepare a response.

From Host Address: 67.161.82.75

Date and time received: 3/21/2019 9:38:57 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Shawn Crowley
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I have owned property in Marblemount since 1991, approximately 3/4 mile from the proposed project. This proposal should be treated as an entirely new operation and not as an extension of the existing quarry. I have been told that the existing quarry did crush some talus for a brief time in the past 30 years but that there never has been blasting or mining of rock. The proposed operation is on a scale unrelated to past use.

The Kiewit documents fail to specify the amounts of hazardous material to be used. They fail to do any analysis of the consequences of spills either short term or cumulative impacts over the project's life. Fuel oil and ammonium nitrate would be injurious to shallow wells used by residents and to the Skagit river and it's wildlife. It is not enough to simply invoke "best practices."

The analysis of wildlife impact is cursory and inadequate. An engineer's 25 year old recall about noise and its effects on urban zoo animals should not be given any weight. The on-site biological analysis notes the absence of amphibian egg masses in the area's water courses. This observation was done on one day in November. Not surprising given that no Washington State amphibians would be breeding in November. It's a small point but indicative of a superficial analysis.

This project would be detrimental to residents. The expected traffic would be detrimental to tourism and those who depend upon tourist dollars. It would place one of the last relatively unspoiled salmon rivers at risk. The possible return to Skagit County is very small. This project should not be allowed to go forward in its present form or perhaps in any form.

From Host Address: 67.161.82.75

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:48:23 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 6:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Timothy R. Cuthbertson
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I would like to express my opposition to the permit application for the Kiewit Infrastructure expansion of the quarry in Marblemount.

This is a small gateway community on the edge of the North Cascades National Park. The impacts will affect us all in the area. They will include logging 2.7 million board feet of timber from 600 acres, multiple explosion blasts each day and over 300 truck trips traveling round trip to and from the site, Monday through Saturday, to remove 3.8 million cubic yards of stone over a projected 100 year period.

As a concerned citizen and community member, I am opposing the addition of the following items stated in the SEPA. Noise, air and water pollution impacting surrounding human and non-human communities, blasting, chemicals and other pollutants from the project running off or leaking into the local aquifer and nearby Skagit river, disruptions to federally protected species including peregrine falcons, (which nest on nearby cliffs) chinook salmon, steelhead and bull trout. All this will negatively impact the region's important tourist economy and quality of life for the current and future residents.

Thank you,
Timothy R. Cuthbertson

From Host Address: 66.235.39.112

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 6:43:44 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 12:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Russ Dalton

[REDACTED]
City : Rockport

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : March 28, 2019

To: Skagit County Planning and Development Services

Attn: John Cooper

As a long-time resident of Rockport who lives near the Rockport – Cascade Road, please accept these comments on the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount proposal. This references SEPA application PL19-0032, Grading application BP19-0070, Forest practice conversion application PL 190047 and Mining Special Use permit PL 19-0033. I recommend the following be considered:

- 1) Please extend the comment period by as much as is allowed, at least the 30 days, in order for the entirety of affected residents to be notified of this proposal.
- 2) I have read the entire submission available on the Skagit County website. I am struck by the fact that a great deal of information is available, but very alarmed that in almost all instances of descriptions of affected environment, noise, transportation details, etc., the Kiewit conclusion is stated that “No additional mitigation measures are necessary based on project design and operational plans.” I am extremely concerned that Skagit County Planners will accept the casually-stated summaries that this project will have no real effect on this mostly-quiet, rural part of Skagit County that is in fact a gateway to a premiere National Park!
- 3) This proposal will have a significant impact on the local environment, particularly due to the local context. A similar development in an industrialized region might be considered less disruptive, but the introduction of such immense changes in activity, noise, and the landscape itself will be highly significant in what is now a tranquil corner in a remote part of the County. And this change in activity may last for decades.
- 4) I am particularly concerned about these areas:

Blasting: This section of the proposal does at least recognize that “drill noise could be noticeable.” The mitigation stated for this? The contractor who did this segment advises “It would be wise to prohibit drilling during nighttime hours or on Sunday and holidays.” My household prefers that our daytime hours of working and recreating out in our yard and neighborhood be peaceful and quiet as well! A few years ago the DNR used explosives for fire line construction on the face of B&W mountain in Marblemount. The blasts were heard and felt in Rockport – shockingly so! The prospect of the sounds of similar blasting becoming a daily occurrence is a dreadful thought.

Transportation: It is already quite difficult to safely pull onto Highway 20 westbound from near the Skagit River bridge. Adding these rock haulers would be a huge change for traffic in this small town. The proposal states: “Truck traffic is not forecast to impact the Rockport neighborhood...mitigation is not required.” I find this over-simplified and ask that Skagit County Planners to consider this carefully in context of a small rural town. The Kiewit proposal is a bullshit statement that is not field tested!

Recreational Uses of the area: The proposal summarizes: “Would the Proposed Project displace any existing

recreational uses? No. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on, if any: None necessary.” Would the planners who are considering this proposal advise their families to continue running, bicycling, and horseback riding with the blasting, mining, and traffic being proposed?

The nearby Barnaby Reach is on the cusp of major habitat restoration of adjacent lands owned by Seattle City Light, Nature Conservancy and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. After restoration, the recreational potential will be very high and this should be taken into consideration.

Effect on Sensitive Areas: Again the proposal has minimized very likely impacts to sensitive areas such as parks and wilderness areas. The proposal states: The proposed MRO expansion would not directly use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for governmental protection. There are no parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains or prime farmland within the proposed expanded MRO area. I ask that the planners and Commissioners recognize their roles in protecting the surrounding “Gateways to the North Cascades National Park” towns of Marblemount and Rockport and the associated quiet, rural environment.

Again, to highlight the nearby Barnaby Reach Restoration by SRSC, their efforts to restore a very large site will be exceedingly compromised by the quarry plan. This in itself warrants a full EIS.

Property Values: No one will want to buy or rent a home within miles of an active quarry. Actual property values (whether assessed by Skagit County as such or not) – will plummet. Many of us will not want to live where we now enjoy a relatively quiet part of Skagit County, but given that no one else will either, the ability to sell and relocate will be difficult.

In summary I encourage Skagit County Planning and Development Services to reject this proposal due to the immense negative impact to the Marblemount and Rockport areas. It is contrary to the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan in many ways.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Russ Dalton [Redacted]
[Redacted] Rockport, WA [Redacted]

From Host Address: 50.34.162.50

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 11:59:35 AM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:25 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Lucas Daquila

City : CONCRETE
State : Washington

PermitProposal : Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry Operation PL19-0033

Comments : I have lived in the upper Skagit Valley for 10 years and I have lived in Washington my entire life. Having worked in the construction field I understand the importance having access to material such as rock, sand and gravel. I am strongly against the location of the Kiewet Quarry proposal above the Skagit River in Marbelmount. In my opinion you cloud'nt pick a worse location to have a Quarry. Here are my reasons why:

- 1.) Potential to negatively impact the water quality of the Skagit River.
- 2.) Visual eyesore in a wild/scenic corridor.
- 3.) Noise/Vibration disturbance from Quarry blasting.
- 4.) Impact to the roads and bridges from dump truck traffic.

Bottom line is that I am not against the Quarry, I am against the location of the Quarry. Kiewet needs to find a more remote place to quarry rock, away from sensitive areas.

From Host Address: 66.235.39.30

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 12:14:51 PM

John Cooper

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:16 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Kiewit and MPOA Association

Hello John Cooper,

I was unable to use the comments page today.

Please include the MPOA as an interested party to receive information about PL 19-0033 Kiewit Infrastructure project

Marblegate Property Owners Association [REDACTED]
Marblemount, Wa 98267

I am Karen Davis president of the MPOA

My personal email is [REDACTED]

Thank you

Karen Davis
Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:08 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 12:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Richard and Karen Davis
[REDACTED]

City : Lynnwood
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL 19- 0033 Kiewt Marblemount Quarry
Comments : We own 5 acres and a home at [REDACTED] Marblemount, Wa 98267

We ask for a 90 day extension to review the copious materials for this massive project that would greatly impact us. The on line materials were not readily available for review or completely posted as of 3/19/2019. That only gives less than a 10 day time frame to read them.
Thank you

From Host Address: 73.59.87.2

Date and time received: 3/21/2019 11:59:52 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:00 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Richard and Karen Davis
[REDACTED]

City : Lynnwood
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : We are writing about our GRAVE concerns over the proposed Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry near Marblemount. We own 5 acres and a home in the Marblegate community [REDACTED]. The safety for homes along Rockport Cascade RD is a concern over possible instability of the rest of the "mountain" beyond the quarry site. I want more attention to noise (blasting and grinding) and vibration control, the impact in a residential area, the prolonged hours of operation, the possible expansion of the site in the future, the hazards of dust, the destruction of the natural habitat, the traffic impacts on Rockport Cascade Road and 530 and 20 as trucks clog the narrow road with no shoulder or turn lane, and on the bridge, the traffic impact on the state park at Rockport and the eagles. Also the emergency plan is incomplete, issues with the security of the site for the dangerous materials, will operation be curtailed in fire season, etc.

Thank you

From Host Address: 73.59.87.2

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 9:56:10 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:55 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : James Demko

[REDACTED]
City : Concrete
State : WA

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : — SEPA application: PL19-0032 — Grading application: BP19-0070 — Forest practice conversion application: PL19-0047 — Mining special use permit: PL19-0033

Comments : Having just learned of this project, I haven't been able to review or assess all the threats to environment, safety and quality of life of the Skagit Valley. However, at a glance it is clear that they are substantial, and would include; potential toxic chemical runoff into the watershed, increased noise and air pollution from the fleet of diesel powered trucks on the only road up the Valley, along which most of the up-river residents live. These vehicles would certainly cause substantial traffic delays and hazards as well.

From what I know so far, I oppose the expansion of this facility for the uses outlined in the permitting applications, and wish to be notified of future hearings.

From Host Address: 174.216.9.43

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 12:53:24 AM

John Cooper

From: A Truthteller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 12:53 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: quarry on Rockport-Cascade Rd

Sir,

I write to you to protest the huge quarry intended for the road I live on. This quarry will upend the lives of everyone around the area. Those dozens of trucks will be dangerous as they rush up and down with huge loads of rock.

Besides the noise the quarry will generate, the trucks going by my house will have my dogs barking all day and make the rest of us mental by the loss of our peace.

Allowing this quarry will destroy two neighborhoods, this will certainly devalue every home in the area.

The quarry plans to cut acres of trees, polluting Illabot creek, filling it with silt and affecting the salmon.

This quarry does not have the right to destroy so many lives.

This quarry will not employ local people. I beg you, do not approve this quarry.

Its helps no one except the quarry owners.

WE who live here firmly object to the quarry.

Please save our peaceful way of life, say NO,NO,NO to the monster of the quarry.

Thank you

Nina S, Dent

[REDACTED]
Rockport, WA. 98283

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 8:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Deborah DeWolfe

[REDACTED]
City : Marblemount
State : Washington

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : The proposed location of this quarry and the related road and site construction, noise, pollution and truck traffic will impact the Upper Skagit Valley - its wildlife, the community and the Skagit River forever. The proposed area is home to several documented endangered species as well as the full array of local birds and animals. So much effort has been devoted to restoring and protecting salmon and eagles in the area, yet this project will most likely negatively impact both efforts. A credible, comprehensive Environmental Impact Study is needed before this project is approved. At the very least, decision makers must fully understand all the potential and likely environmental harm before approval is given.

From Host Address: 72.168.144.110

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 8:46:52 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 10:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Deborah DeWolfe
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : The SEPA reads:

The Proposed Project will comply with all existing applicable regulations to ensure that the quarry has minimal land use impact to adjacent properties. Any impacts that exceed regulated thresholds have been mitigated to ensure compliance with regulations. The largest effects on adjacent areas are anticipated to be noise, vibration, visual resources, and transportation impacts. Proposed Project impacts related to these elements of the environment, among others, have been analyzed and mitigation measures identified that would mitigate impacts below the level of significance. Those mitigation measures have been incorporated into project design and operational plans.

This is a gross understatement of the impacts to those living close by as well as all of us who live in the valley. The blast noise and vibration will be heard and felt throughout the valley,. The increased traffic and quantity of large trucks on the road will negatively affect motorists, tourism to the area and the large number of bicyclists. Since there are no shoulders on the the Rockport-Cascade Road and there are already frequent accidents on Highway 20 - how will this project impact highway safety? Is the Rockport Cascade Road of an adequate material and size to handle this use? Bicyclists will likely avoid the area because riding conditions would be hazardous, which would impact local businesses. In addition, our highway accident emergency response teams are volunteers who are already stretched thin to respond to existing numbers of accidents.

From Host Address: 72.168.144.110

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 10:11:07 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 11:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Deborah DeWolfe
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Please include me on your email list for updates on meetings, deadlines, approvals and comment periods.

Questions:

Has the comment period been extended for 30 days?

Can the logging permit be granted before the entire project is approved? Does it exist as a stand alone application?

From Host Address: 72.168.144.93

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 11:17:08 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 10:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kim DiCenzo
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro-Woolley
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Marblemount Quarry

Comments : As a professional Secretary of the Interior qualified archeologist, I reviewed your cultural resources survey for the proposed quarry in Marblemount. Below are a few comments on the report.

-It appears your project has a federal nexus because its impetus is to supply the Army Corps of Engineers with materials yet your report does not mention the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). NHPA Section 106 review is required when a project is funded, permitted, licensed, or approved by a federal agency.

-The archeological survey completed is not adequate for the scope of the proposed quarry project. The contractor completed a reconnaissance survey when there should have been an intensive survey. The contractor states that the ground surface was obscured by vegetation which is evidence that a more thorough subsurface survey should be completed. For a project such as this where there will be substantial ground disturbance throughout the APE, an intensive survey is the appropriate method.

-The report states that because the APE is a ½ mile away from the river bank it is has a low probability for archeological resources. This is a poor assumption and in fact the APE's close proximity to the Skagit River, near the confluence with the Cascade River (1 mile away), and on a flat landform makes the area in the medium to high range for cultural resources. The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's predictive model for archeological potential agrees with my assessment and shows that over half of this project's APE is situated with in an area of very high risk. I would happily provide you with this map at a later time as I am not able to paste it into this comment form.

-You need to consider both a direct and indirect APE since this project will have such large visual and auditory effects. Only a direct APE was considered in the report. Please also consider cultural resources beyond archeology such as Traditional Cultural Properties.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. I ask that you please do not release my name to the permit applicant or any of the contractors.

From Host Address: 50.34.168.194

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 9:57:46 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 3:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Meagan Duke
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry -- NO

Comments : Extend the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

We demand an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

No more development of our natural capital. Stop the damn consumption. No Marblemount quarry.

From Host Address: 162.247.183.222

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 3:39:12 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 3:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Alicia/Larry Dunning
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit quarry Marblemount, Wa

Comments : To whom this may concern..It has come to my attention from a neighbor that Kiewit Corp is going to expand operations with a full on commercial rock quarry Mining rock...including all techniques of operations with machinery, (loud) explosives, (hazardous materials) and heavy equipment operating on and around Willow Lane ...my home!!

I purchased my property [REDACTED]. June 2018..I chose to pay a premium price for my property because of the peace quiet and Views, beauty!!

My home was planned and situated on the East end of Willow Ln. My home is not on the Riverside of Willow Ln..My home sits directly on O'Brien Riggs Park property lines.. With my windows facing the hills and mountains in Question...I did not buy this property to loose my views and loose money.. Also, I am not sure how my two grandchildren will be safe out at the end of Willow Ln buss stop...My Stormie is 5 yrs old and Brodie is 8 yrs old...With the heavy machinery, heavy equipment, diesel trucks, loud noises, dust, smoke, explosives...No!! I will be out their every morning in fear my grandchildren are run over, killed or kidnapped from the kind of construction type people now waiting around only 100 ft from buss stop..

I did not invest our life savings to move to this beautiful peaceful mountain town, to live in constant fear, noise and pollution..

If they are allowed to go forward and decimate the woods mountains, animals, fish, and clean air.. including putting our children's lives in a danger!!?? By exposing them needlessly to danger less then 100ft from the buss stop on Willow Lane is clearly not acceptable..and would clearly be for one reason only Rocks!?? ...I will make it my new life's mission protesting taking pictures and calling every News channel, agency, why Rocks are more important then a child's life and that we're here first !!

I ask that you PLEASE reconsider our established life's out here- as families living as you would expect- when you purchased your families home!!...(With safety and peace of mind) .

Thank you kindly,
Larry & Alicia Dunning

From Host Address: 174.216.27.222

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 2:56:20 PM

25 March 2019

PL19-0033

RECEIVED

MAR 27 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

John Cooper, Planner
Skagit County Planning
& Development Services

Mr. Cooper;

My sister, Kathleen Earnst, & I own
a property parcel adjacent to the proposed
Kiewit Infrastructure Co. LLC project @
59252 Rockport - Cascade Road, Skagit County.

We are concerned about the impact of
this project on our property & would like to
be notified of any actions, meetings, etc.... that
may take place connected with this application
(PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070, PL19-0032).

Thank you,

Denise Nicholson
[Redacted]
Sedro - Woolley, WA.
98284
[Redacted]

Kathleen Earnst
[Redacted]
Sedro - Woolley, WA.
98284
[Redacted]

25 March 2019

RECEIVED

MAR 28 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

John Cooper, Planner
Skagit County Planning
& Development Services

Mr. Cooper;

My sister, Kathleen Earnst, & I own
a property parcel adjacent to the proposed
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We are concerned about the impact of
this project on our property & would like to
be notified of any actions, meetings, etc.... that
may take place connected with this application
(PL 19-0033, PL 19-0047, BP 19-0070, PL 19-0032).

Thank you,

Denise Nicholson
[REDACTED]
Sedro-Woolley, WA.
98284
[REDACTED]

Kathleen Earnst
[REDACTED]
Sedro-Woolley, WA.
98284
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Mine expansion proposed near Marblemount
Date: Thursday, March 28, 2019 12:47:01 PM

We're asking for an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

We're asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

Skagit County resident
Benjamin edwards
[REDACTED]

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 3:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Nick Engelfried
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Comments : Dear Skagit County Planning and Development Services,

I am writing to express concern about the proposed expansion of the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation. As a former resident of the Marblemount/Diablo area, I know one of the things that makes this area so special is its distinctively rural character. I believe a major industrial extraction project like the planned quarry expansion would disrupt life in Marblemount and surrounding communities to an unacceptable degree.

Kiewit Infrastructure has proposed expanding the existing quarry from 20 to 79 acres, a nearly fourfold increase that would dramatically affect the local landscape. The company plans to remove 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone over the lifetime of the project, an environmental impact that can never be wholly mitigated. Furthermore, the project requires denuding 90 acres of forested land to remove 2.7 million board feet of timber. All of this would be happening in close proximity to a national park and federally designated Wilderness Areas. Since the establishment of North Cascades National Park more than fifty years ago, public lands managers have moved steadily toward the creation of a network of protected areas capable of preserving ecosystems and wildlife populations while supporting an economy based on tourism and land stewardship. I believe the Kiewit quarry expansion is inconsistent with the goal of an intact North Cascades ecosystem.

As a former resident of the Marblemount/Diablo area myself, I know that many people choose to live in this community precisely because of its rural, wild qualities and because of employment or educational opportunities provided by the U.S. Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, North Cascades Institute, and other public and private entities involved in stewarding public lands. Over the years, local stakeholders have made enormous progress toward achieving a balance between conservation and development interests which prioritizes stewardship while allowing for activities that create jobs and serve a public good, such as the operation of Seattle City Light's three Skagit River Dams. The new quarry project threatens to disrupt this balance in a way that has not happened in years.

Among the specific impacts of the proposed quarry expansion that particularly concern me are the following:

- Construction of a 1.3 mile gravel road for the purposes of removing timber.
- Noise pollution from blasting and other heavy industrial activity occurring within less than one mile from about 30 homes. The nearest home is only 600 feet away.
- Increased risk of accidents along the Highway 20 corridor caused by the addition of large, slow-moving trucks.

Highway 20 is already a dangerous road with fast-moving traffic and many blind curves. I vividly remember reports of multiple traffic-related fatalities occurring when I was living in the area.

-Visual impacts from deforestation and mining activity associated with the quarry. These would be damaging to the area's rural character and to recreational and tourism opportunities.

-Potential effects on sensitive or protected wildlife species, such as salmon and wolves.

I do not think the interests of the Marblemount/Diablo area are best served by a major industrial project that will dramatically alter the local landscape for at least the next 100 years (the period for which Kiewit Infrastructure hopes to obtain a permit to operate the project). In practical terms this amounts to permanently changing the character of the area in ways that would be harmful to local residents, wildlife, and the very qualities that make this part of rural Washington unique. It is for these reasons that I oppose this project.

Thank you for your time in taking these comments into consideration.

From Host Address: 67.171.30.119

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 3:35:39 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 6:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Matt

[REDACTED]

City : Rockport

State : WA

[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Special Use Permit Application Submittals PL19-0033, (received January 22, 2019)

Comments : I just learned about this application and am struggling to get all the facts digested, but - there are dozens of families that live just below this proposed quarry expansion. Given the recent 5 year anniversary of the Oso tragedy and the glacial composition of the geography in the area, I strongly urge the County to take their time to properly evaluate this proposal. From what I have read, this application has the possibility of incredibly negative impact to the community. Maybe only a small possibility, but trust me, if there are negative consequences, the incredibly short time frame allowed for public comment will be noted and those who allowed it to be driven through in such a short time frame will be held accountable. Please slow this process until the public has time to seriously digest this information. This process currently feels incredibly rushed. Please slow down and look before you leap.

From Host Address: 97.73.244.13

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 6:47:25 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 5:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Christie L. Fairchild
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL 19-0033

Comments : Concerning the Marblemount Quarry project -

I was made aware of this proposal just a few days ago and am shocked that the county would go this far without contacting the people who live near such a monstrous potential. Nevertheless, we found out and have now organized to resist the destruction of our peaceful homes and landscape. I have lived for 34 years on the Rockport Cascade Rd. having homesteaded and built my place from scratch. I was a National Park Service ranger, an educator, a 25-year volunteer EMT and firefighter, and am now semi-retired as I still farm. This proposal frightens and angers me. There are so many issues to comment upon, but here are a few, for starters:

1.) NOISE and blasting concussion! This site (Big Bear Mountain), due to erosional, seismic and landslide histories, now presents as an amphitheater for sound. Blasts will be heard and felt over the river to Marblemount and Rockport, as well as to the immediate neighbors. 2.) WATER source, use and waste! This is not addressed at all. NOTE: the Skagit, Cascade, and Sauk Rivers and Illabot Creek are protected by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

3.) WILDLIFE concerns: federal land managers are prohibited from blasting during the nesting and the raising of young season, esp. for endangered species. It is a documented fact that there are Spotted Owl pairs residing in the remaining patch of USFS old growth adjacent to this proposal. Our local, rare wolf (who is radio collared) also uses this land for hunting and denning. And there are many, many more.

I would expect private land owners would have to abide by the same no blasting law (April - June). 4.)

TOURISM impacts: The upper Skagit relies heavily on tourism for our livelihood. We are a gateway community to North Cascades National Park and also to the Glacier Peak Wilderness. No one will want to stay, eat, bicycle, hike, climb, ski, snowshoe, snowmobile, raft, kayak, fish, or eagle watch if the air is full of dynamite blasting! Our towns will die. 5.) FIRE danger: Did you realize that the terrible Jordan Creek Fire (1998) was STARTED in the Cunningham's gravel pit. Note all the burned and dead trees in the area. Just one spark... 6.) ROAD and TRAFFIC: the Rockport Cascade Rd. is a rural byway, chipseal, with no shoulders. It is in no way suitable for such heavy use. Also, the Rockport elk herd resides in the immediate area and those huge trucks would not be able to avoid hitting them as they speed 50 mph down this road. There will be bad wrecks.

7.) ECONOMY: Little to no economic benefit to our community. Kewiet uses their own union workers, not locals. And with "only" 25 employed, they would only be taking everything and not giving anything back. 8.) THE REASON: to ship rock to Alaska? How stupid is that! Repairing and raising jetties because of rising seas caused by climate change, and you/they plan to increase the carbon footprint by thousands of amounts to do just that? It's like putting a band-aid on cancer - absurd and insulting. 9.) REPUTATION: Perhaps you might investigate Kewiet's. Did you know they have at least 68 water quality violations in Canada, and at least 40 here in Washington, as we speak? It does not bode well.

10.) REGULATORY: The SEPA proposal shows little to no mitigation for spills, accident and/or waste removal. And who will enforce all the other rules and laws? We have only ONE county sheriff deputy to cover

250 square miles up here, and they are busy with druggies and burglaries. State Patrol only works on state highways, is busy busting traffic speeders and accidents there, not on county roads. 11.) POTENTIAL: With all three "critical areas" identified within the project boundaries - landslide, seismic, and erosional - we don't need another Oso! Our annual rainfall up here is from 90 - 110 inches annually. Keep that in mind. 12.) LASTLY (for now) - with a project of this magnitude and potential, I would assume it must require an EIS, but I can't find one anywhere in any of the documents. Please advise...

From Host Address: 104.235.187.133

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 5:24:48 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Philip Fenner
[REDACTED]

City : Ancortes
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I oppose this damaging proposal. It will create a huge visual blight to this otherwise green gateway valley. Not since the slopes facing town to the north were logged in the 80s would there be such an ugly scar in this gateway to the American Alps, the North Cascades. Think salmon and sediment! Think of the impacts on the local community! Think of forest as carbon sink! All of these arguments should stop you from permitting this ugly catastrophe from marring the Skagit River valley.

From Host Address: 107.77.205.100

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 2:11:58 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Matthew Ferrell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry" PL19-0033
Comments : To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my grave concerns about the proposed expansion of the Marblemount Quarry. The proposal to expand the quarry as it is currently written will cause great harm to many in my community. The proposal brings quarry operations to within a mile of several homes in the area, effecting the quality of life of these families through noise pollution through the blasting of rocks, and dozens of trucks in the area.

There are also very real environmental concerns in increased dust, clear-cutting of forest and wildlife habitat very near to North Cascades National Park.

I also have concerns about destabilization of the hillside on Bear Mountain in what is known as one of the rainiest areas in the state of Washington, which could cause potentially deadly mudslides, similar to the Oso disaster.

All of these concerns should be addressed and mitigated before any expansion of the Quarry should be allowed.

Sincerely,
Matthew Ferrell

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:48:29 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Miles Fiegi
[REDACTED]

City : Aberdeen
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount quarry

Comments : To Mr. John Cooper.

I'm strongly apposed to this. It will destroy several acres of pristine Fisher habitat. In addition, it pollutes the watershed of the Skagit. And as well as inhibits the community of Marblemount via noise, traffic, and pollution.

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:34:51 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 12:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Sarah Fierbaugh
[REDACTED]

City : MARBLEMOUNT

State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit quarry

Comments : There aren't many people living here. Those that do struggle to make a living. But we live here for a reason. We love our land and our peace. We're a tight knit community. This would not only be a hindrance for the few businesses in Marblemount, but would freeze any growth potential the area has. It freezes any prospect of property appreciation. It would hobble any housing project and any tourists trade we do here. Please don't saddle this town with yet another reason to be down on our luck.

From Host Address: 64.9.255.5

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 12:34:51 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 1:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : thomas j grant
[REDACTED]

City : concrete
State : wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL190033 Kiewit infrastucture Quarry operation near marblemount

Comments : This is just an insane idea the impact on the entire region all the from marble mount to Bellingham is just an iodic idea or by a bunch of people who only care about their pockets and not the environment Please stall this permit or better yet deny it The time allowed to respond is not enough and most likely to put it through This company will ruin the area and highway 20 Do your jobs and protect the environment and the quality of life of the locals Jim Grant

From Host Address: 50.34.173.37

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 1:45:29 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 2:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Vanessa Gravenstine
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : SEPA application: PL19-0032 — Grading application: BP19-0070 — Forest practice conversion application: PL19-0047 — Mining special use permit: PL19-0033

Comments : I would like to request an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

I am asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

From Host Address: 50.34.102.222

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 2:50:09 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 2:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Vanessa Gravenstine
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : SEPA application: PL19-0032 — Grading application: BP19-0070 — Forest practice conversion application: PL19-0047 — Mining special use permit: PL19-0033

Comments : I would like to request an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

I am asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

From Host Address: 50.34.102.222

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 2:50:09 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:35 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ed Gregg
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro Woolley
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I am very concerned over the effects of this quarry operation on our Skagit infrastructure and environment. Water quality issues, damage to roads and bridges from increased heavy traffic, harm to wildlife, noise from blasting and trucks, disruption to traffic, congestion on already overcrowded Cook Road. This project will have a huge impact on the local area. An environmental study needs to be done to determine all adverse effects to quality of life for us in Skagit County.

Thank you,
Ed Gregg

From Host Address: 172.92.206.14

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:34:33 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 9:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jason Nathaniel Griffith
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation

Comments : My family owns a cabin across the street from the quarry and Kiewit's proposed operation is concerning, to say the least. My chief concerns are noise and safety and how this proposal would greatly alter the character of the Marblemount area.

First noise. The upper Skagit is quiet, especially once 20 shuts down. The proposed quarry operations are certain to be heard everywhere around Marblemount. Kiewit's plan is to blast several times a day, and work 12 hours shifts, 6 days a week. This will dramatically alter the quality of life in and around Marblemount. This type of noise is not why people spend time in the upper Skagit- hiking, bird watching, rafting, and generally enjoying the peace and quiet away from the ever bustling I-5 corridor. It will impact property values should the noise prove too great and people want to sell and leave.

Next Safety. The proposed quarry will have many trucks a day transiting the Rockport Cascade road, Hwy 530, and Hwy 20. Most of these trucks will be heavily loaded, pulling out from intersections that intersect vehicles traveling at highway speeds. Especially in summer, this is a recipe for many accidents. Also, the Rockport Cascade road is chip sealed, narrow and not built for the type of truck traffic the quarry will generate. I did not read anything in their application that addressed this obvious traffic safety impact.

Given the dramatic impacts to surrounding landowners likely with the proposed quarry I feel Skagit County should request that Kiewit produce an EIS to fully explore the impacts to the community.

Lastly I wish to draw your attention to this portion of the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan:

"Respect property rights: This plan respects private property rights by assuring that regulatory and administrative actions do not result in an unconstitutional taking of private property. Skagit County, in exercising its land use regulatory authority to protect the public health, safety and general welfare (Article XI Section 11 of the State Constitution), must respect private property rights by not exceeding the constitutional limits on its authority. Planning, land use regulations and zoning protect individual and community rights in the following ways:

- by avoiding nuisances through ensuring against incompatible neighboring land uses;
- by balancing public and private responsibilities that may have conflicting interests;
- by providing predictability that enhances the value of private property;..... "

Given the totality of the impacts proposed by Kiewit, plus their longevity (100 years!), I can't help but come to the conclusion that IF Skagit County approves this application they will be permitting a "nuisance" that results

in a "taking" of private property while failing to use its "regulatory authority to protect the public health, safety and general welfare" of Skagit County Citizens, especially those that live or recreate around Marblemount.

Thank you for considering my comment on this proposed quarry. Please add me to the list of interested parties for any hearings or future developments with this application.

Sincerely,
Jason

From Host Address: 50.35.62.197

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 9:47:35 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Julie Griffith
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : Does the double wide on the property recently purchased to be part of this project have an illegal water turbine supplying the power? Has the county ever checked into how this structure is powered? It's one thing if someone goes through the permitting process and another one if the county is lax on enforcement. Why don't you send an inspector to inspect how this structure is powered? How exactly has someone been living off of the grid? If the county has been lax on enforcement in the past how can we trust them in the future? Does what happens upriver stay upriver? Stop the quarry until a complete review of your enforcement policies has been completed.

From Host Address: 97.113.60.185

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 8:19:50 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Julie Griffith
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Quarry Marmablemout

Comments : I am writing to address the proposed quarry expansion by the Kiewit Co near our cabin in Marblemount---a development called "Marblegate"

Considering the magnitude of this proposed project and it's close proximity to so many residences and the impact of the noise, traffic, proposed hours of operation, etc I believe there absolutely must be more

time to consider all this. We must have an EIS, evaluate the information from that EIS, and allow time for all the public and many tourists who love this pristine recreational area to weigh in on what this really

means in day to day living for all of us.

Will this be a livable environment? With blasting, 75-150 haul truck trips/day on our roads with a 105,500lb wt limit (but permits obtained for higher wts??), and the many other questions this brings up, we

simply must take time to consider the things we know, and the things the EIS will bring to light.

Please consider this as if you were living in Marblegate. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Julie Griffith
[REDACTED] Marblemount WA 98267

Please keep me posted on all future information on this project.

From Host Address: 97.113.60.185

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:02:53 AM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:07 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: PL19-0033 Comment Letter

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : William Griffith

City : Marblemount

State : Washington

PermitProposal : Permit Application Submittals PL19-0033

Comments : Our house located at [REDACTED] Marblemount WA is about one third of a mile from this quarry. I am requesting a extension of the comment period because I need more time to speak to an attorney about my rights regarding this quarry operation. I think this is the least the county could do seeing that their incompetence caused me to have secondary water rights for my well. I have already lost money by this water issue making my property harder to sell and now with the noise that soon might be emanating from the quarry I could lose even more money not to mention all the work that I have put into the place. So please extend the comment period to allow me time to make a cogent response to this proposal.

From Host Address: 97.113.60.185

Date and time received: 3/21/2019 4:01:54 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : William Griffith
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : My home at [REDACTED] Marblemount has a well that has secondary water rights. So please tell me how Kiewit is going to get the water to keep the dust down on the road? My property has diminished in value because of the water issue so I wondering how this quarry on the Rockport Cascade road is going to get water? If they are going to truck it in from a different watershed who is going to police that they aren't just getting it locally? Who is going to monitor the noise? The last mining done at this quarry exceeded the 30 foot height restriction and the county did nothing. How can we trust the county to enforce the law?

From Host Address: 97.113.60.185

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:58:09 PM

**SKAGIT COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION**

File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

Notice is hereby given that on January 22, 2019, Kiewit Infrastructure Co., LLC filed applications for a mining special use permit (PL19-0033), a forest practice conversion application (PL19-0047), a grading application (BP19-0070) and SEPA application (PL19-0032). The applicant proposes to expand the existing 20 acre quarry to an approximately 79 acre operation. The proposal will remove approximately 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone, over a projected 100 year period, to supply both local demand and United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) with rock suitable for construction and repair of marine jetties along the west coast of Washington & Oregon. The rock at the site meets the USACE density criteria for jetty construction and repair.

Quarry rocks and spalls will be removed from the site by truck and trailer, generating a maximum of 75 loads per day. The mining operation will require the removal of 2.7 million board feet of timber from approximately 90 acres of six parcels totaling 600 acres. Stumps will be removed and the area graded in preparation for quarry operations.

Construction of a one mile long gravel road is necessary to remove timber from the site and access the top of the slope. Due to safety concerns, mining will be initiated at the top of the slope and then terraced down to the base. Construction of the gravel road will require the excavation of approximately 235,200 cubic yards and placement of approximately 550,400 cubic yards of rock & soil. The subject site is located within the Rural Resource-Natural Resource Land & Secondary Forest- Natural Resource Land zoning/comprehensive plan designated area and within the mineral resource overlay.

The subject site is located 59252 Rockport-Cascade Road, Skagit County, within a portion of Section 24, Township 35 North, Range 10 East, Skagit County, WA (Parcels P45543, P45541, P45548, P45552, P45550, P45548, P128574, & P120304).

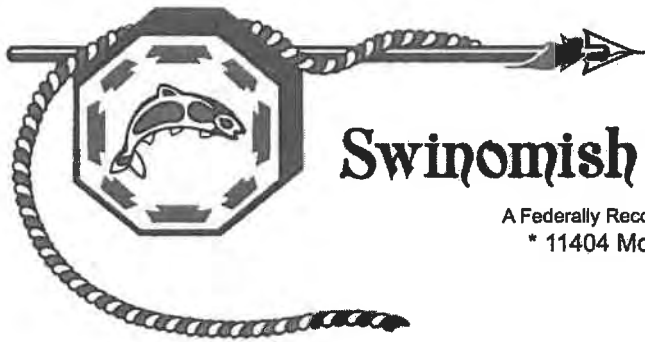
A completed application, SEPA check list, site plan and all pertinent information are on file at Skagit County Planning & Development Services. This information is available to the public on request. A decision on the application will be made within 120 days of the date the application was deemed complete, which was March 12, 2019, unless such time period is extended consistent with RCW 36.70B.090. A public hearing before the Skagit County Hearing Examiner is required for this project.

Any person desiring to express his or her views or be notified of the action taken on this application should notify John Cooper, Planner, in writing of his or her interest within Fifteen (15) days of the date of publication of this notice which is March 14, 2019. **The file can be viewed at the Planning and Development Services office. Mailed written comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. March 29, 2019. Skagit County accepts comments online only through the form at www.skagitcounty.net/pdscomments.**

John Cooper, Planner/Geologist
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 336-9410

Mailed to Applicant: March 12, 2019
Transmitted to Skagit Valley Herald: March 12, 2019
Please publish: March 14, 2019.

cc: WSDOE, WSDFW, WSDNR, WSDOT, NWCAA, WSDAHP, SCPW, SC Fire marshal, Fire District #19, Skagit River System Cooperative, Swinomish Tribal Community, Upper Skagit Tribal Council, Sauk-Suiattle Tribal Council, Samish Tribal Council, Applicant.



Main Office: 360.466.3163
Facsimile: 360.466.5309

Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

A Federally Recognized Indian Tribe Organized Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 476
* 11404 Moorage Way * La Conner, Washington 98257 *

March 28, 2019

Mr. John Cooper
Skagit County Planning & Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mt Vernon, WA 98273

Re: Kiewit Company's proposed Marblemount Quarry

Dear Mr. Cooper:

The Swinomish Indian Tribal Community (Swinomish Tribe) appreciates the opportunity to comment on, and share with you, our concerns with the project proposed by the Kiewit Company to substantially expand an existing small quarry near Marblemount. The natural habitats surrounding the Kiewit quarry site are important resources that deserve protection, and are part of the Wild & Scenic River designated area of the Skagit River. We believe that the proposed quarry project would have unnecessary and unmitigated adverse impacts to the natural resources in this area, which we seek to avoid and minimize. The Swinomish Tribe's offers the following comments, that largely reflect those already submitted by the Skagit River System Cooperative, and include additional concerns regarding impacts to wildlife and cultural resources.

First, we request an extension of the public comment period under the State Environmental Policy Act, chapter 43.21C RCW. The proposed project includes a large number of detailed project documents to review, many of which are lengthy and complex. The Swinomish Tribe has not been able to complete more than an initial review of the project application since the documents were only posted online recently, and the 15-day review period is an insufficient timeframe in which to complete an adequate review.

Second, the Swinomish Tribe believes that a Determination of Significance is warranted under WAC 197-11-330 and that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be required. This project proposal will likely have a significant adverse impact on the local environment, particularly due to the local context. The absolute quantitative effects (the amount of rock

removed, the number of truck trips, blasting impacts, etc.) would be large regardless of context. But, whereas a similar development in an industrialized region might be considered less disruptive, the introduction of such immense changes in activity, noise, and the landscape itself will be highly significant in what is now a tranquil corner of a remote part of the County. Additionally, this change in activity may last for decades, and the cumulative impacts have not been identified or addressed. Several aspects of this project, including noise, traffic, visual impacts, blasting, clearing, etc., may not individually trigger an EIS, but combined they constitute a significant environmental impact that should be examined individually and cumulatively in an EIS.

Third, although the Swinomish Tribe understand that the streams that traverse the site are not currently fish bearing, there is a possibility that changes in drainage patterns resulting from re-sculpting through the quarry activities could concentrate and direct flow in the future. In anticipation of that potential outcome we believe that to avoid or minimize potential environmental impacts, the road proposed for the site should avoid two unnecessary stream crossings (on “Watercourse B” in the critical areas assessment, Figure 4). If the “switchback” in the proposed road were moved farther north then the two stream crossings and associated riparian impacts could be completely avoided. Culvert crossings on steep forest roads concentrate flow, provide potential blockages, require regular maintenance, and are disproportionately responsible for debris flows. Debris flows are catastrophic for stream ecosystems, whether those streams are fish bearing or not. We strongly urge the requirement that the quarry logging and access road be re-aligned to avoid the mapped streams entirely, instead of putting the switchback on the south side of the stream.

Fourth, hunting and gathering have always been essential parts of the Swinomish Tribe’s culture as a way to provide nourishment to our bodies and spirits. The right to hunt and gather on open and unclaimed lands throughout the Washington Territory was reserved by our ancestors as a signatory to the Treaty of Elliott. Some of the Swinomish Tribe’s hunting grounds for deer and elk are in the vicinity of the project proposal. However, we have not had sufficient time to review the detailed biological assessment submitted by the applicant. We therefore reserve the right to comment on any and all potential adverse impacts to our Treaty reserved hunting and gathering rights in future comment letters.

Fifth, the cultural resources and traditional practices of the Swinomish Tribe are an important, essential component of the tribal community’s way of life. We are aware of the cultural resources report submitted by the project applicant. However, the Swinomish Tribe has held two funerals in the past week, one this week for the tragic hit-and-run incident that caused the death of a beloved tribal community member. Thus, we have not had an opportunity to review the cultural resources report, but intend to do so, and therefore reserve the right to comment on any and all potential adverse impacts to the Tribe’s cultural resources and traditional practices in future comment letters.

In summary, we believe that the proposed significant expansion of the Kiewit Company's Marblemount quarry would have several impacts that necessitate an extension of the SEPA comment period so that we and others can more thoroughly examine the potential adverse project impacts. We believe that those impacts should be examined together, as well as cumulatively, in an EIS.

The Swinomish Tribe appreciates your consideration of our comments. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at (360) 399-5804 or atrain@swinomish.nsn.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Trainer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Amy Trainer, Environmental Policy Analyst
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 7:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Zachary B Griffith
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry project - Special Use Permit Application Submittals PL19-0033

Comments : I am opposed to this massive quarry expansion by Kiewit near Marblemount. Our family has a cabin very nearby the proposed location. We live in all the noise and filth and homelessness in Seattle, and that cabin is our quiet respite from all of that. If we have to listen to quarry operations and 75 trucks a day being loaded and driven by for the next 100 years, this will be a major detriment to our family. The cabin that we hoped our family could use for generations of refreshment will lose most of its value to us, and we will probably have to sell it. Please do not let this happen. Thank you for listening.

From Host Address: 24.17.148.46

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 7:08:28 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 7:07 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: Feedback Submission

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:00 PM
To: website <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: Feedback Submission

Department : Planning and Development Services
Name : Bonnie Marks-Wright
[REDACTED]

Other : Please do NOT allow Kiewit Infrastructure Company to develop the Marblemount Quarry. This will negatively affect our environment. The wildlife will suffer. The traffic will increase and slow down. These trucks will tear up the roads. The chemicals used in the blasting will hurt humans, wildlife, our soil, our air and our water. Noise pollution will affect humans and wildlife. There is NO stated time for the blasting. It could go on 24 hours a day if they want to or if they are behind on a contract. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE do not allow Kiewit Infrastructure Company to develop the Marblemount Quarry.

From Host Address: 66.235.39.113

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 2:55:10 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 7:07 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: Feedback Submission

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 6:35 PM
To: website <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: Feedback Submission

Department : None
Name : Susan Hased
[REDACTED]

Other : The ecological impacts of this quarry project have not been adequately investigated. The many creeks, streams, and rivers contain active salmon runs. Wolverines have begun to reinhabit the area in North Cascades National Park that is not far from the quarry.

The wolverine activity was at the far end of Cascade River Road near the trailhead for the pass. A male of the species can range over 200 square miles.

Our area has faced landslides. I am not aware of any studies done on the stability of the surroundings. The removal of trees prior to blasting could significantly predispose the area to liquification, especially in high rainfall periods.

The risks of fire also remain. This is, after all, a true risk at a time when our snow pack is substantially less than normal.

For the fish, the watershed, the area homes, risk of fires and landslides, for potential loss of wildlife habitat, I believe this ill considered. Until and unless FULL geologic and environmental impact studies are done the start of this project should be delayed.

From Host Address: 172.58.41.122

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 6:33:47 PM

John Cooper

From: Brandon Black
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:58 PM
To: Vickie S. Fontaine; John Cooper
Subject: RE: Planning Question

Hi Vickie,

Yes, I do have an idea 😊. I am including John Cooper on this email. John is the staff/contact person for the project. There is a public comment period currently open for this project and I would encourage Mr. Grant to submit comments in writing to John Cooper with his concerns. The comment period is currently open until Friday March 29th (end of this week). There will be further opportunities for public comment as the project progresses. The public comments/concerns will be used to further evaluate the project, any appropriate mitigation that could be applied outside of current code, as well as the next steps with the environmental review.

Hope this helps Vickie. Feel free to contact either of us (me or John) with additional questions, however, John would be the appropriate staff person to respond – I just want to be kept in the loop as the project moves forward.

Brandon Black
Senior Planner – Team Supervisor
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

PHONE: (360) 416-1326
EMAIL: brandonb@co.skagit.wa.us

“Helping You Plan and Build Better Communities”

From: Vickie S. Fontaine <vickief@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:48 PM
To: Brandon Black <brandonb@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: Planning Question

Hi Brandon,
Walde said you are really nice and would probably be helpful with information. With that said, the following email came into the DEM mailbox and I'm not sure what to do with it.

I write to you in the hopes you will postpone the permit to let the co that wants to ruin the area at the expense of the people. This company has a history of land devastation. The company posts the minimal amount of notice because they know the public will protest too much. The impact report is full of bogus claims as far as animal population, environment, devastation, and road impact on highway 20. The amount of blasting is absurd for the town to hear, the amount of trucks on twenty is just too much to let happen in a small community. The co offers nothing for the people but noise, road wear, and doing nothing but lying to the public. Please look at all the fines that have got from other job sites not caring what they destroy, only the profit to be made. Let them go somewhere else. The up river area is one of the few areas left in a pristine state. I hope you will do your job and stop this. Jim Grant

Any suggestions on where to go with this? Any help and/or assistance is greatly appreciated.

Thank you in advance.

Vickie Fontaine, AEM
Emergency Management Coordinator
Skagit County Emergency Management

vickief@co.skagit.wa.us
Office: 360-416-1860
Cell: 360-391-0503



For more information, visit www.iaem.com

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : BRENDA AARDEMA
[REDACTED]

City : MARBLEMOUNT
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : On their Biological Report, they state The federally protected, state endangered Canada Lynx is not in the area. We own part of the mountain that is only just over 500 feet away from their proposed area. We have trail camera pictures from this last year of Canada lynx passing through a few times over our property.

From Host Address: 161.208.26.32

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 3:15:50 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 5:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Brenda L Aardema
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marvelling Quarry

Comments : Kiewit Infrastructure Co has painted a picture of how little their mining project would effect neighbors, several communities, tourists, animals, the land, water, etc. I live 3 lots away. I own part of that mountain. We live here because of the beauty, wildlife, and quiet. As I drive to and from work each day, I enjoy looking at the mountains, including ours, that they want to take the trees down and haul the rock away. I can see that mountain the last 3-4 miles coming home, and from my home. During the spring, summer, and fall, we see lots of tourists cycling, motorcycling, and driving on Rockport Cascade road and Highway 20. Rockport Cascade road has no shoulders. How are these big trucks going to affect our tourism. They have far under-reported the noise they will be creating. We will be hearing the generators, drilling, blasting, diesel brakes, truck repairs, and trucks all too loudly. And if they have to do repairs in the evenings or work late to meet a deadline, how will we relax or sleep. The traffic on not just our road, but also on highway 20 will increase dramatically. Are they reserving money to pay for road repairs? I know The wildlife will be affected. With all that logging and blasting, the deer, bears, bobcats, coyotes, fishers, birds, and the other animals will leave. There are protected, tracked species on and around this mountain. With the blasting, what rocks and trees will be rolling down from our mountainside, endangering us and our home. What if our well is affected? We can't afford to drill again, and aren't allowed to anyway. We are very against this project for all these reasons.

From Host Address: 174.216.21.101

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 5:48:54 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Chelsea Gudgeon
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : To whom it may concern,

I urge you to deny the expansion of the Klewit Quarry. I am a proud former North Cascades National Park Wilderness Park Ranger, and have made my home in Marblemount for three seasons. One season I lived on Rockport-Cascade Road, close to the proposed site for the expansion of Klewit Quarry. I think it would be a great detriment to the ecosystem to allow the quarry expansion - the salmon would suffer with added sediment entering the river, and the noise pollution and disruption would impact all wildlife. Increased truck traffic would be an issue for the residents of Rockport-Cascade Road. Also, the quarry would be a terrible visual blight at the very edge of an exceptional wilderness.

Please do not approve the permit to expand the Klewit Quarry.

Respectfully,
Chelsea Gudgeon

From Host Address: 209.210.254.68

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 3:23:10 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Sarah Lane
[REDACTED]

City : Twisp
State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am opposed to this permit application. It is not in a compatible location for recreation. It will be an eyesore as well as a danger in terms of potential contamination of an important listed species salmonid river. Please reject the application.

From Host Address: 63.142.207.34

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 2:49:00 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Crystal Rainbow Mort
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Comments : I am against this permit, please protect these headwaters

From Host Address: 174.216.17.124

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 2:31:28 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Thom Schroeder
[REDACTED]

City : Puyallup
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am writing in opposition to the proposed Kiewit quarry in Marblemount. Marblemount represents the western (and significantly more traveled) gateway to North Cascades National Park. Expanding the quarry to 80 acres will leave visitors to the park with a negative impression. Additionally, the risk of damage by sediment and runoff that finds its way to the Skagit River and Puget Sound is too significant to offset the projected yields the quarry may produce. Have no lessons been learned from the town of Holden?

From Host Address: 66.172.113.153

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 2:23:44 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Philip Fenner
[REDACTED]

City : Ancortes

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I oppose this damaging proposal. It will create a huge visual blight to this otherwise green gateway valley. Not since the slopes facing town to the north were logged in the 80s would there be such an ugly scar in this gateway to the American Alps, the North Cascades. Think salmon and sediment! Think of the impacts on the local community! Think of forest as carbon sink! All of these arguments should stop you from permitting this ugly catastrophe from marring the Skagit River valley.

From Host Address: 107.77.205.100

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 2:11:58 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 12:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Steve and Corina Sahlin
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry Project by Kiewit Infrastructure Company

Comments : We are long-time residents of Marblemount and are extremely concerned about the Marblemount quarry project proposal.

We have a business attracting people from all over the world to come to our homestead for retreats. We teach self-sufficiency skills to adults and also lead summer camps for children.

This proposed project would negatively affect our personal and professional lives. The dramatically increased traffic is very worrisome. The noise, explosions and mining activities would be terrible. Pollution to the Skagit River and salmon habitat is very concerning.

Our region attracts tourists and outdoor enthusiasts from all over the world, and the impacts from this Quarry would be disastrous. There are many of us residents who believe it is a terrible idea, and we don't want it here! Please allow for comments to be submitted for a longer period of time, since we are just now getting the word out about this proposal.

Thank you,

Corina Sahlin

From Host Address: 172.58.40.227

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 12:54:55 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 12:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Richard C Bannerman
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Klewitt's Marblemount project

Comments : I have not seen an official and professionally done environmental impact statement. They are planning on removing a mountain, rock by rock. The mountain has an environment and will be impacted. I was just there a couple of days ago and saw hawks and eagles circling overhead. Klewitt has given assurances and denials. I would hazard a guess that in every other site where they have ended up being fined they did as well.

No EIS = full stop.

From Host Address: 50.34.191.121

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 12:17:16 PM

John Cooper

From: PDS comments
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:13 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: Marblemount Quarry/Kiewit Application

FYI

Sincerely,

Kathy Jewell
Administrative Coordinator
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
direct: 360-416-1338
www.skagitcounty.net/planning

-----Original Message-----

From: Kate Stram [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2019 10:52 AM
To: PDS comments <pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: Marblemount Quarry/Kiewit Application

My name is Kate Schellie-Stram,
[REDACTED]
Marblemount WA 98267
[REDACTED]

Re: Notice of Development Application for Quarry
File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047 & PL19-0032
By Kiewit Infrastructure Co., LLC

My husband Lawrence Stram and I have owned 5.6 acres in the Marblegate community since 2009 and it is our full time residence. We just learned about this permit application and proposed Development on March 13, 2019. The application materials were not available on the internet until 3/21/19. We have slow internet in our area and due to the size of the application we do not have sufficient time to review and make appropriate comments prior to the 3/28/19 deadline for comments.

We are requesting an extension of the time for comments for 90 days so we can make an informed response.

I have many questions and concerns about the environmental impact, specifically the impacts on water, air quality, noise, wildlife, vibration and other effects on the stability of the mountain, impact on Rockport Cascade Road (traffic and surface of road) and potential wildfire dangers. I did not see any mention of any requirement for Kiewit to provide an Environmental Impact Study which would seem like an obvious requirement.

I look forward to reviewing the application materials and again request a 90 day extension for comments so that the community may have sufficient time to respond to this potential environmental disaster and severe effect on our quality of life.

Thank you,
Sincerely,
Kate Schellie-Stram

Sent from my iPad

John Cooper

From: PDS comments
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:13 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: Marblemount Quarry request for comment period extension

FYI

Sincerely,

Kathy Jewell
Administrative Coordinator
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
direct: 360-416-1338
www.skagitcounty.net/planning

-----Original Message-----

From: Ross Hudson [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 10:01 AM
To: PDS comments <pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: Marblemount Quarry request for comment period extension

I request that the public input/comment period for the proposed Marblemount Quarry be extended an additional 30 days to allow public proposal review. I am a property owner near the proposed site.

Ross Hudson
[REDACTED]
Seattle, WA 98136

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : jim saunders
[REDACTED]

City : marblemount
State : wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : marblemount quarry
Comments : polute Jordan creek

From Host Address: 50.35.90.3

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 3:02:34 PM

John Cooper

From: Kathy Jewell
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:14 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

Sincerely,

Kathy Jewell
Administrative Coordinator
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
direct: 360-416-1338
www.skagitcounty.net/planning

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : jim saunders

[REDACTED]
City : marblemount
State : wa

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : marblemount quarry
Comments : polute Jordan creek

From Host Address: 50.35.90.3

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 3:02:34 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Martha Campbell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA

[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I believe that this project would have overwhelmingly negative effects on both the human and natural communities of Marblemount without bringing any benefit to the residents of the surrounding communities. This community does not have the capacity to support the increased traffic on the highway, does not have the capacity in Emergency Medical Services to cover this dangerous operation, and the residents of the surrounding communities would have their quality of life significantly impacted by the noise and traffic. The area where the quarry is proposed serves as habitat for many species unique to the North Cascades, including bobcat, bear, and even fisher and wolfs. This quarry should not be allowed to proceed.

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:41:54 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Matthew Ferrell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry" PL19-0033
Comments : To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my grave concerns about the proposed expansion of the Marblemount Quarry. The proposal to expand the quarry as it is currently written will cause great harm to many in my community. The proposal brings quarry operations to within a mile of several homes in the area, effecting the quality of life of these families through noise pollution through the blasting of rocks, and dozens of trucks in the area.

There are also very real environmental concerns in increased dust, clear-cutting of forest and wildlife habitat very near to North Cascades National Park.

I also have concerns about destabilization of the hillside on Bear Mountain in what is known as one of the rainiest areas in the state of Washington, which could cause potentially deadly mudslides, similar to the Oso disaster.

All of these concerns should be addressed and mitigated before any expansion of the Quarry should be allowed.

Sincerely,
Matthew Ferrell

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:48:29 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : William Griffith
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : My home at [REDACTED] Marblemount has a well that has secondary water rights. So please tell me how Kiewit is going to get the water to keep the dust down on the road? My property has diminished in value because of the water issue so I wondering how this quarry on the Rockport Cascade road is going to get water? If they are going to truck it in from a different watershed who is going to police that they aren't just getting it locally? Who is going to monitor the noise? The last mining done at this quarry exceeded the 30 foot height restriction and the county did nothing. How can we trust the county to enforce the law?

From Host Address: 97.113.60.185

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:58:09 PM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:07 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: PL19-0033 Comment Letter

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : William Griffith

City : Marblemount

State : Washington

PermitProposal : Permit Application Submittals PL19-0033

Comments : Our house located at [REDACTED] Marblemount WA is about one third of a mile from this quarry. I am requesting a extension of the comment period because I need more time to speak to an attorney about my rights regarding this quarry operation. I think this is the least the county could do seeing that their incompetence caused me to have secondary water rights for my well. I have already lost money by this water issue making my property harder to sell and now with the noise that soon might be emanating from the quarry I could lose even more money not to mention all the work that I have put into the place. So please extend the comment period to allow me time to make a cogent response to this proposal.

From Host Address: 97.113.60.185

Date and time received: 3/21/2019 4:01:54 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Mari Schramm
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Dear John Cooper & Planning Commission,

I am writing to express my concerns with the proposed development of the Marblemount Quarry. I have lived in the upper Skagit valley for 2 years, and have recently moved to a new place in Marblemount. I love where I live due to the beautiful, peaceful mountains that form the basis of my personal, professional, spiritual, and recreational life. I am very concerned with the brevity and incomprehensive nature of their environmental assessment. Most personally, I am very concerned with the amount of noise involved in the operation - with all the 75 trucks plus service vehicles, blasting, and logging equipment. The moose will significantly impact the tourism of this National Park gateway community. I am concerned that it will impact hiking, biking, and eagle watching, not to mention the impact on wildlife. These parcels and the surrounding forest are sensitive environment for many animals including Paragrin Falcons, fishers, and wolves. Beyond the noise, I am concerned the impact on water, air quality, and fire danger. We do not have the water, emergency services, or roads to accommodate a project of this nature.

Mostly, I am VERY frustrated by the lack of public outreach and secretive, insidious nature of Kiewit's development. For all of these reasons - impact to tourism, locals, wildlife, environment, and local services - I hope you delay and ultimately deny this permit.

Thank you,

Mari Schramm

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 8:11:59 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Julie Griffith
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : Does the double wide on the property recently purchased to be part of this project have an illegal water turbine supplying the power? Has the county ever checked into how this structure is powered? It's one thing if someone goes through the permitting process and another one if the county is lax on enforcement. Why don't you send an inspector to inspect how this structure is powered? How exactly has someone been living off of the grid? If the county has been lax on enforcement in the past how can we trust them in the future? Does what happens upriver stay upriver? Stop the quarry until a complete review of your enforcement policies has been completed.

From Host Address: 97.113.60.185

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 8:19:50 PM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:03 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: PL19-0033

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 9:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Shawn Crowley

[REDACTED]
City : Seattle
State : WA

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I own an 8 acre parcel within the Marblegate community. I just learned of the proposal to expand the existing quarry. But for a neighbor informing me of this proposal it appears I would not have received any notice from the county.

I am requesting at least a 90-day extension of the public comment period so that property owners like myself can review the proposal materials and prepare a response.

From Host Address: 67.161.82.75

Date and time received: 3/21/2019 9:38:57 AM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:16 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Marblemount Quarry comment letter...

From dept email... I know it's yours, but which file # is it?

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 9:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Shawn Crowley

[REDACTED]

City : Seattle

State : WA

[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I own an 8 acre parcel within the Marblegate community. I just learned of the proposal to expand the existing quarry. But for a neighbor informing me of this proposal it appears I would not have received any notice from the county.

I am requesting at least a 90-day extension of the public comment period so that property owners like myself can review the proposal materials and prepare a response.

From Host Address: 67.161.82.75

Date and time received: 3/21/2019 9:38:57 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 5:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Christie L. Fairchild
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL 19-0033

Comments : Concerning the Marblemount Quarry project -

I was made aware of this proposal just a few days ago and am shocked that the county would go this far without contacting the people who live near such a monstrous potential. Nevertheless, we found out and have now organized to resist the destruction of our peaceful homes and landscape. I have lived for 34 years on the Rockport Cascade Rd. having homesteaded and built my place from scratch. I was a National Park Service ranger, an educator, a 25-year volunteer EMT and firefighter, and am now semi-retired as I still farm. This proposal frightens and angers me. There are so many issues to comment upon, but here are a few, for starters:

1.) NOISE and blasting concussion! This site (Big Bear Mountain), due to erosional, seismic and landslide histories, now presents as an amphitheater for sound. Blasts will be heard and felt over the river to Marblemount and Rockport, as well as to the immediate neighbors. 2.) WATER source, use and waste! This is not addressed at all. NOTE: the Skagit, Cascade, and Sauk Rivers and Illabot Creek are protected by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

3.) WILDLIFE concerns: federal land managers are prohibited from blasting during the nesting and the raising of young season, esp. for endangered species. It is a documented fact that there are Spotted Owl pairs residing in the remaining patch of USFS old growth adjacent to this proposal. Our local, rare wolf (who is radio collared) also uses this land for hunting and denning. And there are many, many more.

I would expect private land owners would have to abide by the same no blasting law (April - June). 4.)

TOURISM impacts: The upper Skagit relies heavily on tourism for our livelihood. We are a gateway community to North Cascades National Park and also to the Glacier Peak Wilderness. No one will want to stay, eat, bicycle, hike, climb, ski, snowshoe, snowmobile, raft, kayak, fish, or eagle watch if the air is full of dynamite blasting! Our towns will die. 5.) FIRE danger: Did you realize that the terrible Jordan Creek Fire (1998) was STARTED in the Cunningham's gravel pit. Note all the burned and dead trees in the area. Just one spark... 6.) ROAD and TRAFFIC: the Rockport Cascade Rd. is a rural byway, chipseal, with no shoulders. It is in no way suitable for such heavy use. Also, the Rockport elk herd resides in the immediate area and those huge trucks would not be able to avoid hitting them as they speed 50 mph down this road. There will be bad wrecks.

7.) ECONOMY: Little to no economic benefit to our community. Kewiet uses their own union workers, not locals. And with "only" 25 employed, they would only be taking everything and not giving anything back. 8.) THE REASON: to ship rock to Alaska? How stupid is that! Repairing and raising jetties because of rising seas caused by climate change, and you/they plan to increase the carbon footprint by thousands of amounts to do just that? It's like putting a band-aid on cancer - absurd and insulting. 9.) REPUTATION: Perhaps you might investigate Kewiet's. Did you know they have at least 68 water quality violations in Canada, and at least 40 here in Washington, as we speak? It does not bode well.

10.) REGULATORY: The SEPA proposal shows little to no mitigation for spills, accident and/or waste removal. And who will enforce all the other rules and laws? We have only ONE county sheriff deputy to cover

250 square miles up here, and they are busy with druggies and burglaries. State Patrol only works on state highways, is busy busting traffic speeders and accidents there, not on county roads. 11.) POTENTIAL: With all three "critical areas" identified within the project boundaries - landslide, seismic, and erosional - we don't need another Oso! Our annual rainfall up here is from 90 - 110 inches annually. Keep that in mind. 12.) LASTLY (for now) - with a project of this magnitude and potential, I would assume it must require an EIS, but I can't find one anywhere in any of the documents. Please advise...

From Host Address: 104.235.187.133

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 5:24:48 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kate Stewart
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19 -0033

Comments : We are concerned about the impact of noise, vibration, aesthetics, and transportation increases in the area around the Marblemount Quarry project site. Increased vehicles (up to 260/day) on a road currently used by local residents and many cycling tours will negatively impact the local economy by discouraging or stopping this level of tourism. Additionally, because the mining area is located within an earthquake zone, vibration caused by blasting is a concern. The noise of heavy machinery, compressors (there will be no electricity), rock crushers and other machines will be a source of constant stress for the surrounding property owners. We ask that you seriously consider not approving this proposal in its current form.

Thank you,
Kate Stewart

From Host Address: 72.168.145.70

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 4:28:27 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 3:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kate Stewart
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0047

Comments : We are quite concerned about the environmental impact of the proposed Marblemount Quarry which includes logging, as well as blasting, moving and crushing rock from a hillside near the Wild and Scenic Skagit River. Please demand a complete, credible and thorough environmental impact statement from the Kiewit Infrastructure Co., LLC, and other involved parties.

Thank you,
Kate Stewart

From Host Address: 72.168.145.70

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 3:41:49 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 4:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Arthur W. Olson
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL 19-0033

Comments : Regarding the Marblemount Quarry proposal - I have lived on the west end (milepost 10) of the Rockport Cascade Rd. for 40 years. One week ago, I received an email from a neighbor who lives only 1600 feet from this project. They had JUST dis-covered, accidentally, that a huge mining and blasting operation was proposed in our community. NO ONE here was ever contacted! At any rate, I am familiar with the defunct, 20-acre gravel pit that is the base site for this enormous proposal. I am baffled at how that could be legally expanded to a 600-acre full blown quarry! It is a complete diversion of "current use". In addition, the traffic alone that this would create is a big concern. The Rockport Cascade Rd. is a chipseal, rural, county road with no shoulder, certainly not up to standards for this type of operation. Their route would go right past my home and I abhor the thought of constant jake brakes as they approach the Hwy 530 junction that would ruin my quality of life. I'm sure it would tear up the road, as well. Over 10 years ago I went to a public meeting when the county wanted to raise the speed limit from 35mph to 50mph on our rural road. I asked that at least the last 1/4 mile should be reduced to 35mph as one approached the stop sign and the Hwy 530 junction. It never was. If this quarry goes into operation, the speed limit MUST be reduced, and jake brakes outlawed! After all, the road has a 0% grade so they not necessary.

I was a logger, equipment operator, and a federally licensed blaster for most of my 40 year career. I intend to review the proposal word-for-word and you can be sure I will comment on every hole I see in this plan - and there are many! The first being that I see no EIS required - where the heck is it??

From Host Address: 104.235.187.133

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 4:19:28 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Adam Conor Brayton
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry
Comments : To whom it concerns,

I would urge that you reconsider your plans to develop the quarry project into something that grows beyond our scope and falls into the realm of uninintended consequences. I believe the proposed development, which includes logging and loosening up rock, could have catastrophic outcomes if conditions for a rock or mudslide were to befall that area. The proximity to residences and high rainfall around here seem to be a recipe for disaster. This is not to mention the proximity to Cascade Creek, a scenic river. The reasons why this should not go through are more than I can express in words, but let it suffice to say that I do not approve.

Best regards,

Adam Brayton

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:38:53 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Addie Irvin
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Dear John Cooper,

I am extremely concerned about the detrimental impacts of the proposed Marblemount Quarry. The Quarry, which is so extremely close to many homes, will cause extreme noise pollution, increased traffic, and many potential health hazards. I am worried for the negative affects it will have on our entire upper Skagit community and beyond. I am also worried for the negative impacts on the wealth wildlife that calls that area home, the health of the Skagit River, and the stability of entire landscape. I am want to voice these major concerns and express my opposition to the Marblemount Quarry.

Thank you for your time,
Addie Irvin

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:37:40 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Miles Fiegi

[REDACTED]
City : Aberdeen
State : WA

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : Marblemount quarry
Comments : To Mr. John Cooper.

I'm strongly apposed to this. It will destroy several acres of pristine Fisher habitat. In addition, it pollutes the watershed of the Skagit. And as well as inhibits the community of Marblemount via noise, traffic, and pollution.

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:34:51 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Paul Bedard
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount quarry

Comments : Please allow longer comment period,not a good use of our natural space

From Host Address: 172.58.41.158

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:15:27 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 6:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Russell T Aardema
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marvelling Quarry

Comments : Kiewit Infrastructure Co has painted a picture of how little their mining project would effect neighbors, several communities, tourists, animals, the land, water, etc. I live 3 lots away. I own part of that mountain. We live here because of the beauty, wildlife, and quiet. I am worried about the school busses that drive on our road, including the one my granddaughter rides. How will those big trucks affect them? During the spring, summer, and fall, we see lots of tourists cycling, motorcycling, and driving on Rockport Cascade road and Highway 20. Rockport Cascade road has no shoulders. How are these big trucks going to affect our tourism. They have far under-reported the noise they will be creating. We will be hearing the generators, drilling, blasting, diesel brakes, truck repairs, and trucks all too loudly. I am home most the day As I am retired. I don't want to hear all that loud noise all day. And if they have to do repairs in the evenings or work late to meet a deadline, how will we relax or sleep. The traffic on not just our road, but also on highway 20 will increase dramatically. Are they reserving money to pay for road repairs? I know The wildlife will be affected. With all that logging and blasting, the deer, bears, bobcats, coyotes, fishers, birds, and the other animals will leave. There are protected, tracked species on and around this mountain. What about Skagit River and fishing? And Illabot Creek? And the fish hatchery up the road? I am sure they will be affected. With the drilling and blasting, what will be rolling down from our mountainside, endangering us, our grandchildren, and our home. What if our water is affected? We can't afford to drill again, and aren't allowed to anyway. We are very against this project for all these reasons.

From Host Address: 174.216.21.101

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 6:01:33 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 11:25 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Rachel Smith
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : Hello, and thank you for your time. First, please extend the comment period. As a resident of Marblemount, I just learned about this project less than a week before the comment period is to close. This is not enough time to consider the project and articulate concerns. Furthermore, no perceptible efforts have been made by the local government to notify those of us who will be impacted by this project. This concerns me.

My preliminary concerns and questions:

The project proposal states that "residential density is low" in the area. This may be true, but there is a small, thriving community that includes new, younger residents like my family. We have jobs outside of the area, which we do remotely, bringing new income to the community. Our community, which is situated adjacent to the proposed project area, supports the national treasure of the North Cascade National Forest. We are new owners of property here, and we help sustain year-round the local economy that then supports a tremendous influx of tourism in the summers. With the rise of remote work and the overcrowding of cities, Marblemount—with its spectacular peacefulness and natural beauty—is already moving toward a gentle revitalization, through individual families like my own. I'm concerned that a 100-year quarry project of the proposed scale will damage the character of the area, deter more new, young residents like ourselves, and dampen tourism. Who wants to drive past the bucolic, pale blue Sauk toward the mossy glen of the North Cascades National Forest stuck behind three oversized rock haulers, with the sound of rock blasting and a deforested, dusty, moonscape vista? We wouldn't have bought our home under those conditions. Part of the beauty of living or visiting is the pristine "entrance to the North American Alps." How will this project mitigate its effects on our local residential population—and can it do so? (There is no reference to this in the mitigation report.) It may be true that the community here is small at this time, but it is a community that has value in supporting and sustaining the area's most precious resources, and one that has potential to grow responsibly, sustainably, and healthily, in the coming 100 years, so long as the character of the area is not ruined by a project such as this. I would ask whether the long-term effects of this project are consistent with the values of the North Cascade region and its most important assets.

Sincerely,
Rachel Smith

From Host Address: 216.129.144.254

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 11:22:24 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 9:10 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Julie Weir
[REDACTED]

City : Salmon
State : Idaho
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kewitt infrastructure Quarry Marblemount PL19-0033

Comments : I own a home I rent to my daughter and her 4 small children on Rockport Cascade that has this mountain range in the backyard. I object this proposal. I need more time to review and comment. Comments should be extended to minimum 30 days. This is 100 year permit and I've just become aware of the massive project! We need more time to review the plans and application. This will negatively affect our environment and property values! How does this project align with protecting the Skagit as a wild and scenic river? what about my grandchildren and their home? My 4 year old grandson has Down syndrome a heart defect and breathing issues. How will a project of this size not have impacts on water and air quality?

I demand a thorough independent Environmental Impact Study be done. I am very concerned about potential ground water contamination and river contamination. We purchased this home out here as a refuge for our family. That is why most people move or invest in the area. Is the county really willing to trade tourist income, the health of its citizens and our environment for this out of state companies profit???

From Host Address: 72.107.184.137

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 9:05:46 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 3:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Heather Collins
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

Comments : This project will be wonderful for the community! It looks like plenty of contingency plans are in place for any accident, and to make sure that the environment is impacted as little as possible. The amount of money coming back into the county and local communities will bring more life back in to Skagit county.

From Host Address: 66.235.37.225

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 3:16:40 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 1:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jennifer Maxwell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Comments : This will negatively affect all of Skagit Valley!

From Host Address: 97.73.244.147

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 1:07:11 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 12:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Sarah Fierbaugh
[REDACTED]

City : MARBLEMOUNT

State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit quarry

Comments : There aren't many people living here. Those that do struggle to make a living. But we live here for a reason. We love our land and our peace. We're a tight knit community. This would not only be a hindrance for the few businesses in Marblemount, but would freeze any growth potential the area has. It freezes any prospect of property appreciation. It would hobble any housing project and any tourists trade we do here. Please don't saddle this town with yet another reason to be down on our luck.

From Host Address: 64.9.255.5

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 12:34:51 PM

John Cooper

From: Kathy Jewell
Sent: Friday, March 22, 2019 8:57 AM
To: John Cooper
Cc: Betsy D. Stevenson; Julie S. Nicoll
Subject: FW: A disastrous quarry project proposed for Marblemount

FYI

Sincerely,

Kathy Jewell
Administrative Coordinator
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
direct: 360-416-1338
www.skagitcounty.net/planning

From: Steffany [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 6:33 PM
To: Commissioners <commissioners@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: A disastrous quarry project proposed for Marblemount

March 20, 2019

Dear Lisa Janicki,

I am writing in regard to a proposed quarry enlargement upriver on Rockport Cascade Road (**Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount**). The scope of this project is **immense** ("Kiewit infrastructure proposes to expand the existing 20 acre quarry to an approximately 79 acre operation. The proposal will remove approximately 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone, over a projected 100 year period. Quarry rocks and spalls will be removed from the site by truck and trailer, generating a maximum of 75 loads per day. The mining operation will require the removal of 2.7 million board feet of timber from approximately 90 acres of six parcels totaling 600 acres. Stumps will be removed and the area graded in preparation for quarry operations.") The comment period is now for a number of permits that need approval. I am writing to speak about the human impacts of such a project. There have been studies done (at significant expense) about the potential impacts on fish and wildlife, and regarding the possibility of cultural artifacts (ancient peoples) but there is no study being done about the impact on the land, the neighborhood, the people who live in that area of the upper Skagit.

I was a resident of that neighborhood, at 59604 Rockport Cascade Road, less than 1/2 mile from the quarry site, for more than twelve years. I am still a member of the Skagit Land Trust and a steward for the Land Trust at Hurn Field. My wife and I sold our beloved home and five acre parcel (that extends up that mountainside) to a young couple with a child and were very excited to pass it on knowing that a young human would grow up in a beautiful place and learn about protecting our earth. A small home day care resides on that land. Nearby are friends who have invested their entire life savings in the home and land they occupy (in Marblegate). At least one neighbor (whose property is very very close to this quarry site) is disabled, poor, and finds her comfort and solace in being outdoors on her property in a beautiful fern grotto against that hillside.

The impacts of an active quarry and the proposed enlargement of the site (including road construction) will be huge! While we lived on Rockport Cascade Road, the quarry was active for one season and it was a constant disruption. The sound from the rock work carried all the way through the valley. It was so bad that I gave up working outside in my garden during the day for several months. The project generated a great deal of noise and dust from the trucks being filled and then driving by. We complained but nothing much could be done; we were assured that the project would be completed and the problem would go away. Someone had decided that taking rock from one part of the County for the benefit of another part of the County was a perfectly acceptable thing to do, without weighing the impacts of that rock removal. I would liken it to mining, oil drilling, and fracking that is occurring in other parts of the country. There is a cost, to the earth, to the people living nearby, and to future generations.

A few years before we moved to Rockport Cascade Road there was a forest fire on that hillside (rumored to have started in that very rock quarry). It nearly claimed multiple houses (including the one we later inhabited). The burned remains were visible on that landscape for miles around. The removal of trees, the addition of a road, the removal of much more rock will be a similar scar on that landscape, one that will not heal.

If this project were proposed in Mount Vernon or Burlington (who knows maybe the right kind of rock is lurking in one of the city's beloved parks) there would be an outcry because there are many people living nearby. In fact it wouldn't even be considered. This land and the landscape around it is also loved, just not by as many people because it is rural. This proposed project is much much bigger and longer lasting, thus the impact will be larger; the people who

live near this project will want to leave and will be unable to sell their homes. Marblemount will be degraded. Skagit County is a wonderful place to live because there is an ethic of stewardship that is not found in many other places. That ethic deserves to be applied to this project. It is time to stop destroying our landscapes for commercial gain. It is time to consider the impacts of our decisions for future generations. This project is a very bad idea.

I am requesting that you become educated about this project - quickly - the decisions about permits are happening soon. Oversight by the County for this kind of project development is essential. Your constituents are not being given enough time or information and they are not being consulted about the impacts on their community.

Sincerely,

Steffany Raynes

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 6:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Steffany Raynes
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Comments : I am writing in regard to a proposed quarry enlargement on Rockport Cascade Road (Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount). The scope of this project is immense ("Kiewet infrastructure proposes to expand the existing 20 acre quarry to an approximately 79 acre operation. The proposal will remove approximately 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone, over a projected 100 year period. Quarry rocks and spalls will be removed from the site by truck and trailer, generating a maximum of 75 loads per day. The mining operation will require the removal of 2.7 million board feet of timber from approximately 90 acres of six parcels totaling 600 acres. Stumps will be removed and the area graded in preparation for quarry operations.") The comment period is now for a number of permits that need approval. I am writing to speak about the human impacts of such a project. There have been studies done (at significant expense) about the potential impacts on fish and wildlife, and regarding the possibility of cultural artifacts (ancient peoples) but there is no study being done about the impact on the land, the neighborhood, the people who live in that area of the upper Skagit.

I was a resident of that neighborhood, at [REDACTED] less than 1/2 mile from the quarry site, for more than twelve years. I am still a member of the Skagit Land Trust and a steward for the Land Trust at Hurn Field. My wife and I sold our beloved home and five acre parcel (that extends up that mountainside) to a young couple with a child and were very excited to pass it on knowing that a young human would grow up in a beautiful place and learn about protecting our earth. A small home day care resides on that land. Nearby are friends who have invested their entire life savings in the home and land they occupy (in Marblegate). At least one neighbor (whose property is very very close to this quarry site) is disabled, poor, and finds her comfort and solace in being outdoors on her property in a beautiful fern grotto against that hillside.

The impacts of an active quarry and the proposed enlargement of the site (including road construction) will be huge! While we lived on Rockport Cascade Road, the quarry was active for one season and it was a constant disruption. The sound from the rock work carried all the way through the valley. It was so bad that I gave up working outside in my garden during the day for several months. The project generated a great deal of noise and dust from the trucks being filled and then driving by. We complained but nothing much could be done; we were assured that the project would be completed and the problem would go away. Someone had decided that taking rock from one part of the County for the benefit of another part of the County was a perfectly acceptable thing to do, without weighing the impacts of that rock removal. I would liken it to mining, oil drilling, and fracking that is occurring in other parts of the country. There is a cost, to the earth, to the people living nearby, and to future generations.

A few years before we moved to Rockport Cascade Road there was a forest fire on that hillside (rumored to

have started in that very rock quarry). It nearly claimed multiple houses (including the one we later inhabited). The burned remains were visible on that landscape for miles around. The removal of trees, the addition of a road, the removal of much more rock will be a similar scar on that landscape, one that will not heal.

If this project were proposed in Mount Vernon (who knows maybe the right kind of rock is lurking in one of the city's beloved parks) there would be an outcry because there are many people living nearby. In fact it wouldn't even be considered. This land and the landscape around it is also loved, just not by as many people because it is rural. This proposed project is much much bigger and longer lasting, thus the impact will be larger; the people who live near this project will want to leave and will be unable to sell their homes. Marblemount will be degraded. Skagit County is a wonderful place to live because there is an ethic of stewardship that is not found in many other places. That ethic deserves to be applied to this project. It is time to stop destroying our landscapes for commercial gain. It is time to consider the impacts of our decisions for future generations. This project is a very bad idea.

From Host Address: 73.239.117.34

Date and time received: 3/20/2019 6:23:11 PM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 11:09 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From Dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 9:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : NWCAA c/o Matt Holmquist
[Redacted]
City : Mount Vernon
State : WA
[Redacted]

PermitProposal : File #PL19-0032
Comments : The owner(s) and/or operator(s) must obtain necessary permits and register with Northwest Clean Air Agency (NWCAA) prior to establishment of rock crushing and/or screening operations pursuant to NWCAA Regulation Sections 300 & 320. Contact NWCAA for more information.

From Host Address: 69.7.50.26

Date and time received: 3/19/2019 9:16:01 AM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:08 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 12:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Richard and Karen Davis
[REDACTED]

City : Lynnwood
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL 19- 0033 Kiewt Marblemount Quarry
Comments : We own 5 acres and a home at [REDACTED] Marblemount, Wa 98267

We ask for a 90 day extension to review the copious materials for this massive project that would greatly impact us. The on line materials were not readily available for review or completely posted as of 3/19/2019. That only gives less than a 10 day time frame to read them.
Thank you

From Host Address: 73.59.87.2

Date and time received: 3/21/2019 11:59:52 AM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:02 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 11:30 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jon Gross

[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA

[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount / PL19-0033
Comments : This is a complex undertaking, and I would like to ask for an extension of a minimum of 90 days to the review process in order to have time to review the materials in detail.

Thank you.

From Host Address: 104.219.104.84

Date and time received: 3/21/2019 11:29:14 AM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 4:17 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:45 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Mary M Sodawasser

[REDACTED]
City : Rockport
State : WA

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : PL19-0033 PL19-0047 BP19-0070 PL19-0032

Comments : I have huge concerns about this project. My request is the county at least require a SEPA EIS to adequately analyze potential impacts. My concerns are the effect the kind of traffic this project spend all my free time in the area for peace and quiet. This project will not allow for that. The noise alone will have an impact on me. My concerns on how the roads will be impacted are of concern. This area doesn't have the budget to re-pave the roads after this. There are many creeks, streams, and rivers that will have debris pushed into them and have effect on the salmon spawning.

From Host Address: 174.237.137.4

Date and time received: 3/20/2019 8:41:16 AM

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS



Skagit Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1101
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

March 29, 2019

John Cooper
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Re: File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

(Also submitted electronically via the Planning & Development Services website on 3/29/2019)

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Please accept the following comments on the application for the proposed Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount. I am submitting these comments on behalf of Skagit Audubon Society, the local chapter of National Audubon. Our 260 member families share the Audubon mission of conserving and restoring natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity. The proposed quarry operation is relevant to our group's interests in many ways.

The potential adverse impacts on local residents and their property are many and of long duration.

The application materials and related reports which Kiewit has submitted for this project describe the types and quantity of noise the project would produce. Even at the understated level mentioned in the application materials, residents' loss of the present peace and tranquility of their neighborhood will be profound and long-lasting, whether the quarry operates for the proposed 30 years or the 100 hundred years of the projected expansion. Skagit Audubon members, including those living in the Marblemount area and visitors, presently enjoy the opportunity to observe a wide variety of bird species in settings that do not involve loud and continuous industrial activity. This opportunity will be severely impaired if the proposed quarry operation goes forward. Residents of the area will, of course, also lose value in their property as a result of the quarry operation, which it would appear can only be mitigated to a very limited degree.

We note that the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan states, "Planning, land use regulations and zoning protect individual and community rights in the following ways:

- by avoiding nuisances through ensuring against incompatible neighboring land uses;
- ...
- by protecting and conserving the natural resources that provide us with clean air and water;"

~ to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity ~

Peregrine

We would also note that the property proposed for quarrying is the location of a peregrine falcon nest. Although this bird is no longer state-listed, the bird and its nests are still protected under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The proposed mining activity would obliterate this nest site and, among other things, deprive local residents and visitors to the vicinity of observing this fastest of all birds. The opportunity to see such species is part of what gives the area the special character it has now and will lose if the proposed project goes forward. We would also note that while the peregrine is no longer state-listed, it is designated a Species of Concern under the federal Endangered Species Act. That the biological assessment prepared by Element Solutions has no mention of this species is another measure of the report's inadequacy and, thus, the inadequacy of the SEPA application.

Fisher (Pekania pennant)

Page 15 of the SEPA application states that no state species requiring special consideration "were observed on the site." This sets a very low bar for determining whether the proposed project could have adverse effects on protected species. How much time did he contracted biologists spend on the site? The biological assessment and the SEPA application omit all mention of the fisher, which is state-listed as Endangered and federally designated as a Candidate species for listing under the Endangered Species Act. It has been well-publicized that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service are engaged in a long-planned program to restore the fisher to the Cascades. Within the last few months there have been multiple releases of fishers in the Skagit watershed not many miles from the project site and within the range that this species will wander. To not address adverse effects of the proposed quarry project on this listed species is a significant omission.

Marbled Murrelet

We note that Element Solutions contracted with Hamer Environmental to assess the project site for potential Marbled Murrelet and Spotted Owl nesting habitat. While the contractors did not find habitat meeting all the nesting criteria for these 2 species, they omitted an important consideration related to the murrelet. The Cascade River drainage, tributary to the Skagit River, is an area that has had active Marbled Murrelet nests in past years and may still. This federally listed Threatened species, state-listed as Endangered, is in rapid decline in Washington State and particularly Puget Sound. Murrelets lay a single egg on the large, high branch of an old growth tree, sometimes using other natural platforms such as those formed by mistletoe. The adult birds fly to marine waters to catch forage fish, which they bring back to the nest to feed their single chick. When the chick fledges, it must reach marine water on its first flight if it is to survive. The transit area from nest to saltwater can present a variety of hazards making that first essential flight, as well as the daily flights of the adults, fraught with danger. These flights typically occur around dawn and dusk. The proposed quarry operation would be from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. six days a week and is along the path murrelets nesting in the Cascade River drainage would likely follow to the sea. During much of the year, the daily work period for the quarry would include dawn and dusk. Excessive noise, dust, explosions,

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Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

Full Name: Robert Klengler



Proposal Name or Permit Number: Marblemount Quarry, PL19-0033

To:

Mr. John Cooper
Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon WA 98273

Below is an overview of my main concerns. The next section is my comments resulting from an initial reading of the SEPA.

- One purpose of SEPA is to determine if an environmental impact statement is required. After reading the SEPA and related appendices, it is clear that an EIS is more than warranted.
- Appendix E proposes two sound mitigation options. Appendix K: Mitigation Plan specifies either the weakest mitigating Level-I from Appendix E or restricting activity before 7:00 AM. Restricting activity before 7:00 AM is NOT one of the two options layed out in Appendix E. The conclusion on page 17 of Appendix E is "With Level-II sound mitigation measures in place, project sound levels from the project would produce only a slight sound-level increase compared to existing baseline conditions and would not create any significant noise impacts." However, Appendix K does not even mention Level-II. This casts doubt on the veracity of the mitigation proposal.
- Appendix E fails to explain how a 12 foot berm would mitigate noise from explosions and other noise on the site - much of which is more than 1,000 feet above the berm. Even so, Appendix K allows the applicant to choose an option that disregards any berm, and therefore disregards recommendations in Appendix E.
- The applicant's lack of concern for the local ecology is exemplified by an FBI investigation. The applicant has been fined \$5 million for "negligently violating the Clean Water Act" following a two year FBI investigation. The applicant had retention ponds, but employees siphoned toxic water into the San Joaquin River for a period of at least three years before being caught. This behavior by the applicant casts doubt on the mitigation proposal, and on the entire application. To get the facts, search "Kiewit FBI 5 million", which leads to the official FBI government website. This negligence casts additional doubt on claims in Appendix J. An actor with such a blatant disregard for the environment has no place in Skagit County.

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

- From Appendix E page 17: “With Level-II sound mitigation measures in place, project sound levels from the project would produce only a slight sound-level increase compared to existing baseline conditions and would not create any significant noise impacts.”
 - Comment: Level II sound mitigation is not offered as an option in Appendix K: Mitigation Plan, which identifies EITHER a berm OR restriction of activities before 7:00 am. Appendix E proposes berm OR berm AND hour restriction, not hour restriction only.
 - Comment: Therefore, the “moderate impact” claim is not supported when cross-referencing the Appendices provided.
- A.11. Project description
- “Hours of Operation for quarrying and hauling operations would occur between 6:00 AM and 6:00 PM Monday through Saturday; however, occasional operation outside of these hours may occur during limited, short-duration time periods. Other supportive and normal activities, such as equipment maintenance, may occur after the stated work hours.”
 - Comments: Appendix E and K specify hours of operation to begin at 7:00 AM.
 - The way the Hours of Operation is described is meaningless. Noise and dust and vibration can be 24 hours a day, and still be in compliance. From page 17 of SEPA: “Night shifts may be required for certain contracts.” Which contracts are “certain contracts”?
 - “The Proposed Project would have a maximum of 75 loaded trucks per day leaving the site....”
 - Comment: Page 26 of the SEPA shows that the real number is 260 vehicle trips daily. That is one every three minutes. Including 40 miles of Highway 20 that is lined with public bus stops, children waiting for school buses, driveways to homes, entrances to businesses, passing through a congested area of Sedro Woolley. With Phase 3 expansion it could be a truck every two minutes, because the application predicts a 150% increase in rock yield.
- B.1.d
- “The project area contains slopes that are regulated Critical Areas due to the presence of Landslide, Erosion, and Seismic Geologically Hazardous Areas as defined in SCC 14.24.410”
 - “Steep areas that are developed, modified, or disturbed during quarry or road development and operations are susceptible to rockfall and erosion hazard occurrence.”

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

San Joaquin River for a period of at least three years. This behavior by the applicant casts doubt on the efficacy of claimed mitigation.

- 5. Animals
 - Comment: Explosions, heavy equipment and rock crushing will affect wildlife far beyond the borders of the project. Those effects have not been studied.
- B.5.a.): "Wildlife was not observed on the site or in the vicinity of the site during our site investigations."
 - Comments: Seattle City Light includes animal habitat conservation as a priority on land owned adjacent to the project.
 - Perhaps more "observation" is needed.
- B.5.b. "...no PHS-listed species occurring at the project site." "No federally listed species were observed on the Proposed Project site." "the federal effects determination for the overall Proposed Project is May Affect, Is Not Likely to Adversely Affect the biological environment of the area."
 - Comments: Peregrine is not mentioned anywhere, and has been seen in the vicinity by residents.
 - The last quote above demonstrates that an EIS must be performed.
- B.5.b: "site reclamation will restore the site to forested conditions and restore herbaceous balds and talus habitats."
 - Comment: It should be noted that reclamation is in 100 years.
- B.6.c. "What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: Mobile mining equipment would be maintained to maximize fuel efficiency. Spill response equipment would be kept onsite and would be used in the event of a spill."
 - Comment: Maintaining diesel and gas equipment does not appear to be meaningful conservation.
- B.7.a.4) "Describe special emergency services that might be required: 911 EMS services might be required in the event of an accident/incident."
 - Comment: Marblemount volunteer fire and ambulance is not designed to handle an industrial complex of this scale.
- B.7.b.2) Noise
 - Comment: Hours of operation are 12 hours. Except maintenance, which is 18 hours. Except night shifts may be required for certain contracts.
 - In other words, there is no real restriction on the hours of noise.
- B.7.b.2) and 3) Sound analysis

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

- • by assuring that each generation has responsibilities as a trustee of the environment for future generations;
 - • by attaining the widest range of land uses without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences; and
 - • by recognizing that each person has a fundamental and inalienable right to a healthful environment and that each person has a responsibility to contribute to the protection and enhancement of the environment;
 - • by recognizing existing non-conforming land uses and the development rights associated with them.
- B.10.b. "Views impacts in the immediate vicinity would be minimal except for at a few locations where unobstructed views of the quarry face exist. Most views are obstructed by vegetation. See Appendix G: Visual Resources Report for details."
- Comments: The lack of definition of "immediate vicinity" renders this answer meaningless. In Appendix G the applicant admits that the project can be seen (or could be seen) from Highway 20, the Skagit River, Illabot Creek, Skagit River Recreation Areas, Mountain Climbing/Hiking Recreation, Rockport, Marblemount and Corkindale. I would not call that "minimal".
 - It's easy to see the extent of visual pollution through use of Google Earth. The number of places the project can be seen and heard is breathtaking.
 - Views have not been associated with noise in this application. However, noise will travel further where there is line of sight, in addition to noise echoing off the mountains. The areas affected are extensive. This has not been addressed in this application.
 - Appendix G is referenced in this section. On page 6 Appendix G cavalierly points out that since the quarry is 0.5 instead of 0.25 miles from the Skagit River, that its Wild and Scenic River designation doesn't matter. Even though the application admits that users on the river will see the quarry. Users will hear it, too. Though noise is so poorly addressed in the proposal that this was not even considered.
- B.11. Light and Glare
- Comment: the answers do not take into consideration light reflection from low clouds which occur here frequently.
- B.12.c.: "Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: None necessary."
- Comment: The response "None necessary" demonstrates the disrespect for our community and the importance of tourism to our local economy. A breathtaking disregard. The annual Eagle Festival provides an economic lifeline to local businesses during winter months when many hundreds of eagles line the shores of

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

- B.15. Public Services

- Comment: The applicant contends that no mitigation is necessary. Marblemount volunteer fire and EMS are not set up to handle industrial activity of this scale. In section B.7.a.4) the applicant admits that 911 EMS would be used in the event of accidents or incidents.

- Supplemental 6.

- Comment: Section A.11. specifies a 150 percent increase in rock volume if MRO is extended. In this section, only minor impacts on traffic are claimed. Where is all that increase in rock material going? The application is for 100 years independent of MRO expansion, yet here the claim is that existing impacts would simply be extended. Does that mean 150 years?

- Supplemental 7.: "The proposed MRO expansion does not conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment."

- Comment: I believe that proper analysis and investigation of this project will prove otherwise.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project, which will impact all residents in the local area and Highway 20. And that of our children. And grand-children. And great grand-children. This is what is at stake.



Robert Klengler

Marblemount resident

Tuesday March 26 2019

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MAR 29 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

Dear Planning Department:

I've just heard of a plan by Kiewit Construction Company to mine big boulders from a site near the Rockport Cascade Road.

I am very concerned.

As I understand it, the company plans to log ninety acres and remove all the vegetation, then commence blasting the mountain to obtain the large boulders which will then be loaded onto big trucks to be hauled to use for jetties along the west coast.

There are many factors about this proposal which concern me. Here are a few which come to mind:

1. Increased traffic along Rockport Cascade Road, SR 530, and SR 20.
2. Disturbing the peace due to the noise of blasting
3. Disturbing the wildlife in the vicinity
4. Pollution of the water flowing into Illabit Creek, Jordan Creek and Skagit River.
5. Loss of tourism due to the impact of the project.
6. Danger due to the big trucks traveling to and from the site.
7. Impacting our roads and highways

Thank you for representing my concerns.

Sincerely yours,

John C Bromet

Comments on PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

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SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

Full Name: Andrea Weiser

[REDACTED] Marblemount, WA 98267

[REDACTED]

Proposal Name or Permit Number: PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

To: Skagit County Planning Office pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us
Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon WA 98273

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I have reviewed the project proposal and supporting documents for expansion of the Kiewet infrastructure for rock quarrying and mining in Marblemount 59252 Rockport-Cascade Road, Skagit County, within a portion of Section 24, Township 35 North, Range 10 East, Skagit County, WA (Parcels P45543, P45541, P45548, P45552, P45550, P45548, P128574, & P120304). The associated permits are PL19-0032 and PL19-0033, PL19-0046, and BP 19-0070.

I am deeply concerned with this proposal because even without a fuller understanding of overall reach or longevity of impacts (i.e., through an EIS), this is clearly an inappropriate location for such dramatic direct and indirect impacts to the health of people, animals and fish, health of the natural environment, and the overall aesthetics and quality of life for all those who live in or travel to this project vicinity.

This proposal is in a location within close proximity to a wild and scenic river in one of the largest annual migration areas for bald eagles in the country in a river system where federal, state and tribal agencies, and non-profit groups work in coordination and have spent millions of dollars to enhance and protect and educate the public about salmon and wildlife habitats and environmental health. This project is located at the gateway to U.S. National Park and U.S. National Forest wild and wilderness areas where visitors from all over the world come to enjoy the scenery and recreation opportunities in a rural, remote, mountainous non-industrial setting. Several things about the proposed project are diametrically opposed to these values and would undermine the progress that has been made over the last several decades to promote recovery from resource exploitation and extraction and cooperation and collaboration between groups toward a common goal.

This quarry expansion project is counter to the mission of the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) which, is a small state agency that manages millions of dollars in grant programs each year to "create outdoor recreation opportunities, protect the best of the state's wildlife habitat and farmland, and help return salmon from near extinction(www.RCO.wa.gov)." The habitat and recreation opportunities in the Skagit River system is a key part of their programs. They collaborate with partners and tribal communities annually with a focus toward restoration. The project proposal and

Comments on PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

potential effects of the quarry project in this location is the direct opposite of RCO mission and the organizations it supports: i.e., Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB); Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB); Invasive Species Council Governor's Salmon Recovery Office; Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group."

People visit and live in Marblemount because of the low population density, abundant fish and wildlife, clarity of the air and water and beauty of the landscape. Not only would the proposed project disturb the peaceful beauty of the landscape, it would leave a lasting visible scar on the geography and a series of invisible scars that may take decades to recognize or understand.

The studies that are submitted with the project proposal so far only serve to highlight the great gaps in understanding of the lasting and overall impacts of such a proposal. Yet comparison to other areas of and projects of similar scope and scale make it clear that the costs and risks to the surrounding community and environment would be far greater than the benefit.

Noise

Perhaps the most obvious immediate and lasting negative impact over the broadest reach would be sound. From my home in Marblemount, I can already hear a chainsaw from over a mile away and rocky ridges reflect that sound like a speaker to the rest of the community. It's difficult for me to fathom the noise and vibration impact of blasting for constructing over a mile-long stretch of road, chainsaw and heavy equipment noise for timber harvest of 2.7 million board feet over 90 acres and the truck traffic to transport all that timber. Removal of 3.8 cubic meters of quarry rock and transporting it could involve up to 250 truck trips per day, at three minute intervals, six days per week for 12-hour days. Add to this level of noise disturbance a rock crushing operation, oversized trucks carrying rock pieces large enough to use for jetties, and gas and diesel re-supply trucks large enough to fill and refill storage tanks for 13,000 gallons of diesel fuel and 1,500 gallons of gasoline. There is no way to adequately mitigate for this sustained level of sound and traffic for the people living directly downslope or across the road from these proposed operations such as the residential homes along Cascade River Road. And the noise would be projected by the rock faces being demolished and would carry across the valley, across the river and be heard by people specifically in Marblemount for the quiet camping and recreating experiences. Tourism is an important part of the economy and the National Park Service and Forest Service have built their programs to support it.

Environmental Health & Water Quality

Transport, storage, and resupply of diesel and gas leave the area at risk for spillage of toxic materials which can cause local soil contamination and far reaching contamination through water transport. The proposed work is on a rocky site in an area that receives an average rainfall of roughly 70-80 inches per year. This is a setup for slope runoff conditions compounded by the proposed timber harvest that would put fish-bearing streams and the Skagit River system at risk for contamination.

Comments on PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

Traffic

Traffic increases from the transportation of timber, rock, gravel, and diesel and gas would cause a huge negative impact to the surrounding community(ies) for traffic safety and road maintenance due to the heavy loads. Currently the Cascade River Road is a favored route for bicyclists, motorcyclists, runners and fishermen in addition to the local commuter traffic you might expect in a rural community. It is a quiet road with not much traffic and a narrow shoulder. This dramatic shift in usage would cause a safety hazard for anyone wanting to run or ride a bike and the large and oversized trucks used to transport extracted materials would cause bottleneck areas for motorists and increase hazards such as flying gravel or debris from truck wheels.

Environmental Considerations

Though the SEPA checklist and Biological Assessment touches on several of my other concerns, the scope of study so far has been either inadequate to address them or already made it clear to me that this proposed project is not suitable for the location it is proposed within.

Comprehensive Plan and State Constitution

The proposed activities to expand the rock quarry infrastructure and operation are in direct opposition to the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan. Relevant sections regarding property rights include, and I quote:

Skagit County, in exercising its land use regulatory authority to protect the public health, safety and general welfare (Article XI Section 11 of the State Constitution), must respect private property rights by not exceeding the constitutional limits on its authority. Planning, land use regulations and zoning protect individual and community rights in the following ways:

- *by avoiding nuisances through ensuring against incompatible neighboring land uses;*
- *by balancing public and private responsibilities that may have conflicting interests;*
- *by providing predictability that enhances the value of private property;*
- *by protecting and conserving the natural resources that provide us with clean air and water;*
- *by protecting our heritage by preserving both natural and man-made resources, and scenic and cultural areas that generate civic pride;*
- *by assuring that each generation has responsibilities as a trustee of the environment for future generations;*
- *by attaining the widest range of land uses without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences; and*
- *by recognizing that each person has a fundamental and inalienable right to a healthful environment and that each person has a responsibility to contribute to the protection and enhancement of the environment;*
- *by recognizing existing non-conforming land uses and the development rights associated with them.*

Comments on PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

Cultural Resources

A more expansive and intensive study is needed to establish how many cultural resources lie within the project footprint and how those and other known cultural resources outside of the footprint would be affected by the proposed activities. Due diligence for search/discovery of cultural resources has not been met nor is it adequate to address long-term indirect effects of the project. The project came to my attention because I'm a local resident of Marblemount and would feel, hear, and see the dramatic effects of such a project. I also have particular expertise relevant to reviewing the cultural resources investigation for the project as a professional archaeologist recognized by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) and the Secretary of Interior for my professional qualifications, which include a Masters degree in archaeology and over 25 years of experience, most of that in the surrounding area in Washington. I have reviewed dozens of such reports in Washington in recent years across several counties and conducted many archaeological investigations myself so I am well aware of the guidelines set forth by the DAHP as well as best management practices and common styles of investigation that are conducted in the region. For an area of medium to high probability for archaeological discovery such as this, a low level interval of investigation would be 5 shovel tests per acre which would equate to 600 shovel probes for this 150-acre project. Archaeological survey is typically tailored to the topography and conditions in a project area and the research design should show an appropriate coverage of the area to meet due diligence. In an area like this that includes a lot of rocky terrain, the number of shovel probes would be reduced but the amount of pedestrian survey transects would be increased due to the potential for rock art, rock shelters, toolstone outcrops, cairns and other features that may be related to hunting, ceremony or other activities.

Another consideration is that level of effort should match the scope of proposed disturbance of a project. The Cultural Resources Report submitted for this project is grossly inadequate to meet the scope of the proposed project. A survey conducted in two partial days by three people and only 9 shovel tests to cover a 150-acre project area, much of which would be demolished by rock extraction and road building if the project moves forward, is an inappropriately small level of investigation. I question why the archaeologists did not continue their survey to cover a greater area or find additional areas within the 150 acres for more intensive investigation. It is not clear from their report how much of the area they actually surveyed. Since the scope of the project is to remove most of the rock within the project footprint, the scope of impact is much greater than the scope an archaeological survey could achieve in two days of work.

Further, the authors mention nearby archaeological sites as general context but fail to make a connection between the area of the proposed project and nearby cultural resources deeply important to the Sauk-Suiattle, Swinomish, and Upper Skagit Tribes. Distance in mileage is not the best measure of the connectivity of a landscape and river system to cultural importance in the precontact period. Nearby villages contain archaeological evidence showing thousands of years of use, and human remains in other nearby locations represent two types of cultural resources that are important to consider and serve to heighten the probability of finding archaeological sites in the

Comments on PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

surrounding terrain. Broad "home base" areas that indigenous people accessed for different activities surrounded villages (perhaps several miles accessible on foot and even greater distances easily accessible by canoe). Ethnographic documents suggest a high probability for spiritual/ceremonial practices in places like highpoint rock promontories close to villages such as the proposed project area. Other precontact (prehistoric) types of activities that could be expected within the project include hunting, camping, plant collecting, acquiring stone suitable for making tools and for special ceremonies. Rock shelters, culturally-modified trees and significant trails are also possible within the project footprint. Ridge tops and ridge saddles are some of the highest probability landforms for finding archaeological sites as is demonstrated by hundreds of archaeological sites recorded and studied throughout the North Cascades. This project includes a ridge crest with close proximity and access to the Skagit River, and nearby villages could have easily been accessed by trail and then a short canoe ride.

These cultural areas are important to the tribes as evidence of their history and some for modern-day visitation to these places. It appears that the authors of the cultural resources survey did review archaeological and ethnographic expectations, but didn't design their strategy of investigation to adequately search for them.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to comment and thank you for considering the many additional ways that this proposal threatens quality of life and health of the community and environment now and in the very distant future.

Sincerely,



Andrea L. Weiser

Marblemount, WA 98267

--

Andrea Weiser, M.A.
Earth Logic,
Archaeological Consulting

Re: Marblemount Quarry
PL 19-0033, 0046, 0072 BP 19-0070

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MAR 29 2019

March 25, 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

Dear Planning Department of Skagit County,

I am deeply worried about the proposal to mine large quarry rock in Marblemount and have trucks of stone running on highway 20. It is already a busy and often dangerous road, I can't imagine how many people and animals will be harmed by these trucks.

Many people come to visit this beautiful area to fish and see eagles. This plan with all the noise, and runoff, and traffic will be bad for the fish, eagles + visitors.

Please do not let it happen. I just missed a very dangerous accident with a logging truck and I really am afraid of 75 rock trucks a day!

Thank you for your help,

Terry Leishman

[REDACTED]
Rockport, WA
[REDACTED]

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SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS



Skagit River System Cooperative

11426 Moorage Way • P.O. Box 368 LaConner, WA 98257-0368
Phone: 360-466-7228 • Fax: 360-466-4047 • www.skagitcoop.org

March 27th, 2019

Mr John Cooper
Skagit County Planning & Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mt Vernon, WA 98273

Re: Kiewit quarry in Marblemount

Dear John:

The Skagit River System Cooperative (SRSC) has concerns with the proposed quarry expansion proposed by Kiewit Infrastructure for an existing quarry near Marblemount (PL19-0032, PL19-0033, PL19-0047, PL19-0070). As you are aware, SRSC represents the fisheries and natural resources interests of the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community and Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, both of which are federally recognized tribes and signatories to the Point Elliott Treaty. The natural habitats surrounding the Kiewit quarry site are important resources that deserve protection, however we feel that the quarry expansion project will have some unnecessary and unmitigated adverse impacts to those resources, which we seek with this letter to avoid and minimize.

First of all, we are requesting an extension of the public comment period under SEPA. Given the large number of documents to review, the length and complexity of those reports, and the unavailability of some documents until late in the review period, SRSC has not been able to complete more than a superficial review in the time allotted.

Secondly, SRSC feels that a Determination of Significance is warranted under WAC 197-11-330 and that an Environmental Impact Statement should be required. This proposal will have a significant impact on the local environment, particularly due to the local context. The absolute quantitative effects (the amount of rock removed, the number of truck trips, etc.) would be large regardless of context. But whereas a similar development in an industrialized region might be considered less disruptive, the introduction of such immense changes in activity, noise, and the landscape itself will be highly significant in what is now a tranquil corner in a remote part of the County. And this change in activity may last for decades. Several aspects of this project—noise, traffic, visuals, blasting, clearing, etc. — may not individually trigger an EIS, but combined they constitute a significant environmental impact that should be examined together in an EIS.

As the County is aware, SRSC's primary interest is in fisheries and fish habitat protection. Although we understand that the streams that traverse the site are not now fish

bearing, we are not blind to the possibility that changes in drainage patterns resulting from re-sculping the quarry landscape could concentrate and direct flow in the future. In anticipation of that outcome we think it prudent, and in the context of SEPA it would avoid or minimize potential environmental impacts, if the road proposed for the site did not include two unnecessary stream crossings (on "Watercourse B" in the critical areas assessment, Figure 4). If the "switchback" in the proposed road were moved further north then the two stream crossings and associated riparian impacts could be completely avoided. Culvert crossings on steep, forest roads concentrate flow, provide potential blockages, require regular maintenance, and are disproportionately responsible for debris flows. Debris flows are catastrophic for stream ecosystems, whether those streams are fish bearing or not. We strongly encourage the mitigative step of re-aligning the quarry logging and access road to avoid the mapped streams entirely, instead of putting the switchback on the south side of the stream.

In summary, the Kiewit Marblemount quarry will have several impacts which are not the direct concern of SRSC (wildlife, cultural resources) but may be concerns for the tribes we represent (and for which those member tribes will submit their own letters). We believe that our principal fisheries concern can be avoided or mitigated. Nevertheless, we think that the SEPA comment period should be extended so that we and others can make a more thorough examination of the potential impacts, and that ultimately those impacts should be examined together and cumulatively in an EIS.

As always, SRSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on this proposal, and we look forward continuing our interaction with the County on this and other matters. If you have any questions about our comments, or if there is anything that we can provide, please don't hesitate to contact me at (360) 391-4194 or thyatt@skagitcoop.org

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Hyatt", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tim Hyatt
Skagit River System Cooperative

cc:

Jason Joseph SSIT
Amy Trainer SITC



Upper Skagit Indian Tribe
25944 Community Plaza Way,
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284
Phone (360) 854-7090 Fax (360) 854-7042

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SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

March 25, 2019

John Cooper, Planner/Geologist
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 336-9410

RE: Kiewit Infrastructure Co., LLC, File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

Dear Mr. Cooper:

The federally recognized Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, signatory to the 1855 Treaty of Point Elliot with the United States, submits the following comments in opposition to the proposed expansion of the Kiewit Infrastructure Co., LLC quarry near Marblemount, on the Skagit River.

The proposed project in its entirety is located within the historical use and occupation area of the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe (hereafter "Tribe") and in fact is within visual distance of recorded archaeological and cultural sites connected to the Tribe. This area of the Skagit was home to a major historical fishing village for our people for thousands of years, which is supported by decades of documented anthropological and archeological research. The Tribe wishes that our remaining ancestor's burial sites in the area are not subject to this type of disturbance. The proposed project would have direct and broader indirect negative impacts to important cultural and natural resources that are highly valued by the Tribe. This culturally sensitive locale is not appropriate for this type and scale of project.

Currently, the Tribe's treaty rights are severely diminished through land use practices like logging, road building and mining. The extent of the diminishment that would be caused by the proposed quarry expansion is unknown. The filed Biological Assessment and Cultural Resource review documents are not adequate to address the scope and potential of the project to directly and cumulatively impact treaty rights, and does not address cultural impacts to the Tribe. The Tribe believes that the only way to gain a comprehensive understanding of the scope of impacts to natural resources and treaty rights is to require an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) and a more thorough cultural resources study.

For instance, the proposed 100-year permit would allow an exceedingly long duration over which visual and ecosystem impacts could occur. At minimum, the permit should require in-

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SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

Dear Mr. Hart

I'm writing to express my objection to the proposed Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemont.

I don't believe there is any tangible benefit to the upper Skagit community nor the people living in the immediate area.

The environmental impact will be great and the risks are too high. This plan would be unlikely to produce a single local job and appears to only enrich an international mining corporation.

Our land resources and our river must be protected. Please do not allow Kiewit to exploit these resources for their sole gain. Our beautiful valley will suffer if this is the direction we go. Don't sell out Skagit County to the multi-national corporations!

Thank you,
Sandra Hamilton

John Cooper

From: Mark Malone [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:20 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: comment on Kiewit project

Hello Mr. Cooper,

I just submitted this comment below using the County form, but was encouraged by some of my neighbors to also email you directly.

Thanks,
Mark Malone
Marblemount

Dear Mr. Cooper,

I was distressed to learn last week of the proposal to greatly expand the scope of operations of the quarry on Rockport-Cascade Road. My wife and I spend the majority of our time at our home just north of Marblemount, at [REDACTED]. And we're greatly looking forward to living here full-time as of March 2021. Like most of our neighbors, what brought us to Marblemount is the extraordinary quiet, natural beauty, and environmental attributes of this area, the gateway to North Cascades National Park. The proposed industrial quarry operations, as described in Kiewit's paperwork, imperil these qualities.

The impacts are many, but as I've studied the proposal, my immediate concern is the noise that will be generated by the project. Mining, crushing, and transport operations are scheduled to run 12 hours/day, for six days/week, generating 260 vehicle trips/day. 150 of those daily vehicle trips will be heavy trucks. During the road building phase, six blasting operations/day are planned, and then two/day for the life of the mining operation. This level of industrial mining activity is incompatible with a community whose economy depends very much on tourism. Those businesses that serve people traveling to the North Cascades will wither.

The project plainly violates the spirit of the County Comprehensive Plan. Please see the bulleted points in the "Respect Property Rights" section. If Kiewit's plan goes forward, then anyone who lives within a couple miles of this operation will surely feel that the County did NOT "ensure against incompatible neighboring land uses."

Our home is a quarter mile from the Skagit River. From our porch, we can often hear the river flowing. That's the quality of quiet we have out here. Sure, we hear some traffic during the summer, some gunfire, chainsaws, etc. We occasionally hear rock-crushing from a small gravel operation southeast of our place, across the river. But the activity that Kiewit is proposing is of an entirely different level--industrial and constant. It's wholly incompatible with the nature of our community here in Marblemount.

I urge the county to reject Kiewit's proposal.

Thanks for reading,
Mark Malone

John Cooper

From: JV [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2019 4:48 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Marblemount Quarry Permit Posting (revised completed version)

(Sorry John, last revision, sitting by the river tapping on my phone is not the best way to comment I suppose)

Hey John, one of the biggest gripes and a significant source of confusion for people accessing the application posting on your department's site is the first sentence of the description "Kiewit infrastructure proposes to expand the existing 20 acre quarry to an approximately 79 acre operation".

After getting into the application materials as well as the existing quarry permit file the general reaction is something like "how can the county call this an expansion? This is completely new and completely different." I agree.

I think that Kiewit came up with this description in attempt to frame their request as reasonable and just an incremental extension of an already permitted use. We know that this is not true. I think that this is a strategy on Kiewit's part to mislead and throw people off. Kind of a "don't look here, there is nothing to see" approach.

After working through this with many people and groups we would describe the similarities of the existing quarry to the proposed quarry as "the existing talus quarry is small, strictly ground level, at or beyond its permitted area, entirely depleted, and completely inactive. Kiewit's application is for a quarry in a new unpermitted location on the property, with access and operations requiring purchase and incorporation of additional unpermitted properties, requiring construction of an over one mile road to reach the top of the 700 foot mountain, clear cutting of 600 acres to fund the new road, removal with high explosives of a different type of standing material, all new and expansive quarrying infrastructure, logistics and methods, exponentially larger scale of operation and amount of material to be extracted, exponentially larger on-road and off-road trucking volumes, and correspondingly, an exponentially larger impact on all the residences, businesses, waterways, wildlife, and all the unique attractions that have made this valley famous and beloved since the permitting of the tiny and now inactive quarry in 1976".

Or to put it another way, there are no similarities.

For this reason we feel that the county (or Kiewit) needs to fix the completely erroneous and misleading description on their website to reflect the true nature of this application as a part of the reposting so as not to mislead or misinform the Citizens or elected officials of Skagit County.

Thanks

John Cooper

From: Anthony McColl [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:39 PM
To: PDS comments
Cc: John Cooper
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Good Afternoon,

Concerning: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

I believe that the Quarry will have a negative impact on our community and safety. There could be 75 to 150 haul truck trips to and from the site. How will this affect traffic in our area? How will it affect traffic and tourism along Hwy 20 to I-5? Also, with more traffic, who will enforce speed and safety along this rural road? We have school buses serving children within close proximity of the quarry 4 times a day.

Increased traffic will no doubt have an impact on our roads. Kiewit has no plan for maintaining or repairing damage to the road. The traffic will not just affect Rockport Cascade Road. It will also affect Concrete, Lyman, Hamilton, and Sedro Woolley. The trucks will likely take Cook Road to get to I-5.

Rockport Cascade Road is a popular place for local cyclists, joggers, and walkers. I'm concerned about our safety as increased traffic along this road exposes us to a higher risk of accidents. Since Rockport Cascade Road is chipsealed it has different weight limitations. Have any studies been done on the weight limit in regards to the trucks.

There are several people within close proximity to the quarry site that have vulnerable health conditions; we have multiple families with small children, there are two young children with Down syndrome within a mile of the quarry (one has a heart condition, stimulus noise sensitivity, and breathing issues), individuals fighting cancer, someone with MS, Seniors, and Veterans (many of whom have been traumatized by explosions while serving our country).

Sincerely,

Anthony McColl

[REDACTED] Marblemount WA

John Cooper

From: Mackenzie McColl [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:34 PM
To: PDS comments
Cc: John Cooper
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Good Afternoon,

I'm very concerned about the Quarry proposed by Kiewit Infrastructure.

The application materials state that mining will be conducted from 6am to 6pm, but that doesn't mean that all noise coming from the quarry will end at 6pm. Equipment Operation could continue until 12am. They also say that operations may be conducted outside business hours but they will be limited and in short-time duration. How can we enforce this? What can we expect when they say operations outside of business hours will be during "limited, short-duration time periods"? What protection/resources do we have if operations are conducted on a more frequent level outside of business hours? Technically, the quarry can be in operation for 24 hours – mining can be conducted all day and then equipment operations will continue throughout the night as the trucks are loaded, not to mention the generators that will be used since the site has no power.

Also, the application materials only mention the total truck loads and are unclear about the total vehicle traffic that will be generated by the quarry. Are the noise level assessments based only on the 75 loads per day? Also, do the noise level assessments take into consideration the use of compression release engine breaks? We are in a quiet area. In urban areas, the noise of trucking, mining and blasting horns might be easy to ignore (or be drowned out by other noises), but we live in a very quiet community. You can hear when your neighbor is cutting down a tree.

I also don't think the trucks will be as quiet as the report indicates. A coal company in the Northeast lists their trucks as running at 115 decibels while Kiewit shows that theirs will run at 45. This doesn't really make sense.

We have small children in the area. I'm concerned about their water being contaminated by the fuel and blasting chemicals. We have no water utility in the nearby homes. Instead, we rely on relatively shallow wells. If there is contamination, what do we do? Is there a plan in place? Kiewit is requesting a 100 year permit. Do they have a way to keep our water safe for the next 100 years? How about the Skagit River?

Sincerely,

Mackenzie McColl

[REDACTED] Marblemount WA

John Cooper

From: Christina Mccall [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:32 PM
To: PDS comments
Cc: John Cooper
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Good Afternoon,

I'm concerned about the geological impact of the Quarry.

How will the mining and blasting affect the hills around us? Can we expect another Oso? We just had the anniversary of the Oso landslide and I'm concerned of the impact the blasting/mining operations will have on our land. It's scary to think of another event like the Oso mudslide happening near my family. I looked though the material provided and according to their own data, the quarry is located on a Landslide Hazard Critical Area, a Seismic Hazard Critical Area, and an Erosion Hazard Critical Area. Their reports say that "Rockfall hazards could be encountered during the road building and quarrying activities as well as potentially occurring intermittently without obvious triggers", and that, "Seismic Hazards Seismic activity is likely to occur in the vicinity of the subject area in the future. The magnitude of seismicity may range for small, imperceptible events to significant ground motion for larger magnitude events. During significant ground motion, rockfall and other landsliding may result as well as potential liquefaction of saturated soils". Furthermore, the report says that a, "Potential risk to the public may exist from rockfall hazard occurrence". The report also says that, "Rockfall occurrence will be greatest during the road construction" and that "The geotechnical analysis cannot be completed until the access road is complete to allow for the investigation". Since the geotechnical analysis has not been completed, we don't know the true scope of how dangerous the quarry will be or what we can expect. I am very concerned about my family's safety as well as the safety of everyone in my community. We are located within two miles of the Quarry. The nearest family is located within 600 ft.

It's also scary to think that there is a potential for water contamination. The report says that the groundwater is 28 ft. below the quarry with access to the Skagit River. This home is my children's legacy and part of our family's story. How do I know that it be safe? Kiewit wants to mine for the next 100 years. Our families will be here after they are gone. How will they ensure that there will not be a spill or pollution from their operations? How will they leave the site after they are gone? Are there plans or finances put in place to restore the land or clean up any pollution?

Christina McColl
[REDACTED] Marblemount WA

John Cooper

From: George [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:26 PM
To: PDS comments
Cc: John Cooper
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Good Afternoon,

Concerning the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

I'm concerned about the levels of noise and vibration pollution. Kiewit says that vibrations will not affect local residences because there are no local residences within 50ft and that their vibration levels (from the mining and their trucks) are within a category 2 Residential construction criteria (nothing above 80 Vbd). The closest residence is within 600 ft. and there are 30 residences within ¾ mile. Vbd decrease at a rate of 6 Vbd per doubling distance. If we can experience a Vbd of 80 within 50 ft., then it would stand within reason that we would experience 56 Vbd within 800 ft. If the average urban neighborhood is at a level of 50 to 70 Vbd, I'm confused why the report submitted by Kiewit states that there will be no impact to residences outside of the 50 ft. radius.

In Marblemount, you can hear the sound of someone shooting a gun 2 miles away because of the way the sound echoes off of the valley. How will the sound of a mining operation be different? I'm concerned because the noise pollution from the mining operation will be 12 – 24 hours per day, 6 days a week and the closest residence is within 600 ft. The sounds of blasting, mining activity and traffic noise will negatively impact our community. Our community is made up of elderly, young families, veterans, and multi-generational families. These groups are sensitive to these types of sounds.

As property owners, we are concerned about the way the quarry will negatively impact our property values. No one will want to buy a house within two miles of a quarry.

George A McColl
[REDACTED] Marblemount WA

John Cooper

From: George [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:25 PM
To: PDS comments
Cc: John Cooper
Subject: Stop Marblemount Quarry

Good Afternoon,

Concerning the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

I'm concerned about the levels of noise and vibration pollution. Kiewit says that vibrations will not affect local residences because there are no local residences within 50ft and that their vibration levels (from the mining and their trucks) are within a category 2 Residential construction criteria (nothing above 80 Vbd). The closest residence is within 600 ft. and there are 30 residences within ¾ mile. Vbd decrease at a rate of 6 Vbd per doubling distance. If we can experience a Vbd of 80 within 50 ft., then it would stand within reason that we would experience 56 Vbd within 800 ft. If the average urban neighborhood is at a level of 50 to 70 Vbd, I'm confused why the report submitted by Kiewit states that there will be no impact to residences outside of the 50 ft. radius.

In Marblemount, you can hear the sound of someone shooting a gun 2 miles away because of the way the sound echoes off of the valley. How will the sound of a mining operation be different? I'm concerned because the noise pollution from the mining operation will be 12 – 24 hours per day, 6 days a week and the closest residence is within 600 ft. The sounds of blasting, mining activity and traffic noise will negatively impact our community. Our community is made up of elderly, young families, veterans, and multi-generational families. These groups are sensitive to these types of sounds.

As property owners, we are concerned about the way the quarry will negatively impact our property values. No one will want to buy a house within two miles of a quarry.

George A McColl
[REDACTED] Marblemount WA

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Becky & Gregg Snyder
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry/ operation near Marblemount

Comments : Hello, I'm writing with concerns over the mining that is planned to remove Big Bear Mt. directly across the road from us.

Besides all the environmental and wildlife issues that come into question, I'm also concerned about my husband. He has brain cancer. I don't work in order to take care of him. We live on a very tight fixed income. We can't afford to move and we definitely don't want our property values to be ruined, this is all we have. Most of our neighbors are retired as well, that's why we're here, to enjoy what time we have left and maybe leave a little piece of this Heavenly place to our kids.

I hope and pray you will hear our voices and reconsider allowing a big corporate business into this fragile scenic area of our county.

Thank you for your time,
Gregg & Becky Snyder

From Host Address: 174.216.25.93

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:07:09 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Becky & Gregg Snyder
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry/ operation near Marblemount

Comments : Hello, I'm writing with concerns over the mining that is planned to remove Big Bear Mt. In Marblemount directly across the road from us.

Besides all the environmental and wildlife issues that come into question, I'm also concerned about my husband. He has brain cancer. I don't work in order to take care for him. We live on a very tight fixed income. We can't afford to move and we definitely don't want our property values to be ruined, this is all we have. Most of our neighbors are retired as well, that's why we're here, to enjoy what time we have left and maybe leave a little piece of this Heavenly place to our kids.

I hope and pray you will hear our voices and reconsider allowing a big corporate business into this fragile scenic area of our county.

Thank you for your time,
Gregg & Becky Snyder

From Host Address: 174.216.25.93

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:05:19 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Becky & Gregg Snyder
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry/ operation near Marblemount

Comments : Hello, I'm writing with concerns over the mining that is planned to remove Big Bear Mt. In Marblemount directly across the road from us.

Besides all the environmental and wildlife issues that come into question, I'm also concerned about my husband. He has brain cancer. I don't work in order to take care for him. We live on a very tight fixed income. We can't afford to move and we definitely don't want our property values to be ruined, this is all we have. Most of our neighbors are retired as well, that's why we're here, to enjoy what time we have left and maybe leave a little piece of this Heavenly place to our kids.

I hope and pray you will hear our voices and reconsider allowing a big corporate business into this fragile scenic area of our county.

Thank you for your time,
Gregg & Becky Snyder

From Host Address: 174.216.25.93

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:05:19 PM

John Cooper

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:16 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Kiewit and MPOA Association

Hello John Cooper,

I was unable to use the comments page today.

Please include the MPOA as an interested party to receive information about PL 19-0033 Kiewit Infrastructure project

Marblegate Property Owners Association [REDACTED]
Marblemount, Wa 98267

I am Karen Davis president of the MPOA

My personal email is [REDACTED]

Thank you

Karen Davis
Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

John Cooper

From: Dwight Washburn [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:09 PM
To: John Cooper
Cc: Dwight Washburn
Subject: File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070& PL19-0032

Dwight Washburn
[REDACTED]
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

re: File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070& PL19-0032

Public Comments

I am concerned about the water being used for this project. As one of many Skagit County residents, I have lost my water rights on two build-able lots that was subdivided in the mid-1980. I lost over \$250,000 with the loss of water rights. No one should be able to get new water until the water rights are restored to all residents. Wealth and the ability to purchase water rights cannot be allowed over the rights of other property owners.

To mitigate this, all water used on these sites must be trucked in from outside the Skagit River Watershed.

Dwight Washburn

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Carson Yach
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Marblemount Rock quarry

Comments : This whole proposal is rediculous. With it's placement near the community of Marblemount, especially close to local homes and property, close to the national Park and reflection of potential large scale problem such as the Oso landslide this project is totally rediculous and troubling. Please respect this community and do not go forward with this project! We enjoy the Cascades with out massive logging and a giant quarry.

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:00:05 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Emily Bedker
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I strongly oppose this project for multiple reasons. I believe that this project would create significant noise pollution, put strain on an already stretched rural emergency response team, harm wildlife populations on the border of the National Park, and endanger the water quality of the Wild & Scenic Skagit River. These are only a few of the many central reasons to oppose this project that is guaranteed to harm the Marblemount community, a community of people who love and live close to the land.

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:58:28 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Erin Meyer
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I am writing to OPPOSE the county granting a permit to this project. The future of the Upper Skagit is in tourism, not in large scale resource extraction. The scale of this project is entirely inappropriate for this area, and people who live and work in this area are opposed to it. We are asking that the comment period be extended for this project so that more people who live and work in this community can collect their thoughts and have a say. Thank you.

From Host Address: 72.106.54.31

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:00:30 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Susan J Woods
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro Woolley
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Peter Kiewet quarry permit Moarblmount

Comments : Kiewet and/owner of the proposed quarry property have the right to log and mine their property. Concurrently, they have the responsibility to respect the property rights, lifeways and safety of other people affected by the project.

The projected methods of developing and running the quarry will amount to an unjust taking of property values, degradation of the rural lifestyle residents have lived for generations, possible damage to runoff into the Skagit River drainage and threatening traffic safety. Truck traffic on roads where children and school buses often are is extremely dangerous because a loaded rock can't stop easily. Residents use the rural roads for recreation and tourism. Jobs are scarce upriver and the tourism is important employment. The Skagit River is still hanging on to all 5 salmon species. The mineral content of the exposed quarry is unknown. As in Burlington hill, there could be arsenic or other toxic minerals. Clear cutting of 600 acres will increase sediment runoff. Water Wells could be contaminated. Elk are a problem in the upper Valley because they damage farm crops and residential gardens and yards. Elk will be displaced and then go elsewhere to do damage.

An EIS is greatly needed to understand what the risks are to the area around the quarry to come up with a respectful plan to mitigate risk to all the above mentioned responsibilities. The developers do not have the right to take away value of property, affect safety or jeopardize jobs.

The County also has the charge and responsibility to require the enforce its own standards and protect public safety.

Please require an EIS that includes a long term plan for this development that is fair and respectful of the rights of those who will be impacted.

From Host Address: 174.216.23.146

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:17:14 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Careisa whitford
[REDACTED]

City : rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit infrastructure quarry operations near marblemount.
Comments : I oppose a quarry in marblemount

From Host Address: 174.216.1.199

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:18:22 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jim and Harlyn Meyer
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro Woolley
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : We OPPOSE this proposal. The industrial scale and potential negative impacts of this project make it an inappropriate land use so close to the Wild and Scenic Skagit River with its many tourist oriented activities and businesses. The economic future of the Upper Skagit community lays with tourism and small scale resource use, NOT with large scale resource extraction.

From Host Address: 104.235.176.32

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:24:13 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ross Hudson
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle

State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : The noise studies are basically flawed. Comparing noise impacts to levels acceptable in urban area or that will cause hearing damage ignores that this is a rural environment. Non naturally occurring noise is usually only from a very small volume of cars, an occasional barking dog and seasonal firewood cutting. The vehicular traffic is extremely light in this rural area. The value of land in this area is in a large part, the quiet rural atmosphere and natural surroundings.

The management plan, such as it is, is also flawed. I understand a gravel quarry operation is planned. My understanding is that a past quarry operation request was denied, in part due to noise and dust issues. The 20 foot sound buffer does not address that most operations quarry operations are at a far higher elevation. It also does not address that surface operation noise will be reflected off of the adjacent bare cliff surfaces.

Noise from truck back up alarms are excluded from mitigation. However with the potential of 150 high decibel alarms per day (1 per arrival, 1 per departure) is about 15-18 and hour. That's about one alarm every 4 minutes all day, and potentially 24/7 in critical supply periods.

Blasting, cat work, rock loading, truck arrival and departures, crusher operations and gravel loading, small rock relocation to specific storage areas and general operations must be considered in their entirety, not singled out individually one at a time.

The noise impact on livability and importantly, land valuations along the entire sound corridor must be considered. Who would purchase land within the quarry operation noise polluted zone? The decrease in land/residence value needs to be factored in as an impact.

From Host Address: 73.181.161.72

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:27:00 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kathleen West, PhD
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle

State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Permit PL19-0033 Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Comments : I am writing to strongly oppose the plan to greatly expand mining activity in the quarry on Rockport Cascade Rd in Marblemount, WA.

Individually, as a resident of Washington, I gain enjoyment from the natural environment in Skagit County, including the land, trees, birds, and other components of the ecosystem that would be at risk should these plans go forward. I value places of tranquility and nature within a short driving distance from the population center of Seattle, and having a place to teach my children about the ecological importance as well as health benefits derived from such preserved spaces. The proposed plans have far-reaching effects, not limited to those who live near the quarry site.

But more importantly, as a Public Health professional whose focus is on ethical community engagement around issues affecting the public's health, I worry about the impact of this operation on the surrounding community. The residents that I personally know and care about are deeply concerned about what this means for their small children's wellness—some of whom have serious existing health conditions that could be exacerbated by the increased activity—including exposure to air and noise pollution, disturbances to their peaceful environment that they sought when they chose to invest in the Marblemount community.

I urge those with the power to approve or deny this plan to 1) arrange for a thorough environmental impact study, and 2) take on a more involved community engagement process; to take seriously the residents' concerns, and work in partnership to come up with a plan that meets the community's needs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathleen West, PhD

From Host Address: 97.126.6.62

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:30:43 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Shawn Crowley
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I have owned property in Marblemount since 1991, approximately 3/4 mile from the proposed project. This proposal should be treated as an entirely new operation and not as an extension of the existing quarry. I have been told that the existing quarry did crush some talus for a brief time in the past 30 years but that there never has been blasting or mining of rock. The proposed operation is on a scale unrelated to past use.

The Kiewit documents fail to specify the amounts of hazardous material to be used. They fail to do any analysis of the consequences of spills either short term or cumulative impacts over the project's life. Fuel oil and ammonium nitrate would be injurious to shallow wells used by residents and to the Skagit river and it's wildlife. It is not enough to simply invoke "best practices."

The analysis of wildlife impact is cursory and inadequate. An engineer's 25 year old recall about noise and its effects on urban zoo animals should not be given any weight. The on-site biological analysis notes the absence of amphibian egg masses in the area's water courses. This observation was done on one day in November. Not surprising given that no Washington State amphibians would be breeding in November. It's a small point but indicative of a superficial analysis.

This project would be detrimental to residents. The expected traffic would be detrimental to tourism and those who depend upon tourist dollars. It would place one of the last relatively unspoiled salmon rivers at risk. The possible return to Skagit County is very small. This project should not be allowed to go forward in its present form or perhaps in any form.

From Host Address: 67.161.82.75

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:48:23 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jessica Pegg
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry

Comments : As someone who has friends and family living in the area, I am concerned about the increased truck traffic on an already dangerous highway. I am also concerned about the ecological impacts of a quarry that size so close to a chinook salmon bearing river. We really can't afford to affect their spawning grounds.

From Host Address: 73.83.14.16

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:56:15 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Edgar Marks-Franks
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation in Marblemount Washington

Comments : Hello, recently I was informed about the proposed Quarry operation in marblemount Washington.

As someone who grew up in the upper Skagit valley I have an interest in preserving the natural beauty of the area.

Beyond that, I have spent several years working with the Washington Conservation Corps and with the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group to restore vital salmon habitat.

My concern with this proposed project would be the potential for negative impact on the local watershed that drains into the Skagit river. In turn, undoing much of the work the state's tax revenue has been spent on to restore vital salmon habitat for Chinook and other salmon.

I would like to be sure that all appropriate permits and compliance with the Washington state department of ecology are met, and that an in depth assessment, and environmental impact Study/statement is performed on this proposed work before any permits are issued by the county.

Thank you for your time.

From Host Address: 73.83.14.16

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:01:31 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jake Marty

[REDACTED]
City : Concrete

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Quarry in Marblemount

Comments : This would be terrible for our valley. It will destroy our heritage and deter tourism.

Please do not rob our families of jobs and landscape.

From Host Address: 174.216.1.142

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:04:44 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 12:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Celia Eloise Unsell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : 75 trucks a days! Our property borders the Rockport-Cascade Road not far from 530. It is a 50 mph speed limit. It gets noisy when those big trucks have to slow down for the Stop sign. So I was doing the math.

75 trucks round trip is 150 trucks passing by. Let's say over a period of 10 hours, that 60 minutes times ten is 600 minutes divided by 150. That is a truck passing a given spot on the route every 4 minutes!

This project would clearly damage the quality of life for many Skagit folk. Not to mention the carbon emissions and loss of property values. Those poor folk living right under it. Their homes will lose almost all value.

I hope this helps with understanding the impacts.

From Host Address: 50.34.223.171

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 12:06:26 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 12:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Lin Skavdahl
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : I lived at 59604 Rockport Cascade Road for twelve and a half years. My former home is located less than a half mile from the land proposed by Kiewet Infrastructure for a large rock mining operation. As a former resident with intimate knowledge about the surrounding lands and roads, I have a few comments.

First, I call to your attention to the smaller mining operation that took place a few years ago. It was a short term project, but nevertheless wreaked havoc on our neighborhood. I imagine when casual observers drive down Rockport Cascade Road, they may not notice our neighborhood. There are over twenty occupied homes along that route and all of us were impacted by the noise, vibration, dust and traffic of the project. During hours of operation, which was only eight hours a day during the Monday through Friday workweek, during daylight hours, not twelve hours, six days a week proposed by Keiwet Infrastructure. Residents of the neighborhood include children, people with serious chronic illnesses, people with critical hearing and visual problems, along with a host of pets and wildlife. All are negatively impacted by the noise, dust and traffic of such a project.

Secondly, the Skagit River, which is federally protected as a Wild and Scenic River, is less than a mile from the mining site. I can't imagine mining would be helpful to the health of the river or protection of the already endangered salmon. I realize Keiwet has looked into the impact on wildlife, but I do not believe an Environmental Impact Study by an independent third party has been completed. This is a critical flaw in the proposal.

Third, Rockport Cascade Road is a popular bicycling route. I frequently waved to numerous local and visiting cyclists as they peddled past my place or as I rode to and from my work place. Recently while visiting a Bellingham bicycling shop, I listened to a retailer describe and point to a map handout, the "Rockport Cascade-HWY 20 Loop". Allowing seventy-five large trucks a day to rumble down a county road dodging bicyclists, neighbors, deer and the occasional black bear, cougar and bobcat, all of which I have seen regularly on the road, is a ridiculous risk to all including the truck drivers.

Lastly, for all the talk I hear from Skagit County officials and their constituents about keeping the upper Skagit River and valley pristine for wildlife including endangered salmon, visitors and residents, I am shocked this proposal process has come this far. We know our climate is changing. We know plant and animal species are dying out. We know the river is in trouble. We know we must stop our unsustainable assaults on the earth and transition to sustainable solutions in order to save human life. Nothing about the Keiwet mining proposal in Marblemount is sustainable.

I urge you to deny this project or at least give it the scientific consideration it deserves.

From Host Address: 73.239.117.34

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 12:15:15 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 12:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Vija Vezis
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewet quarry in Marblemount, PL19-0033

Comments : Hello, my name is Vija and I'm 9 years old. I took my time out of homework to do this because I don't want our home, our people, our water to be polluted because of a mining operation. This is not the place to do it. This is a retreat for people to get away from noise and sound of the city and traffic and pollution. If you do this some of the animals that live here will be terrorized and forced to move to a different location. So please don't just think about yourself, your job and small populations. Think about the animals and people who live here and don't want their homes to be destroyed and terrorized. There is a large force of people in our community who don't want this to happen because it will destroy the places we love and cherish. So please hear out all the people that live here and that would write a letter if they could have the time to. Please don't destroy our home! Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Vija

From Host Address: 50.34.202.45

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 12:35:16 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 12:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Paul Klein
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewits Marblemount Quarry Application (Skagit County PL19-0032,-0033,-0047, BP19-0070)
Comments : March 28, 2019

Re: Kiewit's Marblemount Quarry Applications (Skagit County PL19-0032, -0033, -0047; BP19-0070)

To Whom It May Concern:

Kiewit Infrastructure Co.'s ("Kiewit") applications for a special use permit and associated authorizations from Skagit County to expand a less than 3-acre quarry supplying materials to the local community into a 640-acre mine site supplying jetty stone (aka armor stone) along the west coast of North America are expressly prohibited by Skagit County zoning, such that Kiewit's application should either be (i) denied, or (ii) suspended so that Skagit County can properly first consider amending its Comprehensive Plan to expand its mineral resource overlay ("MRO") to cover all of the areas for which Kiewit is now seeking permits, including Kiewit's proposed mine access road. (If Kiewit modifies its proposed project to be confined entirely within the existing MRO, that necessarily would constitute a substantial project revision under the Skagit County Code ("SCC") and the application process should be restarted and/or the public given an opportunity to comment on such substantially revised project.) In addition, Kiewit's application materials are, at best, misleading, and Skagit County should require that Kiewit provide additional information pursuant to SCC 14.06.100(5), after which the public should have an opportunity to comment with Kiewit's actual plans in mind. Notwithstanding the minimal "mitigation" proposed by Kiewit, it is clear that Kiewit's proposed project "may have a probable significant adverse environmental impact," such that an environmental impact statement must be prepared under Washington's State Environmental Policy Act.

Background

According to Kiewit's application materials, the site contains a "small-scale quarry (under 3 acres)" that received a conditional use permit in 1982. This quarry has an extremely limited history of use and has never been extended to mining the upland talus slopes with the exception of a small-scale localized landscape supply of stone. Kiewit proposes to expand this "small-scale" activity to "supply jetty stone for several major projects on the west coast including the emergency repair on the Mouth of the Columbia River."

According to Kiewit's application materials, "the Marblemount Quarry as one of the very few sources of ready-to-permit jetty rock on the west coast." This is simply not true. First, this site is not "ready-to-permit," as it is not even fully zoned for mining. Second, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Revised Final Environmental Assessment, Rehabilitation of the Jetty System at the Mouth of the Columbia River (June 2012) identified 15

quarries as potential sources of jetty stone. In the seven years since the Corps' 2012 assessment, additional quarries fully capable of supplying jetty stone for that project have been permitted and opened.

The Corps' forthcoming jetty work at the mouth of the Columbia River is anticipated to require at least 500,000 tons of armor stone. Assuming Kiewit is able to produce its desired 4 to 28-ton armor stone at a 20% rate (i.e., 20% of the rock removed from the mine constitutes armor stone), which would reflect the best industry averages, Kiewit would need to mine 2,500,000 tons (or one million cubic yards at a 1:2.5 cubic yard to ton ratio) for that one project alone. Kiewit's application estimates that Step 2 would produce about 3.8 million cubic yards. Kiewit would mine that material in rapid progression.

What would happen to the 80% of the rock that is not armor stone? For Step 2, Kiewit would deposit at least 3,040,000 cubic yards (i.e., at least 80% of 3.8 million cubic yards) on a 13-acre "undersized rock stockpile area." There are 62,920 square yards in 13 acres. Accordingly, to accommodate 3,040,000 cubic yards of rock, Kiewit would need to create roughly 50-yard high stockpiles or, more accurately, tailings. Cunningham Crushing could then screen and crush Kiewit's tailings to supply the local community. Kiewit notes that Cunningham Crushing's operations "will be completely dependent upon local market conditions." As Cunningham Crushing's operations over the prior almost 40 years have only mined "under 3 acres," it is clear that Kiewit's tailings will remain on site for decades to come. And this is without even accounting for Kiewit's desired Step 3, which would result in the tailings expanding to cover another 15 acres. All told, Kiewit's project would result in at least 7.68 million cubic yards (i.e., 80% of 9.6 million cubic yards) of tailings on site.

In addition, Kiewit proposes, among other things, to clear-cut 90 acres of timber (2.7 million board feet), cut-and-fill almost 1,000,000 cubic yards to build a mine access road (outside the existing MRO), divert active stream flows that the Washington State Department of Natural Resources has determined are fish-bearing, and conduct extensive drilling and blasting using a mixture of ammonium nitrate and diesel fuel (ANFO). The ANFO load to ground water will exceed 5,000 tons of residuals. Kiewit's project will contribute to extensive habitat loss of both flora and fauna and could result in ground and surface water impacts. The analysis Kiewit has provided concerning environmental impacts, and the minimal mitigation proposed by Kiewit, is deficient and conflicts with determinations made by state agencies. Skagit County should exercise its authority under SCC 14.06.100(5) to require Kiewit provide additional information or studies to address these matters, which also necessitate the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Kiewit's proposed mining activities are expressly prohibited by Skagit County zoning. The six properties subject to Kiewit's application are within Skagit County's Industrial Forest-Natural Resources Lands (IF-NRL), Secondary Forest-Natural Resource Lands (SF-NRL), and Rural Resource-Natural Resource Lands (RRC-NRL) zones. In each of those, commercial mining activities can only be approved (and the hearing officer only has authority to consider commercial mining applications) "within a designed mineral resource overlay." SCC 14.16.410(5)(d), 14.16.420(4)(d), 14.16.430(4)(g). However, Kiewit's application includes mining and mining-related activities in areas outside the existing MRO. Consequently, Kiewit's application simply cannot be approved. See SCC 14.16.020(3) (only uses listed within a particular zone shall be allowed).

Kiewit's application acknowledges that an MRO expansion of "approximately 43 acres" is needed and that such an expansion is done "through a Comprehensive Plan Amendment." However, rather than pursue a Comprehensive Plan Amendment first, Kiewit wants mining activities within a future (currently just hypothetical) MRO expansion to be "permitted conditions (preferred) contingent upon MRO expansion."

Kiewit has it backwards. SCC 14.06.210(3)(b) expressly requires that if a permit decision is "dependent upon amendments to the Comprehensive Plan," then the Comprehensive Plan amendment is to occur "first." If Kiewit wants permits for the entire project site, it first needs to pursue a Comprehensive Plan amendment. That sequencing reflects the planning process mandated by the Growth Management Act of developing planning

policies, embodied in the comprehensive plan, first. Kiewit's application is akin to asking the hearings officer to approve a commercial building in a residential zone conditioned on Skagit County subsequently amending its Comprehensive Plan to allow that. Such an approach is antithetical to appropriate land use planning and is prohibited by the SCC.

Moreover, even Kiewit's Step 1 and 2 activities are not entirely within the existing MRO. For example, as part of Step 1 and to facilitate mining in Step 2, Kiewit proposes to construct "an approximately 6,700-foot gravel access road would be built to access the top and eastern portions of the project site." This mining access road would be built in areas outside the existing MRO. See, e.g., application at page 3 (the expanded MRO would include the then "existing [mine access] road"). However, "activities associated with mining or quarrying operations," such as mining access road building and maintenance, can only occur "in the Mineral Resource Overlay." SCC 14.16.440(7)(b). As the mining access road to be built and used for Steps 1 and 2 is outside the current MRO, Kiewit's Steps 1 and 2 activities cannot be permitted as proposed.

As Kiewit's applications are not allowed under Skagit County's existing comprehensive plan and zoning regulations, the hearings officer should deny Kiewit's applications. Alternatively, Skagit County should suspend processing Kiewit's applications so that Skagit County can consider amending its comprehensive plan to expand the MRO to cover all the activities in Kiewit's application. If Kiewit does not want to wait for a Comprehensive Plan amendment expanding the MRO to include these areas, Kiewit must modify its proposed project to be wholly within the existing MRO, which would necessarily constitute a substantial revision and the application process should be restarted and/or the public given an opportunity to comment on such substantially revised project.

In summary, Kiewit's applications pending before Skagit County are prohibited by the SCC and must be denied or suspended until the Comprehensive Plan is amended to expand the MRO to include the entire area in which Kiewit has proposed to conduct mining activities.

From Host Address: 67.183.254.246

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 12:52:42 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 1:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Karen Kopper
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry near Marblemount - PL19-0033, PL-0047, BP19-0070, PL19-0032

Comments : Dear Skagit County Planning and Development,

I am strongly OPPOSED to the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, and urge you to reject it. Please evaluate their application with due diligence and extend the period of public comment. This is an enormous project that has extreme consequences, not only to the local community, but to outdoor enthusiasts across the nation that visit the area for its scenic beauty and wilderness appeal.

Here are some of the reasons for my concern:

1) As a landowner/commuter/seasonal resident: I own property in the neighboring town of Rockport that I live at during the summers, from which I commute by car or bike to Marblemount for work and pleasure. The estimated 75 trucks per day along my commuting route will not only prevent me from biking along the Rockport-Cascade Road, but also severely impact my frequent commute from Seattle to Rockport and Marblemount via State Routes 530 and/or 20. It is bad enough getting stuck behind a single dump truck on these windy and narrow roads, much less encountering several per hour.

2) As a trained botanist, I read through the biological assessment and noticed that the surveyor recommended replanting the herbaceous balds with NON-NATIVE PLANTS (*Agrostis tenuis*, *Arrhenatherum elatius*, and *Bromus commutatus*). The recommendation to replant with *Bromus commutatus* is particularly disturbing because this species is listed as a NOXIOUS WEED in some states, and is closely related to “cheat-grass”, one of the most notorious, federally-listed noxious weeds. Replanting with non-native grasses would not only degrade the herbaceous balds (rather than restore them) – it would also provide a seed source for these non-natives to invade the entire project area once the soil is exposed. This type of gross negligence brings into question the validity of the entire BA. I can’t help but question their diligence to the wildlife surveys and other values at risk.

3) As an outdoor enthusiast: People, including myself, travel from all over the country to visit the pristine North Cascades. The entire Kiewit Quarry operation is completely incongruous to the solitude and aesthetics that attracts visitors (and their commerce) to this area. Imagine hiking a trail while listening to blasts from the quarry, and passing a huge swath of denuded forest on your way in and out of “the American Alps”. This should never come to pass.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Karen Kopper

From Host Address: 71.212.30.30

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 1:08:08 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Timothy Manns
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Quarry operation near Marblemount, File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

Comments : March 29, 2019 Skagit Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1101
Mount Vernon, WA 98274

John Cooper
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Re: File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Please accept the following comments on the application for the proposed Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount. I am submitting these comments on behalf of Skagit Audubon Society, the local chapter of National Audubon. Our 260 member families share the Audubon mission of conserving and restoring natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity. The proposed quarry operation is relevant to our group's interests in many ways.

The potential adverse impacts on local residents and their property are many and of long duration. The application materials and related reports which Kiewit has submitted for this project describe the types and quantity of noise the project would produce. Even at the understated level mentioned in the application materials, residents' loss of the present peace and tranquility of their neighborhood will be profound and long-lasting, whether the quarry operates for the proposed 30 years or the 100 hundred years of the projected expansion. Skagit Audubon members, including those living in the Marblemount area and visitors, presently enjoy the opportunity to observe a wide variety of bird species in settings that do not involve loud and continuous industrial activity. This opportunity will be severely impaired if the proposed quarry operation goes forward. Residents of the area will, of course, also lose value in their property as a result of the quarry operation, which it would appear can only be mitigated to a very limited degree.

We note that the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan states, "Planning, land use regulations and zoning protect individual and community rights in the following ways:

- by avoiding nuisances through ensuring against incompatible neighboring land uses;

...

- by protecting and conserving the natural resources that provide us with clean air and water;”

Our County Commissioners frequently declare that their first responsibility is ensuring the safety and well-being of the county’s residents. The Kiewit proposal provides an opportunity for the Planning and Development Department and the County Commissioners to demonstrate adherence to the values stated in the Comprehensive Plan and their public statements. Are the property rights and the well-being of residents to take a back seat to the plans of a large corporation whose actions will adversely affect residents and the environment with limited possible mitigation and for many years to come?

Fifteen days to comment is insufficient:

The Notice of Development Application for this project was published March 14th with a 15 day comment period. Two weeks and a day allow insufficient time to study the application materials and gather related information to make thorough comments and suggestions. It is not reasonable to fast track a proposal of this scale and duration (30 years with potential expansion to 100 years) and with such significant and varied potential impacts to people and the environment. We therefore request an extension or reopening of the comment period.

The potential adverse effects on state and/or federal listed species are severely understated:

Gray Wolf:

The Biological Assessment and Skagit County Critical Areas Report prepared for Kiewit by Element Solutions of Bellingham states conclusions related to potential impacts on listed species on page 45 of its report. The report states, “...the overall proposed project May Affect, Is Not Likely to Adversely Affect the biological environment of the area.” Element Solutions states this conclusion, for example, for the federal and state-listed Gray Wolf, even though there is, and has for some time been, a WDFW-radio collared wolf in the vicinity, and there could be others. The project’s SEPA application, on page 15 under “Federal Species,” states, “FWS data list the gray wolf (*Canis lupus*) as an endangered species that may occur in the project site vicinity.” The term “may” is incorrect. At least one gray wolf is known to be living in the vicinity. On what grounds does Element Solutions conclude that the proposed industrial quarrying activity would not affect this listed species? The report does not state.

Migratory Birds:

Several migratory birds are mentioned, such as Willow Flycatcher and Olive-sided Flycatcher, with the unsupported statement that there would be “No Jeopardy” to these species from this project. No basis is given for this conclusion. From our own experience we can say that particularly for the Olive-sided Flycatcher, the conclusion of Element Solutions is unwarranted. Particularly in migration, it is virtually certain that this species occurs on the project property and would be impacted adversely were it clear cut and quarried. These are only a few examples of the insufficiency of the biological assessment, whose conclusions have been incorporated into the SEPA application.

Peregrine:

We would also note that the property proposed for quarrying is the location of a peregrine falcon nest. Although this bird is no longer state-listed, the bird and its nests are still protected under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The proposed mining activity would obliterate this nest site and, among other things, deprive local residents and visitors to the vicinity of observing this fastest of all birds. The opportunity to see such species is part of what gives the area the special character it has now and will lose if the proposed project goes forward. We would also note that while the peregrine is no longer state-listed, it is designated a Species of Concern under the federal Endangered Species Act. That the biological assessment prepared by Element Solutions has no mention of this species is another measure of the report’s inadequacy and, thus, the inadequacy of the SEPA application.

Fisher (*Pekania pennant*):

Page 15 of the SEPA application states that no state species requiring special consideration “were observed on the site.” This sets a very low bar for determining whether the proposed project could have adverse effects on protected species. How much time did he contracted biologists spend on the site? The biological assessment and the SEPA application omit all mention of the fisher, which is state-listed as Endangered and federally designated as a Candidate species for listing under the Endangered Species Act. It has been well-publicized that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service are engaged in a long-planned program to restore the fisher to the Cascades. Within the last few months there have been multiple releases of fishers in in the Skagit watershed not many miles from the project site and within the range that this species will wander. To not address adverse effects of the proposed quarry project on this listed species is a significant omission.

Marbled Murrelet:

We note that Element Solutions contracted with Hamer Environmental to assess the project site for potential Marbled Murrelet and Spotted Owl nesting habitat. While the contractors did not find habitat meeting all the nesting criteria for these 2 species, they omitted an important consideration related to the murrelet. The Cascade River drainage, tributary to the Skagit River, is an area that has had active Marbled Murrelet nests in past years and may still. This federally listed Threatened species, state-listed as Endangered, is in rapid decline in Washington State and particularly Puget Sound. Murrelets lay a single egg on the large, high branch of an old growth tree, sometimes using other natural platforms such as those formed by mistletoe. The adult birds fly to marine waters to catch forage fish, which they bring back to the nest to feed their single chick. When the chick fledges, it must reach marine water on its first flight if it is to survive. The transit area from nest to saltwater can present a variety of hazards making that first essential flight, as well as the daily flights of the adults, fraught with danger. These flights typically occur around dawn and dusk. The proposed quarry operation would be from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. six days a week and is along the path murrelets nesting in the Cascade River drainage would likely follow to the sea. During much of the year, the daily work period for the quarry would include dawn and dusk. Excessive noise, dust, explosions, upward-directed lighting: these are among the factors which could jeopardize the successful flight of Marbled Murrelets traveling up and down the Skagit Valley between their nest sites and marine waters. The biological assessment for this proposed project does not address this issue and, consequently, describes no mitigation.

Conclusion: An EIS should be required.

Skagit Audubon has other concerns with the project being proposed, but the short comment period does not permit addressing them in this letter. From what we have read so far, it is clear that an Environmental Impact Statement should be required for this project which is so large-scale, long-term, and controversial with foreseeable significant adverse effects on people and the environment.

We ask that you keep our organization informed at each stage of the project review, including the opportunities for public oral or written comment. Please use this address for written information: Conservation Chair, Skagit Audubon Society, P.O. Box 1101, Mount Vernon, WA 98274 and this address for emailed notices: conservation@skagitaudubon.org .

We appreciate your attention to our concerns.

Sincerely,

/s/ Timothy Manns

Timothy Manns
Conservation Chair
Skagit Audubon Society

From Host Address: 73.169.232.196

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:08:44 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Evan Holmstrom
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : For the potential impact on the economy and cultural history of the Upper Skagit watershed, more consideration is needed before approving this proposal. For the following reasons I insist that the county take more time to look at this, and employ local experts to perform an EIS and a cultural value assessment.

1) Our local economy depends on the vitality of our forests, hills, and waterways. This project will damage the health and appeal of our natural systems. Numerous daily blasts will be heard throughout our valley, increased heavy traffic will certainly affect commuters, a denuded and excavated hillside will mar the viewshed, and the threats to a Wild and Scenic river corridor will destabilize our way of life here. The experts employed to assert otherwise do not understand the nuance of this place. To quote the detailed project description, "No homes immediately border the project area and residential density in the adjacent surrounding area is low". The use of the word 'border' here is key. There are in fact homes near enough to the site that significant noise pollution and traffic impacts will alter the character that draws people here, resident families and tourists alike. The assessments used in this case do not capture the elusive quality here i.e. quietude and remoteness.

2) Economic benefits must factor into decisions like these. With little local employment opportunity in this project and the potential of discouraging tourism in the long run our community cannot weather this risk. Traffic to Rockport State Park, North Cascades National Park, and other areas of natural wonder and scenic beauty are sensitive to projects like this. Please consider the economic jeopardy this proposal places us in.

3) The cultural value of this area cannot be underestimated. Favoring the worth of this land to its original inhabitants and stewards should be seen as a positive decision and an expression of goodwill to tribal inhabitants. Again from the detailed project description, "the properties have historically been used for forestry and mining". This is a narrow scope of history. In fact this land has been home to human societies for nearly 10,000 years, and for purposes far beyond forestry and mining.

While there are good reasons for providing hard-rock materials for jetty maintenance, I ask that the county do what's possible to delay this process so that more people can become aware and give voice to their concerns. Furthermore, though it's on privately held property, an EIS should be performed by an unbiased party do that threats to the watershed and forest ecology can be clearly understood. It is fair and right to do this in which ever community a proposal of this scale is proposed.

There is a troublesome trend in situations like these to espouse a 'not in my back yard' response. That is not what this is. This is an effort to take another moment in this process to assess the hard-to-grasp and easy-to-regret risks presented to tourists who value wild places like this, local residents who's way of life involves

remoteness and subtlety, and to the indigenous citizens of this place, who have lived here since time immemorial.

Thank you for reading,

Evan Holmstrom

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:10:56 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Celia Eloise Unsell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : Skagit County Environmental Responsibility

I understand the need for jetty rock. I don't understand why it has to travel so far. The farther it travels, the more CO2 goes into our atmosphere and the higher the risk of accidents and more cost to the company. The proposed project would need to use diesel generators rather than quieter, nonpolluting power. Any accidents on site would have very little emergency response with the nearest hospital an hour away. A site closer to the water would reduce these issues. We may have the "right" rock, but there is "right" rock closer to it's destination. The real issue maybe that the small community of Marblemount can't put up much of a fight against such a large company, especially with only knowing of this project for two weeks. I hope that our public servants will make a responsible decision for our quality of life now and for our children's future.

From Host Address: 50.34.223.171

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:12:25 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Eva Sahlin
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : My name is Eva Sahlin, and I am 9 years old, and I live here in the Skagit. Me and my family and the whole community do not want you to put the Quarry in because it will effect the fish and many animals. It will scare all of the pets because of all the noise. And the traffic will be terrible. So I'm asking you please not to do it!

Sincerely,
Eva Sahlin

From Host Address: 172.58.40.141

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:21:23 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Mary Ruth Holder
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070 Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : Thank you for considering our public comment. We are writing to request that a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be prepared by the Department for the above-referenced proposed quarry expansion project. The proposed project would be a major change to the present operation and would increase the quarry size by more than 3 times. If permitted and constructed, the project would upend the quality of life, economy and natural environment of the surrounding area. The probable significant adverse impacts on environmental quality from this project warrants a full and complete review pursuant to SEPA addressing all direct, indirect and cumulative impacts.

The probable adverse impacts of this project include harm to tourism and the local economy of the Marblemount area. Noise, increase in traffic (see also safety concerns below), dust and stone chips falling from trucks, noise pollution and visual impacts from the construction and operation of the project would act to discourage tourists (that include cyclists; visitors to Marblemount area lodges, restaurants and farms; hikers; rafters and fishermen) for coming to this area and adversely impact the area's economy that relies heavily on tourists and outdoor recreationalists.

While we don't live in the Marblemount area, my husband and I are among many others from Skagit County and beyond who regard the area as the gateway to the North Cascades National Park and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest recreation areas. For many years, we have traveled with friends through and beyond Marblemount via Highway 20 to the many trails and camping areas on those public lands. We stop in Marblemount to visit the Wilderness Information Center and/or eat at area restaurants.

The addition of up to 150 large vehicle transits per day to and from the site over the 100-year duration of the permit carrying construction materials, large trucks carrying legal loads of 105,500 pounds of heavy rock along Rockport-Cascade Hwy and Hwy 20, and congestion at the intersection of those highways in Marblemount would have an indirect adverse impact on public safety along these roads. The significant risk of being killed or seriously injured from project vehicles (or even stone chips dislodged from these large trucks hitting our vehicle at highway speeds) certainly would cause us to look for safer travel locations for our hiking and purchases. How many other recreational tourists would be impacted? How would this harm visitation numbers to the National Park and National Forest lands? How would visitation impacts affect the local and state economies? What would be the increased cost to county and state taxpayers for the upkeep and repair of the roads over which the significant increase in heavy trucks would travel? What permit provisions would be applied to mitigate these impacts? A full EIS must be prepared that would analyze all of the direct, indirect and cumulative (over the life of the proposed project) impacts to public health and safety, tourism and the local and state economies and identify appropriate mitigation for these impacts.

The proposed quarry expansion would also have probable significant adverse indirect and cumulative impacts on fish and wildlife. Activities that would generate adverse impacts on wildlife and their habitat include: (1) site

preparation including clearing, timber harvest of 2.7 million board feet from 90 acres of 6 parcels, stump removal, grading, installation of stormwater systems, blasting for road building and (2) site operation to remove approximately 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone that would involve blasting and crushing rock and moving and maintaining heavy equipment. The quarry expansion site sheds water into fish bearing streams that flow into the Skagit River, and construction and operation of the expanded quarry would have potential adverse indirect impacts on aquatic habitat containing federal Endangered Species Act listed species (Chinook, Steelhead, Bull Trout, etc.). What indirect and cumulative impacts would the project have on other listed species such as gray wolf and fisher that have been known to use the project area? What significant indirect and cumulative impacts resulting from timber harvesting, noise, dust and disturbance would occur to nesting and migrating bird species? A full EIS must be developed with detailed objective studies conducted identifying all indirect and cumulative impacts to fish and wildlife species.

Additionally, there would be adverse indirect and cumulative impacts to water quality, air quality, and to the public health and safety of people who live and work in the vicinity not only from increased traffic but also from dust, noise, vibration, pollution of water wells.

For all of the above reasons, a full EIS must be conducted for this project. Please keep us informed about all decisions made and opportunities for further public comment.

Sincerely, Mary Ruth and Phillip Holder

From Host Address: 50.34.114.125

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:22:53 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jon Riedel
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Marblemount Quarry
Comments : March 29 2019

Mr. John Cooper
Skagit County Planning & Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mt Vernon, WA 98273

Re: Kiewit quarry in Marblemount

Mr. Cooper,

Thanks for this opportunity to comment on the proposed Marblemount rock quarry expansion by Kiewit. I have lived in Marblemount for more than 30 years. My wife and I raised our family there, and chose this place largely because of the quiet, peaceful setting. Countless friends and neighbors I have met over the years moved here for the same reasons. While I appreciate the need for jobs in eastern Skagit County, I am deeply concerned about the proposed land use because of significant negative impacts it will have on our community and the environment.

On the community side, the incredible scope of this industrial project will have many negative impacts on the quality of life in Marblemount for 100 years (or more), for the remainder of my life, and my children's lives. Direct and significant negative impacts we will realize for 12 months a year, 6 days a week for 12 hours a day with this project include noise, dust, traffic/safety, the recreation economy, and property value. Having lived about a half-mile from a small quarry for many years I can tell you that the blasting, drilling, crushing, sorting, rock handling and loading, and truck engines will be heard from one side of the valley to the other, and for some distance off site up and down the valley. For those people on Rockport Cascade Road and Highway 530 this noise will be extremely disruptive. Up to 500 semi-tractor (250 trucks leaving and 250 coming) trips a day braking at the junction of Rockport Cascade Road and Highway 530, and at Highway 20, daily will be particularly disturbing to people living near these intersections.

I understand that the proposal includes dust mitigation. Where will the water come from for this? Another major concern is having 500 large trucks on a rural road. This narrow road has no shoulder, and is currently used by joggers, bicyclists, anglers, hunters, bird-watchers and locals going to work and school.

I've observed the transition of the local economy of the upper valley from one dominated by logging to one more focused on recreation and visitor services. This quarry has the potential to compromise that transition, and the modest job gains (~35) would not offset the damage to the recreation-based economy, community, and land values. Who wants to rent a cabin, camp, or fish with all of this noise?

We all know how property values in rural Skagit County have declined recently due to restrictions on new wells. I believe this project will further diminish the property values of dozens of people who will not see any economic benefit from this project. If this is approved, is Skagit County prepared to lower taxes?

The proposal offers to supply rock for local needs. How will this impact current quarry operations in Skagit County? It seems the potential is there to put them out of business.

Cliffs cut by glacial erosion continue to the east of the site, and are sources for occasional rock falls that reach the valley floor. The geology reports I reviewed acknowledged the rock-fall threat and noted some of the cliffs were over-hanging, but limited their investigation to the quarry and access road, and did not evaluate adjacent properties. Will the blasting, drilling or heavy equipment vibrations dislodge more rocks from adjacent cliffs? It is interesting that the Misch geology map of the Marblemount area indicates that the greenschist beds dip in opposite direction just east of the quarry, suggesting there is a fault nearby. The geology reports focused on the immediate site conditions, but did not appear to examine the larger picture. Is the prominent bedrock gully east of the site a structural (fault) and/or erosional feature? Will there be more detailed site geology reviews?

All of this truck traffic will degrade local air quality along the road and in the upper valley. During temperature inversions that are a common occurrence on clear nights, the diesel exhaust would be trapped on the surface, resulting in more severe air quality impacts.

In closing, I can't see how you could mitigate some of these impacts given the scope of this proposal. The impact to the community would be substantial and long-lasting. A rural community surrounded by national park and wilderness lands and a wild and scenic river, seems to be an inappropriate place to locate a massive quarry designed to serve the needs of the entire northwest coast of North America for three generations. As a geologist I know there are many other places where suitable rock could be found much closer to these shoreline projects. At the very least a project of this scope must be reviewed carefully with an Environmental Impact Statement.

Please keep me informed as this moves forward.

From Host Address: 50.35.62.55

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:26:37 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : CHRISTIAN MARTIN
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I work in Skagit County and have over a decade of professional and personal experience visiting Marblemount and the national park and forest service lands further up the road, and can say unequivocally that this project proposal is absolutely the wrong future for this special area in our great state. It is so wrong-headed that it is difficult to know where to begin critiquing it, but here are a few things to consider:

- 1) UNACCEPTABLE IMPACTS on wildlife, including endangered salmon species in the great Skagit River, as well as an array of robust, yet imperiled, mammals like bears, wolverines, beavers, pine marten, wolves and the recently-restored fisher. Endangered Peregrine falcons, along with other bird species, are known to be present in the area too. Daily blasting and constant heavy-vehicle traffic are incompatible with all of their survival in the area.
- 2.) The removal of 2.7 million board feet of maturing forest, which provides invaluable ecosystem services including habitat for the aforementioned wildlife, water retention and filtration, and carbon sequestration. As the US Forest Service has stated, "Interest in terrestrial carbon sequestration has increased in an effort to explore opportunities for climate change mitigation. Carbon sequestration is the process by which atmospheric carbon dioxide is taken up by trees, grasses, and other plants through photosynthesis and stored as carbon in biomass (trunks, branches, foliage, and roots) and soils. The sink of carbon sequestration in forests and wood products helps to offset sources of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, such as deforestation, forest fires, and fossil fuel emissions."
- 3.) UNACCEPTABLE IMPACTS to water quality for the nearby Skagit River, which is one of the healthiest, most vibrant rivers in the entire United States -- one of the last rivers home to all native species of salmon as well as the endangered Bull trout -- and is federally protected by the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act.
- 4.) UNACCEPTABLE IMPACTS to the local residents, including families, many of whom have chosen to live and invest in this area exactly for its rural attributes and natural setting, as well as detrimental harm to the local tourism and recreation economy, a powerful economic driver in Skagit County. Tourists (and their dollars) visit this region from all over the planet, drawn to the protected federal lands nearby, to experience this increasingly-rare slice of a functioning, intact natural ecosystem. Education, recreation, scientific studies, escape from the stress of the non-stop technological web of our modern world and spiritual renewal are just a few of the things visitors, both local and global, access this greater area for -- values far greater than one company's temporary profits.
- 5.) Last but definitely not least, UNACCEPTABLE IMPACTS to the Upper Skagit people, who have called this

region home since Time Immemorial and depend on the well-being of the natural systems for their way-of-life, self-identity and ancient culture.

Eastern Skagit County is blessed to have retained its' wilderness characteristics, to be in proximity to a national park, Wild & Scenic river, and other protected wildlands and habitats. With the intense development and population pressures underway in our state, the value of places like Marblemount increases year after year. This area should be a source of pride for everyone living in Skagit County, as others around the state who haven't proactively preserved wild, natural, peaceful places look upon it with envy.

In the last century, the Upper Skagit Valley went through immense industrial development with the Seattle City Light hydropower project, which destroyed thousands of acres of forest, altered wildlife habitat and tamed the Skagit River forever. In this new century, we have learned better than to wreak such destruction on our own home and on the species we share it with. We have learned better than to treat the natural world as a limitless bank for short-sighted, unsustainable resource extraction. We are learning -- the hard way -- about limits, about restraint, about respect for the original inhabitants of these lands and the other species we share this place with. And, in the face of unfolding climate change, we understand that our society needs to work towards sustainability and resiliency in the natural systems that sustain us.

It is a FACT — long known by the indigenous people of this continent — that we cannot continue to shred corners of the fabric of life that sustains us without destroying ourselves too.

The quarry expansion project for the Marblemount area is the wrong idea for the wrong time. It is archaic, destructive, selfish, short-sighted and, frankly, it is an insult to have even been proposed.

Thank you for hearing the concerns of Skagitonians in denying the application for this project.

From Host Address: 73.35.166.54

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:41:05 PM



March 29, 2018

JOHN COOPER
NATURAL RESOURCE PLANNER
SKAGIT COUNTY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
1800 CONTINENTAL PLACE
MOUNT VERNON, WA 98273

RE: Comments on Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Dear John,

Seattle City Light (City Light) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Environmental Checklist and associated documents for the proposed Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount (project). In short, City Light contends that the current environmental documentation does not contain sufficient detail or analyses to make a threshold determination. Specific areas of concern include:

- Water quality impacts
- Impacts to threatened/endangered and other protected species
- Impacts to a Wild and Scenic River
- Increased traffic

Based on review by our subject matter experts in the areas of water quality and protected fish and wildlife species, City Light asserts that this project will likely have a significant adverse effect to the environment and should thus require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

As background, the Skagit River and its tributaries near the proposed project site provide important habitat for all native salmonid species and host the largest run of Puget Sound Chinook salmon. City Light has made significant investments in salmon recovery and wildlife habitat protection in the Skagit River watershed and owns multiple parcels of conservation lands adjacent to the project parcels. In total, City Light parcels share 8,800 ft of common border with the project parcels.

First, the impacts to water quality in areas downslope of the site and along the haul route on Rockport-Cascade Road need to be analyzed more completely, including a more thorough stormwater analysis, given the potential for the development to alter hydrology and increase fugitive debris, dust, and pollutants over a 100-year period. The quarry and "undersized stockpiled area" could lead to changes in hydrology, resulting in water quality impacts to streams off site. Of concern are the potential long-term impacts to O' Brien Slough (P110610, P110611, P110612, and P45530) which contains refuge habitat for Coho salmon and rearing habitat for Chinook salmon.

Second, impacts to protected species need further evaluation. In addition to the O' Brien Slough parcels to the west of the project site, City Light owns contiguous parcels north and south of the proposed project. These properties are managed to conserve wetland and riparian habitat and promote development of mature conifer forests to support a wide variety of species, including the federally listed northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet. For example, City Light's Parcel P45307 contains a stand of mature coniferous trees within 1/4 -mile of the proposed quarry that may be suitable habitat for these species but no assessment of spotted owl or marbled murrelet use has been completed. The project's effects to these two species should be evaluated by determining presence of suitable habitat and species use within the zone where noise levels will be elevated above ambient levels. Based upon our initial analysis, the "Action Area" should include all project-related noise inside and outside the project footprint, including blasting, heavy equipment operation, and truck traffic along Rockport-Cascade Road.

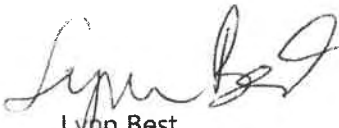
Other concerns regarding the project include the following:

- Blasting and other noise impacts to bald eagle winter communal roosts documented in O'Brien Creek and Illabot Creek watersheds;
- Impacts to peregrine falcons, which have been anecdotally reported to occur in the immediate area;
- Increased truck traffic, which may result in a higher number of vehicle-wildlife collisions, killing or injuring animals such as deer, elk and federally-listed wolves which are known to be present in the general area; and
- Weeds resulting from ground disturbance and topsoil storage, which can then spread onto City Light's adjacent conservation lands as well as along the Skagit River.

Based upon the above, City Light urges Skagit County to make a threshold Determination of Significance and require an EIS to further evaluate all environmental impacts of the project. Further, we believe that the optional DNS process under WAC 197-11-355 should not have been used in this instance since there was not a reasonable basis to determine that a significant adverse environmental impact was not likely.

Again, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments and look forward to working with the County.

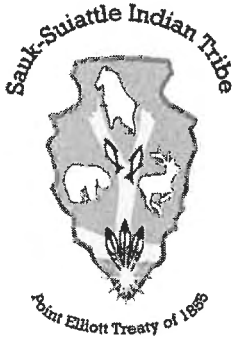
Sincerely,



Lynn Best
Chief Environmental Officer
Seattle City Light



cc: Debra Smith, City Light CEO and General Manager
Michael Haynes, City Light COO
William Andersen, City Light Skagit Senior Operations Manager



**Tribal Historic Preservation Office
5318 Chief Brown Lane
Darrington, Washington 98241-9420**

**(360) 436-0131
Fax (360) 436-1511**

March 27, 2019

Garth Baldwin
Principal Investigator
Drayton Archaeology
PO Box 782
Blaine, WA 98231-0782

Re: Marblemount Quarry Project CRM

Dear Garth Baldwin,

We, the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe (SSIT), are grateful for the opportunity to comment. In the weeks following our initial response, and upon reviewing the related SEPA documents, our Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Natural, and Cultural Resource Departments have additional concerns regarding the application by the Kiewit Infrastructure Company, LLC for rock mining and quarrying in Marblemount (at location 59252 Rockport-Cascade Road, Skagit County, within a portion of Section 24, Township 35 North, Range 10 East, Skagit County, WA – parcels P45543, P45541, P45548, P45552, P45550, P45548, P128574, and P120304). In particular, our comments focus on the quarrying project's associated permits PL19-0032, PL19-0033, PL19-0046, BP 19-0070, as well as on the cultural resource report produced by Drayton Archaeology.

Audible Impact: We suspect that the noise bearing on local cultural sites, including those on, or eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places was not fully considered. There was no mention of auditory impacts on the cultural environment within the Cultural Resources report provided. Residential houses in the immediate vicinity are similarly within the range of potentially enormous noise disturbance (due to, e.g. removal of rock, crushing, blasting, waste hauling, etc.).

Cultural Impact: Within a two-mile radius of the proposed quarry there are several cultural sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places, several more sites potentially eligible for the National Register, and numerous other archaeological sites, including at least one known cemetery. The SSIT use area would be further affected by quarrying operations as the project's location is a frequently visited locale for both Sauk-Suiattle and Upper Skagit tribes. The affiliation of this locale to the tribes' history is well known and therefore likely to contain culturally important features that can be identified only after a detailed consultation process with the tribal members.

Air-Quality Impact: As the extraction may be permitted for the period of one hundred years, the projected disturbance cannot possibly be assessed at this stage, thus the sheer distance in mileage

is a poor indicator of the cumulative effect on life over the long term. Related, we would also like to examine any additional studies of the air quality impacts on neighboring cultural settings in comparable extracting operations.

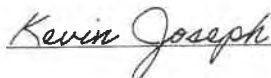
Biological Impact: We raise concerns based on recent findings regarding Federally-listed wildlife species that need to be further addressed in the project's Biological Assessment. Skagit River system ("a wild and scenic river") is an eminent case of ecological awareness and environmental concerns are at the forefront of the local demographic, native and non-native alike. There has not been enough time allotted for impacted Tribal entities to review the project plans and make adequate responses. The Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe would like to request more time to address all the potential biotic impacts of this project. Similar cases in the area (e.g. Beaver Lake Quarry from 1995-2000) suffered from insufficient consultation with relevant stakeholders in the process.

For the above reasons, SSIT request to be informed immediately of any anticipated and unanticipated ecological and/or cultural discoveries. We kindly ask to obtain copies of any additional archaeological site surveys and reviews, and environmental studies that may be conducted for this project in the future. We recognize the necessity of supplying the mineral material for the Army Corps of Engineers operations, and wish to be of assistance in the matter.

Thank you for your willingness to keep in touch with the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe and for our inclusion as a consulting party on this undertaking. We look forward to continuing to work with you in a collaborative manner.

Should you have any further questions or should you need to get a hold of us, please feel free to contact us at our office telephone: (360) 436-2218, or by email at kjoseph@sauk-suiattle.com and afrey@sauk-suiattle.com.

Sincerely,



Kevin Joseph
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe

Alex Frey
Tribal Archaeologist
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe

John Cooper

From: Mary Ruth Holder [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:29 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Project numbers: PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070

Mr. Cooper, we have submitted our public comment (below) using the PDS form but are also sending it to you via email to ensure your receipt. Thank you for your attention to our comment.

Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Thank you for considering our public comment. We are writing to request that a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be prepared by the Department for the above-referenced proposed quarry expansion project. The proposed project would be a major change to the present operation and would increase the quarry size by more than 3 times. If permitted and constructed, the project would upend the quality of life, economy and natural environment of the surrounding area. The probable significant adverse impacts on environmental quality from this project warrants a full and complete review pursuant to SEPA addressing all direct, indirect and cumulative impacts.

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While we don't live in the Marblemount area, my husband and I are among many others from Skagit County and beyond who regard the area as the gateway to the North Cascades National Park and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest recreation areas. For many years, we have traveled with friends through and beyond Marblemount via Highway 20 to the many trails and camping areas on those public lands. We stop in Marblemount to visit the Wilderness Information Center and/or eat at area restaurants.

The addition of up to 150 large vehicle transits per day to and from the site over the 100-year duration of the permit carrying construction materials, large trucks carrying legal loads of 105,500 pounds of heavy rock along Rockport-Cascade Hwy and Hwy 20, and congestion at the intersection of those highways in Marblemount would have an indirect adverse impact on public safety along these roads. The significant risk of being killed or seriously injured from project vehicles (or even stone chips dislodged from these large trucks hitting our vehicle at highway speeds) certainly would cause us to look for safer travel locations for our hiking and purchases. How many other recreational tourists would be impacted? How would this harm visitation numbers to the National Park and National Forest lands? How would visitation impacts affect the local and state economies? What would be the increased cost to county and state taxpayers for the upkeep and repair of the roads over which the significant increase in heavy trucks would travel? What permit provisions would be applied to mitigate these impacts? A full EIS must be prepared that would analyze all of the direct, indirect

and cumulative (over the life of the proposed project) impacts to public health and safety, tourism and the local and state economies and identify appropriate mitigation for these impacts.

The proposed quarry expansion would also have probable significant adverse indirect and cumulative impacts on fish and wildlife. Activities that would generate adverse impacts on wildlife and their habitat include: (1) site preparation including clearing, timber harvest of 2.7 million board feet from 90 acres of 6 parcels, stump removal, grading, installation of stormwater systems, blasting for road building and (2) site operation to remove approximately 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone that would involve blasting and crushing rock and moving and maintaining heavy equipment. The quarry expansion site sheds water into fish bearing streams that flow into the Skagit River, and construction and operation of the expanded quarry would have potential adverse indirect impacts on aquatic habitat containing federal Endangered Species Act listed species (Chinook, Steelhead, Bull Trout, etc.). What indirect and cumulative impacts would the project have on other listed species such as gray wolf and fisher that have been known to use the project area? What significant indirect and cumulative impacts resulting from timber harvesting, noise, dust and disturbance would occur to nesting and migrating bird species? A full EIS must be developed with detailed objective studies conducted identifying all indirect and cumulative impacts to fish and wildlife species.

Additionally, there would be adverse indirect and cumulative impacts to water quality, air quality, and to the public health and safety of people who live and work in the vicinity not only from increased traffic but also from dust, noise, vibration, pollution of water wells.

For all of the above reasons, a full EIS must be conducted for this project. Please keep us informed about all decisions made and opportunities for further public comment.

Sincerely, Mary Ruth and Phillip Holder

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : James Mullen
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : US
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewet Marblemount Quarry permit PL19-033
Comments : RE: Kiewet Marblemount Quarry permit PL19-033

I recently became aware of the potential quarry project being planned, located off Rockport Cascade road in Marblemount. As a longtime resident of the area our family has enjoyed owing property along the majestic Skagit River at [REDACTED]. In addition we live in the town of Marblemount and operate a seasonal restaurant at 60147 SR 20 better known as the "Marblemount Diner:

Imagine our surprise when less than 2 weeks ago we saw a post on face book the idea that a permit was in the works to mine the very mountain that we see from our river beach front when you look up river from our property. I understand the rocks are needed, but also suspect that for profit enterprise will mostly benefit people outside the county and is not likely to produce any meaning full time local employment and will cost those of that live here dearly.

If approved this operation will completely ruin the value of our river front property and take away the joy we get from spending week ends on the river fishing, rafting and hiking in the area. This area is full of wild life, including Bob cats, Coyotes, an occasional wolf has been spotted high up the mountains, local deer, elk and bear all roam the area. Of even more concern is our winter nesting eagles. The eagles feed in the early morning hours and in order to protect the calm and allow them to nurture their young we can't even float or operate boats on the river before 10:00 AM between November and January for fear it might disturb the eagles. How is blasting, heavy equipment use, rock crushers and heavy trucking not going to upset this fragile eco-system?

My two other main concerns are related to the increased highway traffic. SR 20 is designated a scenic highway. As such it draws people in from all over in the summer months to camp, hike, mountain climb, bicycle and or just take in the beautiful drive over the passes to Winthrop and beyond. Traffic is already tough at times and adding the rock trucks to it will no doubt make it worse and could ultimately keep tourists from wanting to make the drive.

That will hurt our seasonal business, where we employ 6-10 people from May through to November at the restaurant. This business like many others in our town count on tourism for their livelihood and frankly we barely survive as it is, if we lost as little as 10-15 of revenue we would close, it's a safe bet this mining operation can only hurt us and risks the jobs of our employees and the investment we made in this community 8 years ago.

The second most serious concern comes from a knowing firsthand the traffic hazards on our highway as they exist today. I have served as the Battalion Chief of Skagit County district 19 VFD for previous six years and continue to serve as first responder and fireman today. It is hard to believe that the truck route going south on

Rockport Cascade Road to the SR 20 intersection at Rockport, followed by making a full stop (perhaps not) and proceeding to make an uphill left hand crossing turn won't cause significant risk of increased MVA related accidents and possible fatalities. Our Local Marblemount and Rockport VFD are not prepared to handle this and the risks pointed out should not be ignored.

In closing, I understand the ports, harbors and waterways need the rocks, I understand it's a business opportunity. I hope you in reading this letter and the many other voices of the upper valley, will understand we came here for the tranquility and beauty that will be destroyed if this mining operation is all owed to proceed.

Respectfully,

Jim Mullen

[REDACTED] Marblemount WA 98267

[REDACTED]

From Host Address: 104.235.161.41

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:01:28 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Richard Lewis
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : This proposed quarry between Marblemount and Rockport is not in the interests of the Upriver Community -- we reap absolutely no benefit and we would bear years if not decades of suffering. Our quality of life, the health of our ecosystem, our property values, potentially our physical safety, our sanity and our community would all be negatively impacted. There is no other way to say this: our lives would absolutely be adversely affected by the development of this quarry.

From Host Address: 104.235.165.57

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:02:01 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Julie Griffith
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Quarry Marmablemout

Comments : I am writing to address the proposed quarry expansion by the Kiewit Co near our cabin in Marblemount---a development called "Marblegate"

Considering the magnitude of this proposed project and it's close proximity to so many residences and the impact of the noise, traffic, proposed hours of operation, etc I believe there absolutely must be more

time to consider all this. We must have an EIS, evaluate the information from that EIS, and allow time for all the public and many tourists who love this pristine recreational area to weigh in on what this really

means in day to day living for all of us.

Will this be a livable environment? With blasting, 75-150 haul truck trips/day on our roads with a 105,500lb wt limit (but permits obtained for higher wts??), and the many other questions this brings up, we

simply must take time to consider the things we know, and the things the EIS will bring to light.

Please consider this as if you were living in Marblegate. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Julie Griffith
[REDACTED] Marblemount WA 98267

Please keep me posted on all future information on this project.

From Host Address: 97.113.60.185

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:02:53 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : John E. McAmis
[REDACTED]

City : Chico
State : CA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-032, -033, -0047; BP19-0070
Comments : March 28, 2019

Re: Kiewit's Marblemount Quarry Applications (Skagit County PL19-0032, -0033, -0047; BP19-0070)

To Whom It May Concern:

Kiewit Infrastructure Co.'s ("Kiewit") applications for a special use permit and associated authorizations from Skagit County to expand a less than 3-acre quarry supplying materials to the local community into a 640-acre mine site supplying jetty stone (aka armor stone) along the west coast of North America are expressly prohibited by Skagit County zoning, such that Kiewit's application should either be (i) denied, or (ii) suspended so that Skagit County can properly first consider amending its Comprehensive Plan to expand its mineral resource overlay ("MRO") to cover all of the areas for which Kiewit is now seeking permits, including Kiewit's proposed mine access road. (If Kiewit modifies its proposed project to be confined entirely within the existing MRO, that necessarily would constitute a substantial project revision under the Skagit County Code ("SCC") and the application process should be restarted and/or the public given an opportunity to comment on such substantially revised project.) In addition, Kiewit's application materials are, at best, misleading, and Skagit County should require that Kiewit provide additional information pursuant to SCC 14.06.100(5), after which the public should have an opportunity to comment with Kiewit's actual plans in mind. Notwithstanding the minimal "mitigation" proposed by Kiewit, it is clear that Kiewit's proposed project "may have a probable significant adverse environmental impact," such that an environmental impact statement must be prepared under Washington's State Environmental Policy Act.

Background

According to Kiewit's application materials, the site contains a "small-scale quarry (under 3 acres)" that received a conditional use permit in 1982. This quarry has an extremely limited history of use and has never been extended to mining the upland talus slopes with the exception of a small-scale localized landscape supply of stone. Kiewit proposes to expand this "small-scale" activity to "supply jetty stone for several major projects on the west coast including the emergency repair on the Mouth of the Columbia River."

According to Kiewit's application materials, "the Marblemount Quarry as one of the very few sources of ready-to-permit jetty rock on the west coast." This is simply not true. First, this site is not "ready-to-permit," as it is not even fully zoned for mining. Second, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Revised Final Environmental Assessment, Rehabilitation of the Jetty System at the Mouth of the Columbia River (June 2012) identified 15 quarries as potential sources of jetty stone. In the seven years since the Corps' 2012 assessment, additional

quarries fully capable of supplying jetty stone for that project have been permitted and opened.

The Corps' forthcoming jetty work at the mouth of the Columbia River is anticipated to require at least 500,000 tons of armor stone. Assuming Kiewit is able to produce its desired 4 to 28-ton armor stone at a 20% rate (i.e., 20% of the rock removed from the mine constitutes armor stone), which would reflect the best industry averages, Kiewit would need to mine 2,500,000 tons (or one million cubic yards at a 1:2.5 cubic yard to ton ratio) for that one project alone. Kiewit's application estimates that Step 2 would produce about 3.8 million cubic yards. Kiewit would mine that material in rapid progression.

What would happen to the 80% of the rock that is not armor stone? For Step 2, Kiewit would deposit at least 3,040,000 cubic yards (i.e., at least 80% of 3.8 million cubic yards) on a 13-acre "undersized rock stockpile area." There are 62,920 square yards in 13 acres. Accordingly, to accommodate 3,040,000 cubic yards of rock, Kiewit would need to create roughly 50-yard high stockpiles or, more accurately, tailings. Cunningham Crushing could then screen and crush Kiewit's tailings to supply the local community. Kiewit notes that Cunningham Crushing's operations "will be completely dependent upon local market conditions." As Cunningham Crushing's operations over the prior almost 40 years have only mined "under 3 acres," it is clear that Kiewit's tailings will remain on site for decades to come. And this is without even accounting for Kiewit's desired Step 3, which would result in the tailings expanding to cover another 15 acres. All told, Kiewit's project would result in at least 7.68 million cubic yards (i.e., 80% of 9.6 million cubic yards) of tailings on site.

In addition, Kiewit proposes, among other things, to clear-cut 90 acres of timber (2.7 million board feet), cut-and-fill almost 1,000,000 cubic yards to build a mine access road (outside the existing MRO), divert active stream flows that the Washington State Department of Natural Resources has determined are fish-bearing, and conduct extensive drilling and blasting using a mixture of ammonium nitrate and diesel fuel (ANFO). The ANFO load to ground water will exceed 5,000 tons of residuals. Kiewit's project will contribute to extensive habitat loss of both flora and fauna and could result in ground and surface water impacts. The analysis Kiewit has provided concerning environmental impacts, and the minimal mitigation proposed by Kiewit, is deficient and conflicts with determinations made by state agencies. Skagit County should exercise its authority under SCC 14.06.100(5) to require Kiewit provide additional information or studies to address these matters, which also necessitate the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Kiewit's proposed mining activities are expressly prohibited by Skagit County zoning. The six properties subject to Kiewit's application are within Skagit County's Industrial Forest-Natural Resources Lands (IF-NRL), Secondary Forest-Natural Resource Lands (SF-NRL), and Rural Resource-Natural Resource Lands (RRc-NRL) zones. In each of those, commercial mining activities can only be approved (and the hearing officer only has authority to consider commercial mining applications) "within a designed mineral resource overlay." SCC 14.16.410(5)(d), 14.16.420(4)(d), 14.16.430(4)(g). However, Kiewit's application includes mining and mining-related activities in areas outside the existing MRO. Consequently, Kiewit's application simply cannot be approved. See SCC 14.16.020(3) (only uses listed within a particular zone shall be allowed).

Kiewit's application acknowledges that an MRO expansion of "approximately 43 acres" is needed and that such an expansion is done "through a Comprehensive Plan Amendment." However, rather than pursue a Comprehensive Plan Amendment first, Kiewit wants mining activities within a future (currently just hypothetical) MRO expansion to be "permitted conditions (preferred) contingent upon MRO expansion."

Kiewit has it backwards. SCC 14.06.210(3)(b) expressly requires that if a permit decision is "dependent upon amendments to the Comprehensive Plan," then the Comprehensive Plan amendment is to occur "first." If Kiewit wants permits for the entire project site, it first needs to pursue a Comprehensive Plan amendment. That sequencing reflects the planning process mandated by the Growth Management Act of developing planning policies, embodied in the comprehensive plan, first. Kiewit's application is akin to asking the hearings officer to

approve a commercial building in a residential zone conditioned on Skagit County subsequently amending its Comprehensive Plan to allow that. Such an approach is antithetical to appropriate land use planning and is prohibited by the SCC.

Moreover, even Kiewit's Step 1 and 2 activities are not entirely within the existing MRO. For example, as part of Step 1 and to facilitate mining in Step 2, Kiewit proposes to construct "an approximately 6,700-foot gravel access road would be built to access the top and eastern portions of the project site." This mining access road would be built in areas outside the existing MRO. See, e.g., application at page 3 (the expanded MRO would include the then "existing [mine access] road"). However, "activities associated with mining or quarrying operations," such as mining access road building and maintenance, can only occur "in the Mineral Resource Overlay." SCC 14.16.440(7)(b). As the mining access road to be built and used for Steps 1 and 2 is outside the current MRO, Kiewit's Steps 1 and 2 activities cannot be permitted as proposed.

As Kiewit's applications are not allowed under Skagit County's existing comprehensive plan and zoning regulations, the hearings officer should deny Kiewit's applications. Alternatively, Skagit County should suspend processing Kiewit's applications so that Skagit County can consider amending its comprehensive plan to expand the MRO to cover all the activities in Kiewit's application. If Kiewit does not want to wait for a Comprehensive Plan amendment expanding the MRO to include these areas, Kiewit must modify its proposed project to be wholly within the existing MRO, which would necessarily constitute a substantial revision and the application process should be restarted and/or the public given an opportunity to comment on such substantially revised project.

In summary, Kiewit's applications pending before Skagit County are prohibited by the SCC and must be denied or suspended until the Comprehensive Plan is amended to expand the MRO to include the entire area in which Kiewit has proposed to conduct mining activities.

From Host Address: 198.204.218.186

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:07:29 AM

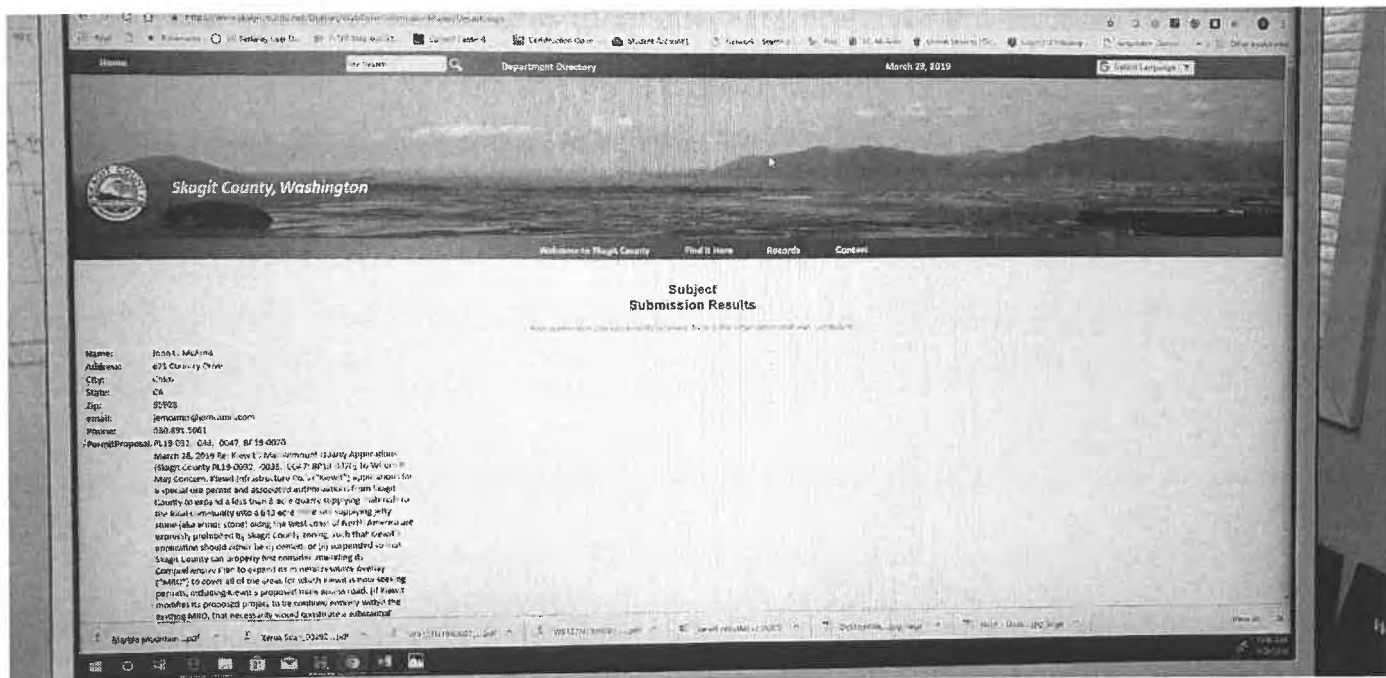
John Cooper

From: S.M. VANDEGRIFT [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:22 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Cc: Boone, David C NWP
Subject: Re: Kiewit's Marblemount Quarry Applications (Skagit County PL19-0032, -0033, -0047; BP19-0070)
Attachments: Marble Mountain Objection Letter.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from an external email address. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, you are expecting this email and attachments, and you know the content is safe.

This has been submitted through Skagit County's Web Portal with a duplicate copy attached here.

Please confirm receipt.



--
Best Regards,

Scott M. Vandegrift
Vice President
J.E. McAmis
[REDACTED]

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:30 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ashley Minnerath
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit quarry in Marblemount; File #PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070, PL19-0032
Comments : March 29, 2019

Mr. John Cooper
Skagit County Planning & Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mt. Vernon, WA 98273

RE: Kiewit quarry in Marblemount

Dear John,

Cascadian Farm and our parent company, General Mills Inc. have significant concerns with the proposed quarry expansion proposed by Kiewit Infrastructure for an existing quarry near Marblemount, WA.

Cascadian Farm operates an organic farm and roadside stand east of Rockport, WA. This is the site of our iconic Home Farm where the brand first started in 1972. Although we have grown far beyond our original farm to become a national organic brand, this site and the surrounding ecosystem, remains at the heart of our brand. Its images grace our packaging and online presence. Over 60,000 visitors stop by the iconic farm stand each year to enjoy ice cream and fresh berries among the unspoiled views of Eldorado, Mount Chaval, the Cascade Foothills, and the Skagit River. We strive to educate our visitors on our farming and land stewardship practices. Our Home Farm employs approximately seventeen full time year-round and seasonal employees that live in eastern Skagit County.

Our business relies on regional, national, and international tourism in the area. Our patrons visit Eastern Skagit County to recreate and enjoy the quiet solitude of this pristine and diverse ecosystem. We are concerned about how the visual impacts, noise, traffic, and environmental impact to wildlife will affect tourism and recreation in eastern Skagit County. Our business, and many others in the community, rely on eco-tourism which could be negatively impacted by the numerous and cumulative aspects of this project.

We are requesting an extension of public comment period under SEPA. Given the large number of documents to review, the length and complexity of those reports, and the unavailability of some documents until late in the review period Cascadian Farm has not been able to complete a detailed review in the time allotted to understand the impacts to our business and the community in which we operate.

Additionally, Cascadian Farm believes that a Determination of Significance Is warranted under WAC 197-11-330 and that an Environmental Impact Statement should be required. This project proposal will likely have a significant adverse impact on the local environment particularly due to the local context. The absolute quantitative effects (the amount of rock removed, the number of truck trips, blasting impacts, etc.) would be large regardless of context. But, whereas a similar development in an industrialized region might be considered less disruptive, the introduction of such immense changes in activity, noise, and the landscape itself will be highly significant in what is now a tranquil corner of a remote part of the County. This tranquility is what attracts tourists to our region and would be at risk should this project advance. Additionally, this change in activity may last for decades, and the cumulative impacts have not been identified or addressed. Several aspects of this project, including noise, traffic, visual impacts, blasting, clearing, etc. may not individually trigger an EIS, but combined they constitute a significant environmental impact that should be examined individually and cumulatively in an EIS.

In summary, we believe that the proposed significant expansion of the Kiewit Company's Marblemount quarry would have several impacts that necessitate an extension of the SEPA comment period so that we and others can more thoroughly examine the potential adverse project impacts. We believe that those impacts should be exemplified together, as well as cumulatively, in an EIS.

Cascadian Farm appreciates your consideration of our comments. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Ashley Minnerath
Site Director, Cascadian Farm Home Farm / General Mills

From Host Address: 174.216.1.142

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:24:19 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Celia Eloise Unsell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : Fire danger is a big concern of mine. I have lived in the upper Skagit 33years this month. Marblemount borders North Cascades Nation Park. The Park has had many fires. The Nehalem fire almost reached the point of evacuating all Marblemount and Rockport. There was a nasty fire on B&W, the foothills of Lookout Mt. And oh yes there that O' Brien fire. Smoked out all of Marblemount, hot embers falling on us. We had a shake roof. We set up a sprinkler on the roof that was 37feet high! That fire was where this project is being proposed. The very spot. It is terrifying to see the mountain on fire, when it is so close to your home. The smoke has serious health concerns as well. One element all three fires have in common-rocky and steep. This project offers,if I dare say it that way, many opportunities for a fire. Please inform me of any changes or hearing. Thank you

From Host Address: 50.34.223.171

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:37:55 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:50 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Robert Klengler
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry, PL19-0033

Comments : As a 23 year resident I have become accustomed to appropriate-scale use of our natural resources, including gravel pits.

A quarry of the proposed scale and timeline is inappropriate for this wild and scenic area.

Logging is a major activity in our area, but it is qualitatively and quantitatively different from quarry operations. Hillsides are logged, trees are planted, and the operation moves on. They do not operate 12+ hours per day. I've had many experiences with logging trucks over the years who have been respectful of bicyclists, pedestrians, motorcycles and cars. I've had few interactions with trucks carrying large stone and gravel, but they have almost always been negative. Driving too fast, and especially too close to pedestrians and bicycles. Debris always flies in the air as they pass.

The quarry will not move on as logging operations do. It would be an outsized scale for this natural environment for 100 years. Its current permitted size is more appropriate to this area.

From Host Address: 172.58.41.85

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 10:49:15 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Robert Klengler
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry, PL19-0033

Comments : "1.3 Why Marblemount Quarry for Jetty Stone

Jetty stone requires unique physical properties that few available quarry sources along the west coast of the United States can provide. The previous primary source of jetty stone was the Beaver Lake Quarry in Mt. Vernon, WA which is now nearly depleted. There are extremely limited sources of suitable rock in high enough quantities that can be permitted in the necessary time frame to be viable."

FALSE

The US Army Corps of Engineers, page 126 of "Revised Final Environmental Assessment
Columbia River at the Mouth, Oregon and Washington
Rehabilitation of the Jetty System at the Mouth of the Columbia River"

document identifies 15 quarries with suitable rock that are not only permitted, but in operation. They are:

Key:

No.

Quarry

County and State

Nearest City

Road Miles from MCR

Unit Weight (pcf)

Reserves Available (tons)

Likely Transportation Method

Nearest Barge Facility

1

Columbia Granite Quarry

Thurston, WA

Vail, WA

129

168.5

28 M

Truck

N/A

2
Beaver Lake Quarry
Skagit, WA
Clear Lake, WA
251
181.1
1.86 M
Truck, then Barge
Anacortes, WA

3
Texada Quarry
BC, CANADA
Texada Island, BC
363
173.5+
275 M
Barge
Onsite

4
Stave Lake Quarry
BC, CANADA
Mission, BC
311
169.1
74 M
Truck, then Barge
Mission, BC, Canada

5
192nd Street Quarry
Clark, WA
Camas, WA
109
168.5
0.5 M
Truck/Barge
Camas, WA

6
Iron Mountain Quarry
Snohomish, WA
Granite Falls, WA
225
174
Unknown
Truck
N/A

7
Marble Mount Quarry
Skagit, WA
Concrete, WA
276
189.7
2M
Truck, then Barge
Anacortes, WA

8
Youngs River Falls Quarry
Clatsop, OR
Astoria, OR
20
181.8
0.5 M+
Truck
N/A

9
Liscomb Hill Quarry
Humboldt, CA
Willow Creek, CA
515
179.1
0.5 M
Truck, then Barge
Eureka, CA

10
Baker Creek Quarry
Coos, OR
Powers, OR
275
200
Unknown
Truck, then Barge
Coos Bay, OR

11
Phipps Quarry
Cowlitz, WA
Castle Rock, WA
69
167.4
0.5 M
Truck
N/A

12

Cox Station Quarry
BC, CANADA
Abbotsford, BC
313
167.9
150 M
Barge
Onsite

13
Ekset Quarry
BC, CANADA
Mission, BC
309
172.2
10 M
Truck, then Barge
Mission, BC, Canada

14
Fisher Quarry
Clark, WA
Camas, WA
108
168.5
2M
Barge
Camas, WA

15
Bankus Quarry
Curry, OR
Brookings, OR
347
183 & 195
0.7M
Truck, then Barge
Crescent City, CA

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

From Host Address: 172.58.41.85

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 10:35:59 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:25 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Tara McGown
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : The proposed quarry in Marblemount has serious and lasting impacts on my home which is located within a mile of Rockport-Cascade Road, 1/2 mile from 530 and 1 mile from Hwy 20. In other words I am surrounded by the chosen lanes of transport for the proposed quarry and I object strongly to the project for many reasons but will first focus on the increased traffic and noise it will cause. It is definitely more than negligible. I walk and ride bicycle regularly on the Rockport-Cascade Road and see no more than 10 cars in 2 hours time. The projected volume of traffic (up to 150 trips/day) of large trucks, equipment and workers will have a devastating effect on my use of that roadway. It will no longer be safe or healthy for me - the noise and the degradation of air quality will make it prohibitive. The increased traffic and the noise will also impact my home. The rural forest and farming community that I now live in will be hit with a major increase of large vehicles rumbling and braking on the nearby roadways 6 AM - 6 PM, 6 days a week. Noise carries! Noise has a negative effect on health! Constant large vehicle noise is not part of rural living!

From Host Address: 104.235.165.13

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 10:20:24 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:25 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Celia Eloise Unsell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : I insist, demand, beg, pray, request, strongly recommend that there be an Environmental Impact Statement. After reading the Assessment of Rock Blasting Impacts by Gordon F. Revey, it is clear to me he knows the science and can put it in layman's terms, but doesn't know our area or wildlife.

These are my reasons:

3.1 Impacts on water- Marblemount gets 90-100 inches of rain a year. Why doesn't it flood. The soil here is very well drained. Where does it go-into the water table. Revey states there is no open water there. There will be-retaining ponds. Where will the chemicals in the ponds end up.

3.2 Impacts to Air Quality-If Kiewit follows recommendations and never blasts when the wind is more than 15mph all is well. We get upriver winds pretty much every day here in the Summer months that are stronger than 15mph. Last winter the wind storms were so powerful,we are still cleaning up. Can you really believe operations would stop every time the wind is more than 15mph?

3.3 Impacts on Wildlife-this is the one then I knew who he is working for. How can you compare trapped zoo animals to wildlife? I was a cat 4H leader for years. You put a cat in a cage take it to County and State Fairs. Very stressful environment for the cats. In the cages they shut down-sleep all the time. During fit and show-many bite Judges and even their owners. Some get away and are lost.

Show me a study that radio collars wildlife before a blasting project starts and see what they do once the operation is under way. Most people have dogs, what happens on the 4th of July? You don't have to be a blasting expert to figure out, it will impact wildlife. Most will leave the area, abandon nest sites, move into other ecosystems disrupting them too.

Revey also seemed unaware that Marblemount is a natural amphitheater due to the landscape. I understand he lives in Colorado. I lived there. The valley floors are high and rain fall is much less.

A final note. In Revey's report, he says over and over,"if recommendations are closely followed" Kiewit doesn't have a great track record-68 violations in Canada alone. Even if they have all the integrity in the world, are there no errors? People aren't perfect, mistakes happen.If the Skagit River is contaminated, the whole Valley, not just upriver would be impacted.

Please, please, please get a EIS. Thank you for you time and consideration.

From Host Address: 50.34.223.171

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 10:20:14 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:00 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Richard and Karen Davis
[REDACTED]

City : Lynnwood
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : We are writing about our GRAVE concerns over the proposed Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry near Marblemount. We own 5 acres and a home in the Marblegate community [REDACTED]. The safety for homes along Rockport Cascade RD is a concern over possible instability of the rest of the "mountain" beyond the quarry site. I want more attention to noise (blasting and grinding) and vibration control, the impact in a residential area, the prolonged hours of operation, the possible expansion of the site in the future, the hazards of dust, the destruction of the natural habitat, the traffic impacts on Rockport Cascade Road and 530 and 20 as trucks clog the narrow road with no shoulder or turn lane, and on the bridge, the traffic impact on the state park at Rockport and the eagles. Also the emergency plan is incomplete, issues with the security of the site for the dangerous materials, will operation be curtailed in fire season, etc.

Thank you

From Host Address: 73.59.87.2

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 9:56:10 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Deven Vilar
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I want to express my concern over the proposed Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount. I work in the Skagit Valley and in the North Cascades National Park. The North Cascades is a wild, scenic, and sensitive landscape and community. The risks associated with the project far outweigh the benefits and I do not believe it is in the best interest of the people, wildlife, or wild spaces of Marblemount, the North Cascades, and Skagit Valley.

From Host Address: 74.94.69.169

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 10:01:13 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 10:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Judith Akins
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL 19-0033 Kiewit Quarry Expansion

Comments : I am writing my comments on behalf of the Mt. Baker Group Sierra Club. Our Group represents approximately 2,500 members in Whatcom, Skagit and San Juan Counties. (Our Skagit membership is 750 .) The Mt. Baker Group has been doing trail maintenance in the Diobsud Creek area for 23 years. Our members enjoy hiking, biking and wildlife viewing in the surrounding area of Marblemount, as well as enjoying local restaurants on the way to the North Cascades National Park. I mention all this because as you may know Sierra Club is dedicated to exploring, enjoying and protecting the environment. I was first alerted to this proposal by a member in Skagit County. After reading through the proposal and trying to delve into the details in such a short period I have many concerns.

First of all, for such a lengthy proposed timeline, 100 years, there seems to be a lack of proper environmental study. An Environmental Impact Study should be conducted. While realizing this is on private land with property owner rights, it also has serious impacts on the environment, as well as the health and safety of the community, which the County must protect under Skagit County Comprehensive Plan.(Article XI Section 11 of the State Constitution)

This site sheds water into fish-bearing streams that flow into the Skagit River. Unmitigated impacts on aquatic ecosystems containing federally threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (Chinook, Steelhead, Bull Trout, etc.) should be investigated. Already much time and thousands of dollars have been spent this year by our State in trying to save the Southern Resident Orca, especially what we can do to preserve and increase salmon habitat. Any threat to the Skagit will likely threaten the salmon habitat there. Other species use this habitat, such as the Peregrine Falcon, and fisher that use the area for habitat and so a study is needed on the plants and animals that would be impacted by logging and mining and whether this would permanently cause the eradication in the area; to quote, "Noise, air and water pollution would impact fish and wildlife habitat on adjacent lands. The landowners own these lands for wildlife habitat ." (O'Brian, Seattle City Light.)

Air, noise and water quality should also be addressed. The proposal indicates that there could be 6 day-a-week blasting, cutting, and transport in large trucks, for 12-18 hours a day. What impact will this have on the young children, older citizens and those with chronic diseases such as asthma, cancer and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder .

This plan will impact the daily lives of families in their homes; their daily activities, pets and livestock. There has to be a better plan to mitigate the impacts. Why must this happen so many hours on so many days of the week ? A careful study may suggest a time frame, seasons, time of day, etc. when the impact would not be as great. People have told me that they chose this area for its quiet and solitude; what will happen to this quiet over

100 year period?

Lastly, to address the exploration part of this proposal. This community is the gateway to the North Cascades National Park. Millions of people travel from all around the globe to come here to enjoy the beauty of our region. Six weeks from now Highway 20 will be open and the traffic will build until the snow quietly descends again and slows things down except for the intrepid winter enthusiasts. Highway 20 from Marblemount, through Concrete, Lyman and Sedro Woolley and out to I-5 gets a bit busy, to put it mildly. What happens when these trucks enter into the congestion? What happens to the road bed that incurs damage from these heavy trucks? The traffic expected is excessive. Rockport Cascade Road is a chip sealed road with no shoulder and there is currently nothing written in Kiewit's mitigation plan that they will maintain or repair damages to the road. Is the County prepared to pay for the road maintenance and repair due to this project? Will this become a place that people will want to avoid? What does that mean for tourism in the North Cascades?

Finally, even though it sounds as if the quarry rocks maybe well used, this too should be studied for impacts on the coast and elsewhere. The Mt Baker Group believes that only through careful study of all the possible effects in all areas can proper judgment be made. We hope that you will also see that this is the best route. We look forward to engaging with you on this issue.

From Host Address: 76.28.209.195

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 10:46:50 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 10:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Linda Allasia
[REDACTED]

City : Redmond
State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Comments : Resubmitting with Proposal Name:

Please do not allow the new mining/quarry outside of Marblemount! Almost 45 years ago, my husband and I bought 5.8 acres in Marblegate. This evokes many special memories of camping, hiking and fishing. My husband passes away and I haven't gotten up to our land in awhile. But now the grandsons are are perfect age to introduce them to this family treasure. My property value plummeted due to the water rites issue, and now with the inevitable noise and water pollution , what will happen to the property values then? This area has always been a quite haven to rejuvenate my soul. Please block this new business!

From Host Address: 71.231.179.49

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 10:47:38 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 11:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Betty Seguin
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I oppose this operation. The Skagit is a designated Wild & Scenic River, in a relatively pristine part of our county and state adjacent to North Cascades National Park. A large rock quarry operation would adversely affect the river, the vegetation, the wildlife, the air quality of this area. Traffic from many large trucks would degrade the roads (primarily SR 20). Current high value of the area for recreation and tourism would thus be reduced. This area is also the home to a number of families and individuals who moved there seeking a simple, quiet lifestyle in a place of natural beauty. Their lives would be negatively impacted and property values would decrease if this proposed project became reality. Please address the concerns of the many citizens affected by this operation, and do not allow it to take place. Thank you.

From Host Address: 66.235.38.107

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 11:39:22 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 7:00 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Bridget Wisniewski
[REDACTED]

City : Darrington

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0032,PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070 Kiewet Infrastruction Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I understand the need for rock, but I have also been working with and around people who are trying to save the salmon here in the Skagit basin. Somehow inserting a large quarry with 75 large trucks carrying heavy loads strikes me as questionable given the amount of money and energy at trying to restore the fish runs. It is well documented that fish are effected by runoff from the roads such as oil, brake pad particles, rubber from tires and other automobile by products. Bringing a lot of heavy machinery into the area seems to be at odds with this work. Consider the future ramifications of such an operation on the work many have fought hard to establish, especially the work to restore the salmon.

From Host Address: 50.34.105.229

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 6:58:03 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 7:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Melody A Sortor
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I am highly opposed to this venture as a resident of this area. This will greatly impact our wildlife (including the grey wolf!), our economy(which is mostly tourism), traffic/roads, and destroy the beauty and peace that many MANY of us live out here to enjoy.

From Host Address: 104.235.189.41

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 7:16:49 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 7:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Celia Eloise Unsell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : A 100 YEARS!?! Most of us don't even live that long. I can't believe that our County government can foresee the effects of this project and the needs of its citizens that far into the future. Even Seattle City Light is limited to 50 years. Please don't approve something so far reaching.

From Host Address: 50.34.223.171

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 7:35:38 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Gerry Cook/Hannah Sullivan
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : "The ache for home lives in all of us"

~Maya Angelou

Dear County commissioners,

The news of the proposed Kiewit gravel pit project in Marblemount has touched all of us who live here in some way. As longtime residents of the Marblemount community, we feel it is imperative to share our concerns.

There are many layers from which to draw; for us, it is the threat of impact, both environmental and cultural. As a National Park family for over forty years, we have revered the upper valley as one of those "last best places"~often we awake to eagles chirping and calling from the river which is half a mile away. The trees drip lichen called "old man's beard" which is known to grow only in places where the air is pure enough to support it. Cyclists ride past our home on their coast-to-coast rides, bears chomp plums from one of our old fruit trees. It is quiet enough to hear a gunshot from over two miles away very clearly. So the thought of 75 large dump trucks and two blasts a day shakes the very foundation of the life we have so loved.

Please at the very least take MORE TIME to consider citizen concerns.

This operation will leave a lasting negative impact and scar the landscape of a pristine valley, as well as negatively impacting the lives of the residents.

From Host Address: 104.235.184.224

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 8:03:32 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Erin Aileen OBrien
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation Near Marblemount
Comments : My home is closest to the quarry.

From Host Address: 174.216.12.131

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 8:15:27 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Linda Seifried
[REDACTED]

City : Sidney Center
State : NY
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount quarry

Comments : It has just come to my attention that the County is proposing to expand the quarry on Rockport Cascade Road.

I am writing as a 20-year visitor to Marblemount. We come every summer to visit our daughter who worked until recently as a Park Ranger for NOCA. We stay for 8-19 days in the Marblemount area and enjoy the beauty of the valley and the National Park. We bike the highway the present quarry is on - a peaceful road along the river. We canoe down the Skagit, loving the crystal-clear water. We care about the salmon runs and the ecological health of the river.

First of all - why is this comment period SO SHORT? There is not adequate time for the public to be informed and to respond. PLEASE CONSIDER EXTENDING THE COMMENT PERIOD.

I'm sure the County is well aware of the huge amount of tourism associated with this area. Traffic on weekends is non-stop on Rte 20, some heading for the Marblemount office of NOCA and some going on to the Methow. Have you considered the way this will be negatively affected by the huge amount of truck traffic, should a quarry expansion of this size ever go forward?

I can assure you, [being familiar with how truck traffic from fracking has impacted traffic here in my area] that it is a headache. At a certain point, it's just not worth the hassle - and the actual DANGER OF MANY BIG TRUCKS on highways the size of 20 cannot be over-emphasized.

Are you prepared for the degradation of your highways and strain on the bridges over the Skagit? Do some research on how PA counties had to seek compensation from the frackers to rebuild their highways.

Dust from this operation is inevitable, and is likely to have a very negative, ongoing effect on life - all life - human, animal, vegetation, and especially the salmon who spawn in the river. Who will recompense residents for all this? Is there something in the contract with the quarry that will assure this?

I understand that fuel and blasting material will be onsite. considering the ongoing dryness, this seems like a dangerous idea.

Forest fires now occur on the west side of the Cascades - in fact, the very ridge where the quarry is burned. Forest fires are a new menace that the County needs to address. Tragic loss of live occurs when there is fire and only a few roads to escape on, as we just witnessed in CA.

There is more to be concerned about, but for now, I have two requests:

- Provide an extension to this comment period, and publicize this better for the community
- Consider the degradation to your valuable natural resource - the incredibly beautiful, rural and idyllic Upper Skagit Valley, and don't ruin a good thing.

Respectfully,
Linda Seifried

From Host Address: 172.76.227.123

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 8:16:27 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:50 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Erin Aileen OBrien
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation Near Marblemount

Comments : My home is closest to the quarry. The quiet natural paradise that I own outright will be permanently replaced by an ecological nightmare. I firmly oppose the quarry operation and its complete destruction of the delicate balance which we work so hard to sustain, living with nature and protecting it. I am now a retired widow with a rare MS-like disease. I grew up in a war zone and then became a humanitarian aid worker in Africa. When my husband died, it took everything I had to buy this beautiful place. I came here to heal, and have found that this peaceful, quiet refuge does that. It is what has kept me alive and healing. This is all I have. Please don't destroy my last hope and refuge.

Erin A. OBrien

From Host Address: 174.216.12.131

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 8:49:36 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:55 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Lawrence Stram
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I strongly oppose this project. My property is less than one mile from the proposed site. The area known as Marblemount and Rockport are not part of a wasteland that nobody cares much about. At first blush it might look like a great place to dig a huge quarry generating, a lot of undesirable, noise, vibration, dust, pollution, etc. From down valley it may appear to many as an unattractive place in the middle of nowhere that very few people care about or home to only a few strange people living in the woods. This is actually a very significant part of this state. The area where the site is located is in the heart of the interface between what we call civilization and one of the greatest wilderness treasures on planet earth. This is the very doorstep of National Forest Land, and the magnificent North Cascade Mountain Range. The National Park itself contains more biomass than any other place on earth. This is the buffer between the cities, industries, freeways, houses and all things different than the big trees, clear water, and pristine mountain views and endless quiet in this place I call home.

I am amazed that this plan could ever reach this stage. What is wrong here? What are the people of Skagit county getting for this?

What is the benefit to us the people? I have been to the jetties at the mouth of the Columbia and walked on the big rocks there. There are many to be sure and they are valuable for their size and density but they are not rare. This rock exists in many places better suited, for mining and near to the end use. Why would anyone think that it is a good idea to blow up this mountainside to dig out the giant boulders then truck them 70 miles to Bellingham, load them on barges and ship all the way to the Columbia river. This type of rock exists much closer to the end project and should be extracted there IMHO. All this transporting just adds to the cost of the product and the landowners along with the people of the county, state and country suffer the noise, pollution and traffic. How could you put your name and stamp of approval on this bad idea? What is the pay off, how is the quality of life enhanced and who is getting compensated for the damage done?

From Host Address: 174.216.11.37

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 8:53:24 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 9:10 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Gretchen Hewitt
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070

Comments : i.e. Kiewey Infrastructure Quarry: Do not allow this project. Do not contaminate the water, damage our already delicate land, cause damage and trauma to wildlife, bring danger on Hwy 20, which is already accident prone. Do not as a result bring suffering to the people, children, elderly. Loud, terrible destruction. Do not allow this project.

From Host Address: 72.168.144.131

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 9:09:14 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 9:15 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Saul Weisberg
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation (Marblemount)

Comments : I am writing to express my concerns and opposition to the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry proposal in its current form. I have worked in the Skagit Valley for the past 40 year, have lived in Marblemount and Rockport, and believe the impacts of the quarry would have long-lasting negative impacts on our upriver communities. Please provide an extension of the comment deadline and require a full EIS for this project. The impacts reach far beyond the immediate area. I have particular concerns for its impacts on local residents, transportation, fisheries and wildlife. as well as the main stem Skagit.

From Host Address: 73.53.8.86

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 9:11:31 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 9:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Paula Berg

[REDACTED]
City : Bow
State : WA

2
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PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : I am opposed to this proposed project for many reasons including: noise, air and water pollution impacting surrounding human and non-human communities; fuel from trucks, blasting chemicals and other pollutants from the project leaking into the local aquifer and nearby Skagit River; disruptions to federally-protected species including peregrine falcons -- which nest on nearby cliffs -- and chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout; and impacts to the region's important tourist economy.

Please consider an extension to the deadline and require a full EIS because the impacts reach far beyond the quarry area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

From Host Address: 74.94.69.169

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 9:16:16 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 9:35 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Anna Santo
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : Please do not approve the proposed expansion of the Kiewet quarry near Marblemount. The risks it poses to the nearby Wild and Scenic Skagit River and the community of Marblemount and others downstream far outweigh the benefits of this project.

The communities along the Skagit River are already stressed, and the noise, pollution, and deforestation that this project will cause will further cripple these communities.

The Skagit River is a treasure for Washington. I frequently recreate there and enjoy the pristine waters. In addition, it is among the most important rivers in the northwest for protecting salmon populations that are already in sharp decline. This is impacting our marine and riverine ecosystems in terrible ways. We should not approve projects that risk damaging the river that supports most of Washington's chinook salmon population. We are in a crisis to protect these salmon, as demonstrated by the fact that our resident orca population is nearing extinction. How incredibly short-sighted it would be to approve this project.

I urge you to not approve this permit expansion.

Respectfully,
Anna Santo

From Host Address: 190.238.103.142

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 9:31:11 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Claire McIlvain
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount, PL19-0033
Comments : This is a continuation of my prior comments.

This community is the gateway to North Cascades National Park. People travel from all over the world to experience the beauty and wildness of this place that we call home. Will they still want to come with the vista marred by an open-faced quarry? What of the cyclists who want to share the roads? Will they be willing to chance their safety biking up Highway 20 with a large truck roaring past every three minutes? We should not concede to sacrificing our budding eco-tourism industry, which brings so much life (and revenue) into our community.

Back at my house in Concrete, I wake up every morning to the sound of birdsong. I've been learning the names of the birds I hear: mountain chickadee, variegated thrush, barred owl, Stellar's jay, flicker, Swainson's thrush, spotted towhee. Although I live about half a mile away from Highway 20, I can clearly hear every time a vehicle passes especially big trucks. Sounds reverberate for miles around. With a truck from the mine passing by every three minutes, beginning at six a.m., six days a week, will my home continue to be a peaceful refuge? And I have no question that we will be able to hear reverberations from the blasts at the quarry. The sound carries for incredible distances in this valley.

The past several summers, our skies have been darkened by the smoke blowing in from forest fires in other places. As the eery pink sun struggled to illuminate anything through the haze, I felt myself constantly on edge, praying that every person passing through our valley would miraculously be responsible enough to avoid lighting any small fire, or even throwing a cigarette butt out of their car window. In our bone-dry summers, any tiny spark could be enough to light up the whole valley in flames. And yet we want explosives powerful enough to destroy a mountainside to be stored, unguarded, on these very slopes? Marblemount only has a tiny volunteer fire department, already stretched thin. It's entirely unrealistic to expect that they'll be able to contain an industrial-scale fire before it spreads to consume thousands of acres and beyond. With climate change only predicted to make our periods of drought longer and our summers hotter, this risk will only continue to grow more dire.

From Host Address: 72.107.184.128

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 4:26:25 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 3:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Meagan Duke
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry -- NO

Comments : Extend the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

We demand an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

No more development of our natural capital. Stop the damn consumption. No Marblemount quarry.

From Host Address: 162.247.183.222

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 3:39:12 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Claire McIlvain
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount, PL19-0033

Comments : My name is Claire McIlvain. I live in Grassmere, outside of Concrete, WA. Although this quarry is not right in my own backyard, I have no doubt that this project will severely impact me, my family, my friends, my community, and the entire ecosystem.

I have several friends who live directly below the proposed quarry site and I often take my toddler there to play with their small children. The rock face is sheer, jutting up suddenly out of the valley floor. I worry that clear-cutting 600 acres of trees from the top of this mountain will destabilize the entire slope. With the reverberations from multiple blasts a day, what guarantee do we have that my friends' homes and families will be safe from landslides? Five years after the tragedy in Oso, have we learned anything?

Living in the country, my friends' houses get their water from wells. Their water is exceptionally pure, clean, and healthy. Chemicals from blasting, as well as diesel that is sure to eventually spill out of equipment, will inevitably wash down the mountainside and into their groundwater. What protections do they have that their water will remain free of pollutants? Should I be prepared to pack in drinking water whenever my son has a playdate?

This groundwater will next seep into the Skagit River, a federally-protected Wild and Scenic River, the lifeblood of our entire county. What will happen to the salmon? The eagles? All other creatures that depend on the river? What will happen to people who want to fish, to boat, or to camp along the river?

From Host Address: 72.107.184.128

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 4:23:53 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Claire McIlvain
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount, PL19-0033
Comments : This is a continuation of my prior comments.

At a recent guided tour of Rockport State Park, a park ranger pointed out a lichen called Usnea or Methuselah's beard. This half-algae, half-fungus, which has medicinal uses and grows only millimeters a year, is festooned all over the old growth trees of the park. The rangers told us that this lichen grows only in conditions of the purest air quality. With the "fugitive dust" escaping from this project and the 201 additional tons of CO2 produced daily by the trucks passing on Highway 20, will the Usnea shrivel and fall to the ground?

I ask that you extend the comment period for this proposal. The amount of time the community has been given to review this large amount of technical information is comically inadequate. Or it would be comical, if the consequences of this project weren't so catastrophic for our communities. I also ask that an Environmental Impact Statement be completed. The effects of this project look to be so much higher than what was indicated by Kiewit.

Thank you for your consideration. I ask that you give credence to the voices of the people who live in this area, whose lives would be directly and negatively impacted by the approval of this project.

Sincerely,
Claire McIlvain

From Host Address: 72.107.184.128

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 4:28:42 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Janis Buckner
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am writing in opposition to the proposed Marblemount Quarry. I am requesting that we are given more time to allow our community to be apprised of this proposal and to allow for each person's voice to be heard.

Please help us keep the Skagit River and the Upriver Community Wild & Scenic!

Thank you!
Janis Buckner

From Host Address: 50.34.223.200

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 4:49:28 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 5:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Juliana Frye Matragrano
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry Mine

Comments : We're asking for an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

We're asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

From Host Address: 67.171.28.241

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 5:40:14 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 5:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : GuruBani Whitney Khalsa
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am writing in opposition to the proposed Marblemount Quarry (PL-19-0033). I am a Mother, Therapist, Homesteader, Business Owner and Environmental Steward in the upper Skagit Valley.

There are many reasons why the Marblemount Quarry would be detrimental to the Upper Skagit River Community and Corridor. below, I have addressed some of my concerns with this proposal.

The upper Skagit Valley is a quiet community that provides locals and visitors a place to retreat into nature and to get away from the chaos and sounds of the city. Home to many protected and endangered animals, military veterans, families, and homesteaders, the peace of the upper Skagit region is what draws people to this area. Those who live in this community and those who enjoy visiting here, choose to do so because of the beauty, calm, and connection that this pristine environment and delicate ecosystem offers. It connects us to a simpler time in our history, one where people worked together with their community, cherished time with their family, and connected to the natural environment around them. Sadly, with the proposal for the Marblemount Quarry, these precious assets will cease to exist.

With the constant sound of generators running around the clock, large trucks driving to/from the quarry, and the intense sound and vibrations caused by the blasting of the rock, our wildlife population would decrease, and our lifestyles would be greatly affected. Veterans and those in the community with PTSD, as well as sensitive pets, would be in constant distress due to the extreme increase in Noise Pollution; local businesses would be affected as well. Vacation rentals would see a decrease in visitors, affecting the already limited opportunities for locals to generate income, if the area's peaceful environment was no more. For instance, on Rockport Cascade Road, there is a retreat for wounded warriors, visitors will not be able to retreat to reduce their stress and trauma with sounds and vibrations caused by quarry blasting, and large trucks driving by all day.

It is well known that Quarries pose a high risk of contamination to groundwater resources. Pollution of the waterways would decrease the quality of the drinking water for residents, as most of this area is utilizing well water; with no hope for building new well systems, due to the already in place well moratorium by the Swinomish Tribe. In addition, the natural resources for wildlife, in this area and down river, would be affected; including the Salmon population. This river corridor is a wild and scenic area that has tribal communities overseeing the Salmon population, contaminated riverways and groundwater would severely affect their habitat.

Many people in this community have chosen to live here to be away from pollutants that affect their health and well-being. Even within permissible limits, the Air Quality would be greatly affected, due to the creation of airborne dust caused from the blasting. Each aspect of this quarry will diminish the quality of life for the residents, both human and wildlife of this area.

Families raising children upriver chose the upper Skagit, for the beauty, peace and as a safe haven for their loved ones. Our desire was to offer our children the opportunity to have a natural childhood. One where they can connect with nature, explore the beauty of the area, have clean air and water, and ride the bikes on quiet country roads. The quarry would take this away and more. The increase in traffic, on Rockport Cascade and Hwys 530 and 20, would create safety concerns for our children. Whether it be when they are out playing or when commuting to school, groceries, etc., the increased traffic of large trucks pose a safety concern. Side roads will see an increase in traffic posing harm to those riding their bikes, walking to neighbors and riding horses. Many cars will choose to detour through these quiet side roads in order to bypass the trucks hauling material, decreasing the safety and quality of life for those in the community. With commuting, the Hwys are winding and narrow and dangerous enough without the increase of large vehicles that are difficult to see around, have debris falling off, and are moving a large degree of mass at high speeds. Many children in the area ride the bus to and from school for over an hour each way, the buses would have to navigate around the trucks and there is an immense amount of danger to the children who are crossing the highway in dark hours. Those who commute their children to school or when going to work will have to follow behind trucks causing limited visibility and the potential hazard of debris falling off which causes an increase in accidents. We do not need to create further safety concerns on these highways than is already present with logging trucks, buses, recreational vehicles, and cars driving up and down the valley.

Considering the health, well-being and safety of the residents and visitors of the Upper Skagit community, and the grave environmental impact this quarry proposal will have, I ask that you please consider the larger impact that is at stake. Please help keep the Upper Skagit corridor Wild, Scenic, Safe, and Healthy.

Thank you for your consideration,
GuruBani Whitney

From Host Address: 50.34.223.200

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 5:52:34 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 7:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Rachel Van Boven
[REDACTED]

City : RICHMOND

State : IN
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiawet Infrastructure Quarry Operation Near Marblemount

Comments : I'm writing to oppose the permit for this operation. I am from Bellingham and have many family and friends who live in Marblemount. Although I am currently in Seminary in Indiana, I plan to move back in June. I visit the upper Skagit, Marblemount, or the North Cascades at least once a month. It is a profoundly beautiful and peaceful place that restores my soul. Not to mention the fact that I always buy something when I'm in the area. The stress of additional heavy traffic and destruction of beautiful nature will shatter the peaceful and pristine nature of the Upper Skagit and add stress to the lives of the people living there and visiting. Tourism, NOT resource extraction, is the economic future of the Upper Skagit. I currently live in one of the most economically struggling parts of the country, which destroyed it's nature, extracted all its resources, and now has very little economic development. I am surrounded by abandoned factories and desperate people. This Rust Belt reality is the future of the Upper Skagit if you continue to prioritize resource extraction. Please do not allow this permit to go through.

From Host Address: 68.38.35.120

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 7:11:56 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 7:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Denae Sackmann
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham

State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : WAC197-11-330

Comments : We're asking for an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

We're asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed."

From Host Address: 107.77.205.181

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 7:20:33 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 8:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Samantha Richert
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, PL19-0033

Comments : I am writing to state my opposition to the proposed enlargement of the Marblemount quarry by Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry. The activities described in the proposed special use mining permit would be very disruptive to the Marblemount area community and would destroy the quality of life in the area.

When I moved here three years ago, Marblemount had the reputation of being a community plagued by unemployment and drug addiction. As I've become more familiar with the community here, I've discovered that it is actually full of young families who are homesteading or working for local agencies (National Park Service, Seattle City Light, North Cascades Institute) or a mix of both. These are families who have chosen to live in a more remote area because of the peace and quiet afforded to them and the opportunity to raise their children in a wholesome way. These families are building on existing traditions of self-reliance and respect for the landscape, and helping the overall community become more stable and productive. The industrial disruption that would be caused by the proposed expansion of the quarry would threaten this way of life and probably cause many of these young families to move. I have seen similar trends while I lived in Alaska. It was heartbreaking and certainly not worth any temporary gain by an outside company.

The Skagit County Comprehensive Plan finalized in 2016 has a laudable emphasis on rural growth and development. The rural character of Skagit County is so precious, and becoming increasingly rare in the coastal Pacific Northwest. I believe the proposed quarry expansion would threaten the rural qualities of upper Skagit Valley and I ask that you deny this permit.

From Host Address: 50.34.191.121

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 8:45:47 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 8:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Andrea Weiser
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0032, PL19-0033, PL19-0046 and BP 19-0070

Comments : I sent you a letter regarding these permit applications earlier this week but want to also ask for an extension on the comment period. I only learned of the proposed quarry in Marblemount and associated roads and infrastructure early last week and there are many other community members and concerned groups who are just learning about it and have not had any opportunity to review documents in any detail or submit comments. I have reviewed some but not all of the documents associated with and relevant to this proposal and would like the opportunity to review them more completely.

I would also like to make a correction from my previous letter submitted by electronic form on March 26 and by hard copy letter postmarked March 27. In that letter, I mention potential sound and traffic having a detrimental impact on people living in residential homes on "Cascade River Road." I meant to write Rockport-Cascade Road. Though I'm sure the noise would be heard from Cascade River Road as well as many other surrounding areas, I would prefer to hear coyotes, owls, wolves, and the sound of the clear running rivers and creeks so please consider how incongruous this project is with the locale in which it is proposed and the ripple effect not just to the people who have a voice but also on the plants, birds and animals, fish, amphibians, and the ecosystem in which they live down to the bottom of the food chain.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment.

From Host Address: 50.34.202.45

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 8:50:30 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 9:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kimberly Burrows

[REDACTED]
City : Marblemount

State : WASHINGTON (WA)

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Dear Skagit County Planning and Development Services,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed Kiewit Infrastructure Marblemount Quarry. My home, where I live with my husband and 2-year-old daughter, is just 1600 feet from the proposed site. I have several concerns based on my review of the detailed project description and believe that this project will put my families health, safety, and welfare at risk.

I urge you to extend the comment period to provide adequate time to review the extensive project permit. Additionally, as a property owner located in close proximity to the proposed quarry, I am requesting direct notification of all developments in the application process.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Burrows

From Host Address: 174.216.18.247

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 9:33:07 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 10:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kim DiCenzo
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro-Woolley
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Marblemount Quarry

Comments : As a professional Secretary of the Interior qualified archeologist, I reviewed your cultural resources survey for the proposed quarry in Marblemount. Below are a few comments on the report.

-It appears your project has a federal nexus because its impetus is to supply the Army Corps of Engineers with materials yet your report does not mention the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). NHPA Section 106 review is required when a project is funded, permitted, licensed, or approved by a federal agency.

-The archeological survey completed is not adequate for the scope of the proposed quarry project. The contractor completed a reconnaissance survey when there should have been an intensive survey. The contractor states that the ground surface was obscured by vegetation which is evidence that a more thorough subsurface survey should be completed. For a project such as this where there will be substantial ground disturbance throughout the APE, an intensive survey is the appropriate method.

-The report states that because the APE is a ½ mile away from the river bank it is has a low probability for archeological resources. This is a poor assumption and in fact the APE's close proximity to the Skagit River, near the confluence with the Cascade River (1 mile away), and on a flat landform makes the area in the medium to high range for cultural resources. The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's predictive model for archeological potential agrees with my assessment and shows that over half of this project's APE is situated with in an area of very high risk. I would happily provide you with this map at a later time as I am not able to paste it into this comment form.

-You need to consider both a direct and indirect APE since this project will have such large visual and auditory effects. Only a direct APE was considered in the report. Please also consider cultural resources beyond archeology such as Traditional Cultural Properties.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. I ask that you please do not release my name to the permit applicant or any of the contractors.

From Host Address: 50.34.168.194

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 9:57:46 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 10:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jodi Broughton
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am very concerned about the proposed expansion of the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount.

Kiewit Infrastructure has proposed expanding the existing quarry from 20 to 79 acres, a nearly fourfold increase that would dramatically affect the local landscape. The company plans to remove 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone over the lifetime of the project, an environmental impact that can never be wholly mitigated. Furthermore, the project requires denuding 90 acres of forested land to remove 2.7 million board feet of timber. All of this would be happening in close proximity to North Cascades National Park and federally designated Wilderness Areas. This expansion is inconsistent with the goal of an intact North Cascades ecosystem.

Among the specific impacts of the proposed quarry expansion that particularly concern me are the following:

- Construction of a 1.3 mile gravel road for the purposes of removing timber.
- Noise pollution from blasting and other heavy industrial activity occurring within less than one mile from about 30 homes. The nearest home is only 600 feet away.
- Increased risk of accidents along the Highway 20 corridor caused by the addition of large, slow-moving trucks. Highway 20 is already a dangerous road with fast-moving traffic and many blind curves. In the summer, the North Cascades Highway is full of tourists, who flock to this region because of its scenic beauty, abundant wildlife, and rugged mountains.
- Visual impacts from deforestation and mining activity associated with the quarry. These would be damaging to the area's rural character and to recreational and tourism opportunities.
- Potential effects on sensitive or protected wildlife species, such as salmon, peregrine falcons, newly released fishers, and much more.

I do not think the interests of the Marblemount/Diablo area are best served by a major industrial project that will dramatically alter the local landscape for at least the next 100 years (the period for which Kiewit Infrastructure hopes to obtain a permit to operate the project). In practical terms this amounts to permanently changing the character of the area in ways that would be harmful to local residents, wildlife, and the very qualities that make this part of rural Washington unique. It is for these reasons that I oppose this project.

Please extend the comment deadline and consider doing a full Environmental Impact Statement so that the full impacts of this project might be weighed.

Thank you, Jodi Broughton

From Host Address: 73.239.180.244

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 10:29:38 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 10:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Linda Allasia
[REDACTED]

City : Redmond

State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Linda Allasia

Comments : Please do not allow the new mining/quarry outside of Marblemount! Almost 45 years ago, my husband and I bought 5.8 acres in Marblegate. This evokes many special memories of camping, hiking and fishing. My husband passes away and I haven't gotten up to our land in awhile. But now the grandsons are perfect age to introduce them to this family treasure. My property value plummeted due to the water rites issue, and now with the inevitable noise and water pollution , what will happen to the property values then? This area has always been a quite haven to rejuvenate my soul. Please block this new business!

From Host Address: 71.231.179.49

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 10:43:53 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2019 7:30 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Travis Huisman
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro-Woolley

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry, PL19-0033

Comments : I know I am late for the public comment. I apologize, I just heard.

I am adamantly opposed to any mining in the Skagit River watershed. Enough is enough. Please put protecting our natural resources and natural places ahead of economic mining interests.

You can not get this back.

Travis Huisman

From Host Address: 172.92.222.233

Date and time received: 3/30/2019 7:27:00 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2019 7:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ed Crowder
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : Against. Our area up here survives on tourism. This will scar our area with no jobs or benefit. The noise for our area will be uncalled for. I hate to think what this will do to wildlife and fish in the area.

From Host Address: 184.75.214.83

Date and time received: 3/30/2019 7:18:29 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Cheyrl Crowder
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I oppose!!!! I think this is the worst thing that could happen to the Upper Skagit (Marblemount)Our town survives on tourism which won't happen if there blasting 6-6 daily and the added traffic to roads that are already damage and barely maintained as it is .Our wildlife would dwindle ,from the contamination of chemicals use ,as would are wells ,and rivers and streams and health and well being .The strain it would put on our emergency services that already poor .I could go on but I don't see any good coming out of this ,would you put it in your backyard I think NOT . I also believe This would cause a loss of jobs to our town . Please reconsider

From Host Address: 98.142.213.15

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:01:00 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Rebecca Rising
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments with regard to the pressed quarry in Marblemount.

I believe it is paramount to protect the water quality of the Skagit River, which is one of the few rivers that supports relatively abundant populations of salmon. Due to its place in the landscape, the proposed quarry will likely negatively impact Skagit River water quality.

My second concern is that although the quarry could provide employment for some local people, it would negatively impact (noise, traffic, recreation) the quality of life for most residents and would drive property values down for those nearest the site. It also has the potential to drive tourist dollars away from the Marblemount area, even though visitation had been increasing over the last few years.

This project requires careful consideration and should not be treated as an urgent matter. The people of Skagit county must be informed and included in this life-changing decision. We need more time to understand the issues. We need more time to be sure we are doing all we can to protect our unique and beloved scenery, water, air, and fellow creatures.

From Host Address: 50.34.197.172

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 10:55:45 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 5:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : robert wilson
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : pl19-0033

Comments : Hi, I live in Marblemount and this quarry will bring much more noise and traffic in an area that is already experiencing much more traffic in summer and off seasons.

Your hours of operation are too long and too early. Your special longer hours means even longer noise and traffic pollution.

I can not imagine all the oils and possibly pesticides and herbicides used to maintain the quarry will be good for the Skagit river system.

OVERALL A VERY BAD PLAN

From Host Address: 104.235.191.25

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 5:45:35 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Carl H Brameus
[REDACTED]

City : Bow

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : The location of the proposed expansion of the quarry is in my opinion too close to the Skagit River and the many nature areas around Marblemount. I have read the Biological Assessment. However, I do believe that the proposed practices will protect the environment around the area sufficiently.

I believe the increase in traffic and the additional explosive blasts will have a severely negative effect on both environment and people living in the area for a long time to come.

I am asking you to deny the permit to expand the mine.

From Host Address: 46.244.28.21

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:42:03 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jonathan Stumpf
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Construction Proposal
Comments : March 29, 2019

Mr. John Cooper
Skagit County Planning & Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mt Vernon, WA 98273

Re: Kiewit Company's proposed Marblemount Quarry

Dear Mr. Cooper:

As conservation and recreation organizations with supporters who live, work, recreate, and care deeply about the Skagit River valley, we wanted to briefly share our concerns with the proposed project submitted by Kiewit Infrastructure Co. on March 14 to Skagit County to expand an existing quarry near Marblemount from 20 acres to 80 acres.

This proposal sits in the heart of the Wild & Scenic Skagit River System, with the Skagit River, Cascade River, and Illabot Creek, all within the immediate surrounding area. This region is an important natural resource for both residents of the valley and those who visit the area to enjoy the fishing, boating, wildlife viewing, hiking, and foraging. Additionally, this site and the surrounding lands have been identified by both the Swinomish Tribe and Upper Skagit Tribe as an important area with cultural significance to the tribal community's way of life, including usual and accustomed hunting and gathering and traditional practices.

We have concerns with the short 15-day comment period for a proposal of this size, which is an inadequate timeframe to complete a thorough review of a proposal this size. Therefore, we formally request an extension of the public comment period under the State Environmental Policy Act, chapter 43.21C RCW.

Additionally, we believe that a project of this scope warrants a Determination of Significance under WAC 197-11-330 and that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be required, as this project and the cumulative effects to the local environment for up to 100 years, will have a significant adverse impact, including blasting, traffic, noise, infrastructure, and visual impacts to the landscape, wildlife, and ESA-listed Chinook salmon and steelhead.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our initial input to this proposed project and we, the undersigned,

appreciate Skagit County's consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Stumpf
Associate Director, Puget Sound & Columbia Basin
American Rivers

Thomas O'Keefe
Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director
American Whitewater

Mitch Friedman
Executive Director
Conservation Northwest

Margie van Cleve
Conservation Chair
Sierra Club, WA State

Rich Simms
Founder/Board Member
Wild Steelhead Coalition

From Host Address: 73.109.46.194

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:39:52 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Raissa Hines
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation Near Marblemount

Comments : I am commenting to ask the planning department for an extended review period and public hearing before issuing permits for the Kiewit Industries rock mine in Marblemount.

I feel there was not enough notice about the permit or enough time to read the permit application packet in complete detail.

I have several concerns about what I have read in the permit application :

- 1.) Excessive permitted sight use of 100 years. Being subjected to loud mining operation noises and traffic for several years is one thing, but for the rest of one's life is another.
- 2.) Excessive noise which is a public health and property value issue. I believe that the noise assessment report was incomplete and inaccurate, because it used standard construction, trucking, and mining decibel levels, however did not replicate these sounds at the proposed site, and thus does not reflect the unique mountain terrain of this area and the amplifying effects this topography has on sounds.
- 3.) Traffic: This site is near natural recreation areas, near a scenic highway route, and near the gateway to the North Cascades National park. I believe the report's 1% growth rate is too low. Traffic around this area will be busy spring through fall with motorcyclists, RV's and tourists going forward into the future.
- 4.) What local jobs will be offered?
- 5.) I have concerns about well water and aquifer issues.

From Host Address: 104.235.177.75

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:29:53 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Joan Poor
[REDACTED]

City : Edmonds
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : I am writing to express concern regarding a proposed expansion of the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount.

The nearby Skagit River is designated as a Wild and Scenic River. The Skagit is home to endangered species including Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. This river is an important wildlife corridor for federally protected species under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and the communities along the Skagit River corridor are cherished respites for other travellers as well, whether as a destination for a peaceful unwind listening to birdsong near Marblemount, a picnic at Rockport State Park, eagle watching at the river's edge, or visiting Cascadian Farms for pumpkins in autumn or espresso milkshakes in the summer. These communities along the scenic two-lane State Route 20 and the Skagit River are gateways to the wilderness and recreation of North Cascades National Park, and these communities are home to families that choose to live in a quiet rural setting surrounded by mountain and riverine scenery and the myriad wildlife that also calls the Skagit home.

Kiewit Infrastructure's proposal looks to expand the existing infrequently used quarry from a site of 20 acres to approximately 79 acres. This expansion would require the logging of 600 acres for access and infrastructure associated with the expanded quarry, and the permit is requesting up to a staggering number of 75 loaded trucks traveling daily, six days a week. Residents and wildlife in the area are being asked to endure up to 6 blasts a day during initial construction and 2 a day for ongoing operations. All of this in the watershed and aquifer of a Wild and Scenic River. The stone from this quarry along the Skagit will be used as riprap along the coasts of Washington and Oregon.

I was visiting Cannon Beach, Oregon last weekend and will be hiking the North Cascades this weekend. Both locations are dear, and I ask of you, respectfully, please don't tear up the Skagit to shore up the coasts.

Thank you.

From Host Address: 73.42.138.228

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:26:58 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Robert Burrows

[REDACTED]
City : Marblemount

State : WA

2

6

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : For the sake of those of us who live in close proximity (my family and I live 1600 feet from the quarry) and all those in Marblemount who would be adversely affected by impacts that cannot be mitigated (noise, visual scar, likely ground/well water contamination, loss of wildlife habitat, etc.) please find a way to stop this project. So many of us, likely the majority of Marblemount residents want no part of the project. Such a massive long-term project would drastically change the character of a special place in Skagit County. It could never be the same if this project went through.

From Host Address: 174.216.18.247

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:25:56 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Cara Stoddard
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I grew up in Rockford, MI home of Wolverine Worldwide, a shoe manufacturer. I had ovarian cancer in 1993 when I was seven. Recent news has come out that a rock quarry near my neighborhood accepted waste from the tannery for years, which contaminated the drinking water for my home. I lost my dad in 2010 to a brain tumor, when I was 22. Of the 6 runners in my graduating class on my cross country team, 3 of us have had cancer, of which I am the only one still alive (I am 32). I am left with a lot of questions about why the rock quarry was designated a legitimate place to dump the waste from the tannery, and whether or not this contaminated drinking water led to my childhood cancer, my father's cancer, or my team-mates cancers.

I live in Marblemount and I worry about this scale of development and would like more time to read and understand the environmental impact, not only on the above ground ecosystem, but on the aquifers and where our drinking wells are drilled.

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:25:25 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Angela Swanson
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete Wa
State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Xyz

Comments : My name is Angela and I am a concerned citizen, and I am a resident of the Up River Community. As a former city dweller, I was drawn to the area where I purchased a home, because of the peace and quiet, and the lack of road congestion I use to explore my surroundings. The clean air quality and the natural beauty of the mountains and the valley is what drew me here.

My home is along the Skagit rivers edge, and I drink from my well water, as it is my only water source. I am very concerned about the silt from the quarry getting into my water and air supply. I pay a lot of money in taxes to enjoy my quality of life. I am against anything that might, and most likely will, compromise the quality of mine, and my fellow community members lives. I am opposed to this quarry using our road's, and polluting our air and water. I stand with my community that opposes this quarry.

Thank you for hearing me.

Angela Swanson

From Host Address: 174.216.27.182

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:18:34 PM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:02 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 11:30 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jon Gross

[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA

[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount / PL19-0033
Comments : This is a complex undertaking, and I would like to ask for an extension of a minimum of 90 days to the review process in order to have time to review the materials in detail.

Thank you.

From Host Address: 104.219.104.84

Date and time received: 3/21/2019 11:29:14 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Chelsea Gudgeon
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : To whom it may concern,

I urge you to deny the expansion of the Klewit Quarry. I am a proud former North Cascades National Park Wilderness Park Ranger, and have made my home in Marblemount for three seasons. One season I lived on Rockport-Cascade Road, close to the proposed site for the expansion of Klewit Quarry. I think it would be a great detriment to the ecosystem to allow the quarry expansion - the salmon would suffer with added sediment entering the river, and the noise pollution and disruption would impact all wildlife. Increased truck traffic would be an issue for the residents of Rockport-Cascade Road. Also, the quarry would be a terrible visual blight at the very edge of an exceptional wilderness.

Please do not approve the permit to expand the Klewit Quarry.

Respectfully,
Chelsea Gudgeon

From Host Address: 209.210.254.68

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 3:23:10 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 1:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry. The GeoHazard Report indicates that the proposed quarry is located in a Landslide Critical Area, a Seismic Critical Area, and an Erosion Hazard Area. Additionally, Rockfall Geologic Hazards were indicated. Despite all of these listed hazards, no subsurface evaluation or bedrock mechanic analyses were done (per page 12 of the Geohazard Report). A limited site visit and computer analysis are not enough to evaluate the risks to the public with this project. Should there be a pocket of sand or other material deep seated in the mountain and not viewable from the limited amount of surface review they have done, a major landslide could occur with disastrous effect. Without taking core samples of the mountain to ensure what it is really composed of, drilling and blasting are not safe. The location is already listed as a Landslide Critical Area, it is irresponsible to continue with a quarry operation without further investigation. In addition to the landslide hazard, the rockfall hazard is an immense risk to all local residents, not just immediate neighbors. A landslide at the proposed project site would not only wipe out homes and kill the nearby neighbors (as seen in Oso), it would also impact the flow of the Skagit River causing flooding upstream, and debris flow downstream (also as seen in Oso). A risk as large as that surely warrants additional inspection including core samples. It is also noted in the study that rock falls of various size have historically occurred in the area. The vibration of blasting the mountain for the quarry would likely increase the number of rock falls in the area, including and most importantly off site. There are numerous homes along the mountain that is proposed for the quarry. As noted in the studies, a fire had previously burned on and along the peak of this mountain, further weakening it and increasing the potential for rock falls. Removing trees and blasting this mountain is irresponsible and puts the lives of the neighbors living along the mountain at risk.

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 1:12:35 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 1:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry. The Fugitive Dust Plan is severely lacking. The very first page of the Fugitive Dust Plan states "The proposed project actions include site clearing, operation, and reclamation of a preexisting bedrock quarry in Skagit County." This statement is completely false. The proposed project is an extremely large expansion of the mined area, with a significant amount of forest removed (leaving exposed ground surfaces), and is a different type of mining. The Weather and Climate information located on page 3 of the Fugitive Dust Control Plan does not address the fact that our area has seen a huge shift in climate, with prolonged drought conditions in the summer and extreme rainfall at times, causing changes in runoff and flooding. Neither the Biological Study nor the Fugitive Dust Plann address the impact of dust settling in nearby, and most often downwind, salmon spawning grounds. Not to mention the impact well known impact that quarry dust could have on nearby neighbors, including silicosis, lung cancer, scleroderma, kidney disease, and chronic obstructive lung disease. These risks increase based on the age first exposed to the dust and the amount of dust you are exposed to. There are numerous families with small children, some that already having breathing problems, that are in the path to be exposed to dust from this quarry.

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 1:43:21 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 2:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry. The Hydrogeologic Report indicates that there were no anticipated impacts to water supply wells or the Skagit River. However, it also states that the aquifer underground at the site is directly connected to the Skagit River aquifer. Contamination of the ground would infiltrate the aquifer and affect the Skagit River, which is a river highly important to salmon population. Additionally, the report indicated that Watercourse B flows over Rockport Cascade Road during high flows. The change in our climate (referenced in earlier comments about the Fugitive Dust Plan) will likely cause this watercourse to flow over the road more often and would bring contaminants from the quarry (be it chemical or silt) with it. In addition to the natural increase in water flowing over the road way, will the removal of natural forest cover with absorbing and slowing properties increase the amount and speed of the flow over the roadway?

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 1:58:47 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 10:35 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I am commenting as opposed to this project in Marblemount. In the detailed project description it states that this project is necessary due to the limited nature of suitable jetty stone (and I would also assume armor stone) for Army Corp of Engineer Jetty projects. I believe this is untrue as I was able to find multiple quarries that produce this rock for the exact same purpose within reasonable distance (and in many cases closer to the Columbia River). Quarries already operating included Washington Rock's Kapowsin Quarry in Orting, DelHur Quarries on the Olympic Peninsula, Central Oregon Basalt Products quarry near Bend, OR, and Drake Quarry leased by Big River near Young River Falls. There are likely many more sources of this rock, making this project one of desire for Kiewit Infrastructure to save money when bidding out jobs for the Army Corp of Engineers. This quarry is not a necessity as indicated throughout their permit application and studies.

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 10:32:56 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 11:00 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry Project. Throughout the study documents, Kiewit and their contracted professionals refer to Rockport Cascade Road as "a rural road with low traffic conditions." They are completely correct in their characterization of the current road conditions. On Page 8 of the Traffic Study, it indicated that there are approximately 250 vehicle trips per day on Rockport Cascade Road (adjusted to take into account the difference between winter and summer traffic). It does not state the percentage of large truck traffic making up that number, but from anecdotal experience, there are very few trucks on Rockport Cascade Road. These low traffic conditions, combined with the quiet scenery, have attracted international attention as a bike route for groups from all over the world. There are numerous organized bike rides over the pass through the North Cascades, and they use Rockport Cascade Road as their route as a safer, quieter, more scenic alternative to Highway 20. Also in the traffic study, on page 5, it states that Kiewit anticipates adding 260 vehicle trips per day. This is more than double the current amount of traffic on this quiet road! In addition, the traffic is currently made up of mostly small passenger vehicles and the proposed project would be adding mostly large trucks and trailers. The traffic, noise, and loss of scenery would greatly impact not only locals being subjected to the traffic and wildlife that uses the area, but it would greatly impact the tourism industry in the area by taking away a well known bike route.

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 10:55:47 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 11:10 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry Project. In the traffic study done by Kiewit Infrastructure's contractor, it indicates that the intersections at SR 20 and SR 230, and at Cascade River Road at SR 20 and Rockport Cascade Road are designed for mph traffic LOWER than what is currently posted. This makes the turning of and acceleration truck traffic (which is significantly slower than passenger vehicles) more dangerous, and should make those intersections unusable to truck traffic, especially in the large amount as proposed by this project. The "advisory speed" signs posted approaching these intersections are unenforceable by law enforcement and are more frequently than not ignored by general traffic. Page 19 of the traffic study even states that the sight distance at the intersection of Highway 20 and Highway 530 is less than desirable but is very dismissive to the fact that it will cause issues. Advisory signs will not solve the problem and I think the statement that the increase in truck traffic proposed by the quarry will not impact the intersection is completely untrue. Additionally, the traffic study fails to mention or study the impact on traffic at the intersection of Marble Gate Road and Rockport Cascade Road. Their proposed "driveway" is directly across Rockport Cascade Road from Marble Gate Road. The turning traffic in and out of the proposed driveway will effect this residential road greatly and it is not mentioned in the study at all. This is a major deficiency in studying the effects to the local area.

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 11:08:42 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 11:30 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry Project. In the traffic study done by Kiewit Infrastructure's contractor it lists 100 truck and trailer loads daily, however, in the Detailed Project Description (page 4) it states " maximum of 75 loaded trucks per day." The Operations Proposal also indicates 75 trucks loads per day. I feel this is deceptive and minimizes the public's perception of the potential impact, The project description and operations proposal should reflect the 100 trucks per day. If the 100 trucks per day is not reflected in the description and operations, and this project is approved, I feel that there should be a condition placed on the permit to serve as a hard limit to the number of trucks allowable.

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 11:27:25 AM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 11:56 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 11:55 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall

City : Marblemount
State : WA

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry Project. In addition to the traffic concerns I previously commented on, I would like to mention some things I did not see directly addressed in the traffic study. Rockport Cascade Road has very narrow to no shoulders. This type of road is not conducive to having heavy loads and frequent truck traffic on it. In addition, the roadway's speed limit is 50 mph all the way to the stop sign at the intersection of Highway 530. This generally means that large trucks will be using their "jake brakes" at the stop sign due to the high speed approach. This is not accounted for in the traffic or noise impact to the neighboring homes.

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 11:53:42 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry. I am concerned that Kiewit states on page 14 of their SEPA Environmental Checklist that "Wildlife was not observed on the site or in the vicinity of the site during our site investigations." That statement is absolutely absurd. There are so many species of wildlife that use the proposed project site and surrounding areas as habitat that it would be nearly impossible to visit the site and see absolutely none. The Biological Study states (on page 27) that the site visit by the biologist was done on November 29, 2018. That is a very poor time of year to be on the search for wildlife in the area. The biologist indicates that no amphibians or egg masses were found. Egg masses are not likely to be found until February or March, a visit in November would never turn up egg masses because that is simply NOT when they exist. To truly know if this project would affect amphibians, a biologist would have to visit the site when water is running in the season waterways and during the breeding time of amphibians. Regarding mammals, the first gray wolf collared west of the North Cascades Crest is in Marblemount. This particular wolf (along with other wolves not yet collared by Fish and Wildlife) are frequently seen around the project area. On page 27 of the Biological Assessment it states that traffic noise and human inhabitation in the area of the project would discourage use of the site by priority carnivores. This is simply untrue. The wolves that are confirmed to be in the Marblemount area frequently use inhabited areas (one confirmed of killing chickens in someone's backyard). These federally protected wolves absolutely use the site and area surrounding it as habitat. Additionally, Fishers are being reintroduced in the North Cascades and areas surrounding Darrington in an effort to repopulate the area. These animals (Fishers) have been spotted by locals on the site. I have heard in the past of Lynx, Bobcats, foxes and marten in the immediate project area. Additionally I have personally seen and heard coyotes in the area. On page 28 of the Biological Study, it is stated that an Osprey nest was located just beyond the boundaries of the project, and Bald and Golden eagles were roosting just beyond the project boundary. This project will absolutely have an effect on those birds with the noise, vibration, and removal of hunting grounds. The Pileated Woodpecker is mentioned on page 28, and I have personal knowledge that Pileated Woodpeckers inhabit the forest in Marblemount, including near the site. I have had Pileated Woodpeckers in the woods on my personal property in the area. The finding in the Biological Study that there would be no direct effects to federally-listed species or critical habitats is completely false. An independent third party, not contracted with Kiewit, should conduct a proper Biological Assessment for this project during the appropriate times year.

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 12:36:18 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 7:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry. The Blasting Impacts Report for the proposed project indicates that leached ammonia and nitrates could penetrate groundwater or be washed into waterways from the project but then falsely goes on to conclude that there would have no impacts on the Skagit River or other area water resources. In the HydroGeo Report it states that Watercourse B has a shallow aquifer that slowly feeds into it, and that it occasionally flows over the road. This could carry these chemicals offsite and into the river during rain events. Additionally, the HydroGeo report states that the groundwater aquifer at the site is connected to the Skagit River. These chemicals can leach into the aquifer and contaminate the river. This report is incorrect and biased. Additionally, I personally have watched blasting of what was supposed to be solid bedrock at a construction site, when they accidentally hit a pocket of sand, and it blew dust hundreds of feet in the air which then drifted down for over a mile, and shut down roads due to visibility. Page 15 of the Blasting Impacts Report indicates that dust is created by movement of blasted rock and overlaying soils. This dust can impact neighbors even when the wind is under 15 mph, and in the event of a mishap (such as soil or sand pockets due to a lack of cores being taken in other studies) the impact could be enormous. Not to mention the visual impact of dust plumes.

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 7:53:54 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry. The Blasting Impact Study does not appear to address the security of storing explosives at the site. The appendixes to the study state the legal storage requirements, however, this rural area is subject to many things that make storing large explosives extraordinarily dangerous. Site security appears to be lacking with only gates to control vehicle access mentioned, how will the explosives be monitored (not just locked) 24-hours per day, everyday? The risk of theft is too great to leave explosives simply locked up. Additionally, the risk of wildfire in the area is great, and increasing every summer with prolonged droughts. What will happen in the event of a quick moving wildfire overcoming the explosives storage? Marblemount operates a volunteer fire department, as does Rockport and Darrington. The closest ALS (Advanced Life Support) ambulance comes from Concrete, and is the one ambulance that serves the entire upriver community. What happens when there is an industrial accident due to these explosives? Where is the closest HazMat response team in the event these explosive chemicals spill? Where is the closest bomb squad in the event of a misfire that can't be refired or flushed out?

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:41:27 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry. The Vibration Study only focuses on operations and transportation, it does not include blasting as that is included in the Blasting Study. I believe the Vibration Study and the Blasting Study both underestimate the impact of blasting, drilling, general operations, and transportation. Living in this Skagit River Valley with rock walls surrounding us, we come to realize that we are essentially in a fishbowl. The sound waves echo and travel significantly farther than expected, even with vegetation cover. A neighbor operating a chainsaw 4 parcels away can be heard. A neighbor operating a tractor or excavator (significantly smaller than the proposed equipment) can be heard 1/2 mile away. A small caliber gunshot echoes up this valley for miles! Blasting will surely be louder than a .22 pistol. I am 1/2 mile away from Highway 20 and I can hear semi-truck traffic passing by when the pass is open. I can only imagine the rattling and vibration the many residences located right along Rockport Cascade Road will feel!

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:57:16 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry. The Visual Resources Report mentions that the proposed quarry would be visible from areas of Highway 20, mostly near Corkindale. While this is true, it leaves out the view heading west, coming into Marblemount. The proposed quarry is also visible from numerous areas along Highway 20 traveling east towards the pass. There are countless visitors, from all over the world, that travel to Marblemount as the "Gateway to the American Alps," expecting natural views and pristine wilderness. Our small town relies heavily on tourism. This proposed quarry would irreversibly mar the views that locals and tourists specifically seek out. Section 3.1.3 Skagit River of the Visual Impact Report speaks loudly when it recognizes that the Skagit River is a federally-designated Wild and Scenic River. The Skagit River was recently featured on a postage stamp due to its Wild and Scenic designation. The proposed project barely scrapes by regulation by USFS, but this study recognizes that the quarry "could" be visible from the Skagit River according to their desktop view shed analysis. No one actually travelled the river when making this determination, if they were to have travelled the river they would see that there are many points in which the quarry will be visible. Once again, people travel from all over the world to float the Skagit River and view eagles, leading their eyes up and potentially right to a rock quarry. In addition to eagle watchers, there are people that fish the Skagit River, and those that simple raft or boat the river to get away from it all and enjoy pristine nature. This study does not address the great visual impact that will be seen from the Skagit River. Section 3.1.4 of the Visual Impact Study mentions Illabot Creek. While the proposed quarry may not be visible from the designated area of Illabot Creek, it will be visible to those traveling Rockport Cascade Road to enjoy it. In addition to the change in view, many people park along the narrow shoulder of Rockport Cascade Road to access Illabot Creek, leading to potential conflicts with the large increase in truck traffic from the proposed quarry. 3.1.6 indicates that the proposed quarry would be visible from many popular hiking trails in our area. Again, our small town relies on tourism, and locals moved here to enjoy the wilderness areas surrounding our homes, this proposed quarry will forever change the vistas. Section 3.1.8 is incorrect. I live in the eastern part of Marblemount, and the proposed quarry area is highly visible on my drive toward town (west). Additionally, the statement "conditions in the field show that it is unlikely the quarry would be directly visible from any part of Marblemount" is false. The proposed quarry is clearly visible from the Marblemount Community Hall, The Marblemount Diner, and The Buffalo Run Inn. The mitigation measure of providing a 50-foot vegetated buffer along Rockport Cascade Road is inadequate at best. a 50-foot buffer will do nothing to visually hide a quarry. Homes with a 50-foot buffer or larger are still readily visible from the road. Additionally, mentioning the reclamation plan as a mitigation measure is laughable due to the fact that the reclamation plan is set for 50 to 100 years in the future. Photo Point 2 in the Visual Impact Study is very misleading. The camera being used in full sun, facing towards the sun, has caused an exposure that casts an artificial deep shadow on the area in concern. Should the camera person have stepped into the shadow and faced away from the sun, you would be able to see that the trees would not create an adequate barrier, especially with only a 50-foot buffer. Photo Point

3 in the Visual Impact Study is also very misleading. The camera person would have had to have their left shoulder facing the proposed quarry site. If the photo had been taken TOWARDS the proposed quarry site, it would likely be visible. The quarry is visible from the corner of Highway 20 and Cascade River Road. Overall, once again this study downplays the potential negative impact the upriver community is facing. The photos included are misleading and the desktop analysis included are incorrect. The Visual Impact is very understated in this study.

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:41:41 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 10:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ariel Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am commenting as opposed to the Marblemount Quarry. I wanted to add some general concerns and observations outside of the studies submitted by the applicant. Has the County considered the potential loss of tourism dollars to the community and that impact on business retention and sales taxes? Has the County considered the loss of property values for the properties surrounding the proposed project and the corresponding loss of property taxes? How does that impact service levels for the entire County?

I would like to request an extension of the comment deadline. The amount of information presented is enormous, and it leaves very little time for people to receive the notice, thoroughly grasp and understand the scope and impact of this proposed project, and write in with their comments. Something of this magnitude certainly deserves additional review time.

Also, I believe a project as large and impactful as this should require a full environmental impact study. As the lead SEPA agency on this project, the County should have a study done. Another concern (rather major in my eyes) is that the studies included with the project were all done by people directly contracted by the applicant. This creates a large conflict of interest. I feel that the County should have an independent third party conduct an EIS, of course recouping the cost from the applicant. This is the only way to get a true understanding of the potential impacts without the sway of the applicant, who of course will paint this proposed project in the best light.

Overall, even with the studies being conducted by the applicants contractors, in the most favorable light, this project would negatively impact all of the upriver communities, the local wildlife, and the environment. This project should not be approved as it has an imbalance of negative consequences.

From Host Address: 50.34.162.51

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 10:14:24 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 1:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Leanne Hall
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro Woolley
State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I am strongly against the approval of this project. It would add substantial heavy truck traffic to hwy 20 east of Sedro Woolley, creating safety concerns, noise and air pollution to a beautiful and pristine area of Skagit County. In addition, there is the potential for pollution of the air around the site with dust and particulates generated by the mining process. Hwy 20 is a rural 2 lane road and is not suitable for the increased level of vehicle traffic described in the proposal.

From Host Address: 50.34.178.187

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 1:32:34 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Dave Hallock
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount quarry special permit application

Comments : You need to get the tribes who are interested in the well-being of salmon in the Skagit River involved in this matter. I've taken the initiative of contacting someone with Skagit River System Cooperative to express my concern that the massive increase in large truck traffic up and down the Skagit Valley may well have a significant negative impact on the well-being of salmon, as well as other wildlife. What impact will the increase in pollution produced by all that truck traffic have on air quality for all of us? What impact will it have on the temperature of the water in valley rivers and streams? There are many other traffic related issues of great importance that require careful consideration, including highway safety and the need for greater traffic law enforcement. I'm also concerned about noise, both from quarry operations and traffic. I anticipate a negative impact on noise levels as a quality of life issue out here.

From Host Address: 50.34.180.9

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 3:02:57 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 8:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Dave Hallock
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount quarry special use permit application

Comments : The air pollution associated with very high daily hauling of quarry material by big rigs down the Skagit Valley will be horrific. The traffic study information supplied by the applicant anticipates well over 200 transits a day by vehicles of all types. The big rig traffic will be at least 90 round trips each day. Our calculations indicate that those trucks will produce in excess of 200,000 pounds of CO2 every day. That equates to 200 homes of 1250 square feet with 13 foot ceilings, each filled with one ton of CO2 -- EVERY DAY. This is completely unacceptable! Stop this idiotic initiative in its tracks.

From Host Address: 50.34.180.9

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 8:38:08 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 12:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : David Hallock

City : Rockport
State : WA

PermitProposal : Kiewit application for a special use permit

Comments : The representation in the traffic study for the Kiewit quarry project special use permit regarding sight distance at the intersection of 530 and 20 in Rockport understates the risk. I strongly disagree that warning and reduced speed signs are sufficient to mitigate the risk. Eastbound vehicles on 20 approaching 530 do not slow in compliance with the reduced speed signs; they slow sufficiently to make the curve, which is the common driving behavior on highway 20. This is a dangerous left turn from 530 to 20 for all vehicles, not only because of the short sight distance relating to vehicles coming from the west but also due to the angle of view there for left turning drivers. I urge a traffic study to evaluate this situation, whether or not you choose to approve a special use permit which will substantially increase large truck traffic at that intersection. Here is what the traffic study says: "Sight distance is less than desirable on SR 20 for vehicles entering the roadway from SR 530. The existing advance and reduced speed signs mitigate the less than desirable sight distance for combination trucks and other traffic volumes currently in the area and for future volumes generated by the proposed quarry." Please refer this comment to WSDOT if that is the entity accountable for dealing with this aspect of the application process.

From Host Address: 50.34.180.9

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 12:30:04 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:50 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Dave Hallock
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Special Use Permit Application

Comments : The area near Marblemount in which a proposed quarry mining expansion is now seeking special permit approval by Skagit County should not be zoned for quarry mining.

The proposed quarry operation would be a catastrophe for the Marblemount area and should be rejected by Skagit County.

Zoning for the area should be changed to disallow any significant quarry mining involving blasting or significant disruption of the environment or harm to the public welfare of the community.

Further, no large scale removal and transport of quarry material from the area should be permitted which constitutes harm to the environment of the Skagit Valley.

There should be an extension of the public comment period under the State Environmental Policy Act due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided. Citizens were not provided with timely information or sufficient time or opportunity to participate in considering this permit application.

We're asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

The main issue here is whether the area now zoned for special use permit quarry mining should be re-zoned. The current zoning is inappropriate in the extreme and incompatible with the life and public welfare of the greater Marblemount community.

The proposed quarry would traumatize and harm the lives of the many people who love the peace and tranquility of their beloved valley.

It would contaminate the air with dust, environmentally damaging pollution, and shocking noise completely incompatible with the rural residential nature of the area.

It would cause great harm to the health and psychological well-being of people living in the area.

It would harm the environment for wildlife and is incompatible with protecting, improving and nurturing the well-being of salmon.

It would damage property values and catastrophically undermine the eastern Skagit Valley tourism economy. It would increase the risk of wildfires and have a seriously negative impact on highway traffic safety.

Nothing like the proposed mining operation should be permitted. Change the zoning for this area and disallow all future mining operations.

From Host Address: 50.34.174.16

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:47:39 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 7:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kira Hannum
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am very concerned about this rock quarry. As a person who will be directly impacted by the effects of the quarry I am alarmed by the expedition of this application with so very little community involvement. I have just learned about it tonight! Please extend the comment period and allow the community to learn more about the details of this proposal. Our lives will be affected by this!

From Host Address: 174.216.9.182

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 7:07:57 PM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 11:32 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: PL19-0033

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 11:15 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Judy Hemenway

City : Concrete
State : Washington

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : This plan does not take a close look at highway 20 areas that fail to support large trucks with overweight loads. One place that is failing now is Faber Hill, the hillside came down because of the logging trucks above and has not and can not be stable without blocking those trucks. Contact the DOT. The County received a grant to work on this area and to date nothing has been done. Coming north on Faber Hill the area is falling in. I know there are other areas on 20 with issues that have been ignored.

The analysis was not done during tourist season, there is no evidence of improvements for 40 years to support tourist season traffic above Sedro Woolley area. No turn lanes at intersections or businesses.

Secondly, how wonderful that the pit wouldn't be visible in recreation areas. They will just love the sound effects and the huge trucks. When tourist and Eagles arrive in the winter, watchable wild life and photographers will both look for other areas. This will destroy all of the efforts of twenty years to create a market to draw in income for a otherwise dead end road. All of the business, restaurants, stores, Eagle Interpretive Center, Concrete Herald, Concrete Eagle Festival, and Howard Miller Steelhead Park will feel the outcome and close.

Third the East County was not properly informed or did the council hold public meetings.

Fourth Kiewit has poor reputation for doing work as directed and will have to be monitored constantly.

They will not create jobs they bring their own crew.

If you can send me some positive info on this project.

From Host Address: 50.34.197.193

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 11:11:50 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 7:07 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: Feedback Submission

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 6:35 PM
To: website <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: Feedback Submission

Department : None
Name : Susan Hased
[REDACTED]

Other : The ecological impacts of this quarry project have not been adequately investigated. The many creeks, streams, and rivers contain active salmon runs. Wolverines have begun to reinhabit the area in North Cascades National Park that is not far from the quarry.

The wolverine activity was at the far end of Cascade River Road near the trailhead for the pass. A male of the species can range over 200 square miles.

Our area has faced landslides. I am not aware of any studies done on the stability of the surroundings. The removal of trees prior to blasting could significantly predispose the area to liquification, especially in high rainfall periods.

The risks of fire also remain. This is, after all, a true risk at a time when our snow pack is substantially less than normal.

For the fish, the watershed, the area homes, risk of fires and landslides, for potential loss of wildlife habitat, I believe this ill considered. Until and unless FULL geologic and environmental impact studies are done the start of this project should be delayed.

From Host Address: 172.58.41.122

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 6:33:47 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 9:10 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Gretchen Hewitt
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070

Comments : i.e. Kiewey Infrastructure Quarry: Do not allow this project. Do not contaminate the water, damage our already delicate land, cause damage and trauma to wildlife, bring danger on Hwy 20, which is already accident prone. Do not as a result bring suffering to the people, children, elderly. Loud, terrible destruction. Do not allow this project.

From Host Address: 72.168.144.131

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 9:09:14 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 9:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Melinda Hews
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070

Comments : My home in Rockport is only a few miles from this proposed quarry and the traffic and noise will change the nature and serenity of my home. I am appalled at the number of truck trips estimated to rumble just feet away from my home and the amount of pollution and dust and wear and tear on the environment this will cause.

I also think that there should be an extension of the comment period as many people in our community have just learned about this project.

I encourage you to seriously consider the effects of this project on the people, the land, the forests and the animals of the Marblemount/Rockport area and the danger, noise and pollution that such truck traffic will create on two-lane country roads. This project should not be allowed to proceed.

Thank you,

Melinda Hews

From Host Address: 24.16.91.135

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 9:06:00 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Raissa Hines
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation Near Marblemount

Comments : I am commenting to ask the planning department for an extended review period and public hearing before issuing permits for the Kiewit Industries rock mine in Marblemount.

I feel there was not enough notice about the permit or enough time to read the permit application packet in complete detail.

I have several concerns about what I have read in the permit application :

- 1.) Excessive permitted sight use of 100 years. Being subjected to loud mining operation noises and traffic for several years is one thing, but for the rest of one's life is another.
- 2.) Excessive noise which is a public health and property value issue. I believe that the noise assessment report was incomplete and inaccurate, because it used standard construction, trucking, and mining decibel levels, however did not replicate these sounds at the proposed site, and thus does not reflect the unique mountain terrain of this area and the amplifying effects this topography has on sounds.
- 3.) Traffic: This site is near natural recreation areas, near a scenic highway route, and near the gateway to the North Cascades National park. I believe the report's 1% growth rate is too low. Traffic around this area will be busy spring through fall with motorcyclists, RV's and tourists going forward into the future.
- 4.) What local jobs will be offered?
- 5.) I have concerns about well water and aquifer issues.

From Host Address: 104.235.177.75

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:29:53 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:50 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Tonya Hirtzel

[REDACTED]

City : Kirkland

State : Washington

[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

Comments : I am a Skagit County property owner & I strongly oppose the above referenced permits for Kiewit Infrastructure Co to expand their mining operation. The Skagit River and Skagit River Valley are important ecosystems to Washington State and need to be protected. Quadrupling a mine near the river is irresponsible and risks the health and safety of the river and everyone and everything downstream. Please do not approve these permit. Put our environment over profits.

Thank you,
Tonya Hirtzel

From Host Address: 205.175.118.120

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:49:18 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Mary Ruth Holder
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070 Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : Thank you for considering our public comment. We are writing to request that a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be prepared by the Department for the above-referenced proposed quarry expansion project. The proposed project would be a major change to the present operation and would increase the quarry size by more than 3 times. If permitted and constructed, the project would upend the quality of life, economy and natural environment of the surrounding area. The probable significant adverse impacts on environmental quality from this project warrants a full and complete review pursuant to SEPA addressing all direct, indirect and cumulative impacts.

The probable adverse impacts of this project include harm to tourism and the local economy of the Marblemount area. Noise, increase in traffic (see also safety concerns below), dust and stone chips falling from trucks, noise pollution and visual impacts from the construction and operation of the project would act to discourage tourists (that include cyclists; visitors to Marblemount area lodges, restaurants and farms; hikers; rafters and fishermen) for coming to this area and adversely impact the area's economy that relies heavily on tourists and outdoor recreationalists.

While we don't live in the Marblemount area, my husband and I are among many others from Skagit County and beyond who regard the area as the gateway to the North Cascades National Park and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest recreation areas. For many years, we have traveled with friends through and beyond Marblemount via Highway 20 to the many trails and camping areas on those public lands. We stop in Marblemount to visit the Wilderness Information Center and/or eat at area restaurants.

The addition of up to 150 large vehicle transits per day to and from the site over the 100-year duration of the permit carrying construction materials, large trucks carrying legal loads of 105,500 pounds of heavy rock along Rockport-Cascade Hwy and Hwy 20, and congestion at the intersection of those highways in Marblemount would have an indirect adverse impact on public safety along these roads. The significant risk of being killed or seriously injured from project vehicles (or even stone chips dislodged from these large trucks hitting our vehicle at highway speeds) certainly would cause us to look for safer travel locations for our hiking and purchases. How many other recreational tourists would be impacted? How would this harm visitation numbers to the National Park and National Forest lands? How would visitation impacts affect the local and state economies? What would be the increased cost to county and state taxpayers for the upkeep and repair of the roads over which the significant increase in heavy trucks would travel? What permit provisions would be applied to mitigate these impacts? A full EIS must be prepared that would analyze all of the direct, indirect and cumulative (over the life of the proposed project) impacts to public health and safety, tourism and the local and state economies and identify appropriate mitigation for these impacts.

The proposed quarry expansion would also have probable significant adverse indirect and cumulative impacts on fish and wildlife. Activities that would generate adverse impacts on wildlife and their habitat include: (1) site

preparation including clearing, timber harvest of 2.7 million board feet from 90 acres of 6 parcels, stump removal, grading, installation of stormwater systems, blasting for road building and (2) site operation to remove approximately 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone that would involve blasting and crushing rock and moving and maintaining heavy equipment. The quarry expansion site sheds water into fish bearing streams that flow into the Skagit River, and construction and operation of the expanded quarry would have potential adverse indirect impacts on aquatic habitat containing federal Endangered Species Act listed species (Chinook, Steelhead, Bull Trout, etc.). What indirect and cumulative impacts would the project have on other listed species such as gray wolf and fisher that have been known to use the project area? What significant indirect and cumulative impacts resulting from timber harvesting, noise, dust and disturbance would occur to nesting and migrating bird species? A full EIS must be developed with detailed objective studies conducted identifying all indirect and cumulative impacts to fish and wildlife species.

Additionally, there would be adverse indirect and cumulative impacts to water quality, air quality, and to the public health and safety of people who live and work in the vicinity not only from increased traffic but also from dust, noise, vibration, pollution of water wells.

For all of the above reasons, a full EIS must be conducted for this project. Please keep us informed about all decisions made and opportunities for further public comment.

Sincerely, Mary Ruth and Phillip Holder

From Host Address: 50.34.114.125

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:22:53 PM

John Cooper

From: Mary Ruth Holder [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:29 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Project numbers: PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070

Mr. Cooper, we have submitted our public comment (below) using the PDS form but are also sending it to you via email to ensure your receipt. Thank you for your attention to our comment.

Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Thank you for considering our public comment. We are writing to request that a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be prepared by the Department for the above-referenced proposed quarry expansion project. The proposed project would be a major change to the present operation and would increase the quarry size by more than 3 times. If permitted and constructed, the project would upend the quality of life, economy and natural environment of the surrounding area. The probable significant adverse impacts on environmental quality from this project warrants a full and complete review pursuant to SEPA addressing all direct, indirect and cumulative impacts.

The probable adverse impacts of this project include harm to tourism and the local economy of the Marblemount area. Noise, increase in traffic (see also safety concerns below), dust and stone chips falling from trucks, noise pollution and visual impacts from the construction and operation of the project would act to discourage tourists (that include cyclists; visitors to Marblemount area lodges, restaurants and farms; hikers; rafters and fishermen) for coming to this area and adversely impact the area's economy that relies heavily on tourists and outdoor recreationalists.

While we don't live in the Marblemount area, my husband and I are among many others from Skagit County and beyond who regard the area as the gateway to the North Cascades National Park and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest recreation areas. For many years, we have traveled with friends through and beyond Marblemount via Highway 20 to the many trails and camping areas on those public lands. We stop in Marblemount to visit the Wilderness Information Center and/or eat at area restaurants.

The addition of up to 150 large vehicle transits per day to and from the site over the 100-year duration of the permit carrying construction materials, large trucks carrying legal loads of 105,500 pounds of heavy rock along Rockport-Cascade Hwy and Hwy 20, and congestion at the intersection of those highways in Marblemount would have an indirect adverse impact on public safety along these roads. The significant risk of being killed or seriously injured from project vehicles (or even stone chips dislodged from these large trucks hitting our vehicle at highway speeds) certainly would cause us to look for safer travel locations for our hiking and purchases. How many other recreational tourists would be impacted? How would this harm visitation numbers to the National Park and National Forest lands? How would visitation impacts affect the local and state economies? What would be the increased cost to county and state taxpayers for the upkeep and repair of the roads over which the significant increase in heavy trucks would travel? What permit provisions would be applied to mitigate these impacts? A full EIS must be prepared that would analyze all of the direct, indirect

and cumulative (over the life of the proposed project) impacts to public health and safety, tourism and the local and state economies and identify appropriate mitigation for these impacts.

The proposed quarry expansion would also have probable significant adverse indirect and cumulative impacts on fish and wildlife. Activities that would generate adverse impacts on wildlife and their habitat include: (1) site preparation including clearing, timber harvest of 2.7 million board feet from 90 acres of 6 parcels, stump removal, grading, installation of stormwater systems, blasting for road building and (2) site operation to remove approximately 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone that would involve blasting and crushing rock and moving and maintaining heavy equipment. The quarry expansion site sheds water into fish bearing streams that flow into the Skagit River, and construction and operation of the expanded quarry would have potential adverse indirect impacts on aquatic habitat containing federal Endangered Species Act listed species (Chinook, Steelhead, Bull Trout, etc.). What indirect and cumulative impacts would the project have on other listed species such as gray wolf and fisher that have been known to use the project area? What significant indirect and cumulative impacts resulting from timber harvesting, noise, dust and disturbance would occur to nesting and migrating bird species? A full EIS must be developed with detailed objective studies conducted identifying all indirect and cumulative impacts to fish and wildlife species.

Additionally, there would be adverse indirect and cumulative impacts to water quality, air quality, and to the public health and safety of people who live and work in the vicinity not only from increased traffic but also from dust, noise, vibration, pollution of water wells.

For all of the above reasons, a full EIS must be conducted for this project. Please keep us informed about all decisions made and opportunities for further public comment.

Sincerely, Mary Ruth and Phillip Holder

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 11:09 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From Dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 9:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : NWCAA c/o Matt Holmquist
[Redacted]
City : Mount Vernon
State : WA
[Redacted]

PermitProposal : File #PL19-0032
Comments : The owner(s) and/or operator(s) must obtain necessary permits and register with Northwest Clean Air Agency (NWCAA) prior to establishment of rock crushing and/or screening operations pursuant to NWCAA Regulation Sections 300 & 320. Contact NWCAA for more information.

From Host Address: 69.7.50.26

Date and time received: 3/19/2019 9:16:01 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Evan Holmstrom
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : For the potential impact on the economy and cultural history of the Upper Skagit watershed, more consideration is needed before approving this proposal. For the following reasons I insist that the county take more time to look at this, and employ local experts to perform an EIS and a cultural value assessment.

1) Our local economy depends on the vitality of our forests, hills, and waterways. This project will damage the health and appeal of our natural systems. Numerous daily blasts will be heard throughout our valley, increased heavy traffic will certainly affect commuters, a denuded and excavated hillside will mar the viewshed, and the threats to a Wild and Scenic river corridor will destabilize our way of life here. The experts employed to assert otherwise do not understand the nuance of this place. To quote the detailed project description, "No homes immediately border the project area and residential density in the adjacent surrounding area is low". The use of the word 'border' here is key. There are in fact homes near enough to the site that significant noise pollution and traffic impacts will alter the character that draws people here, resident families and tourists alike. The assessments used in this case do not capture the elusive quality here i.e. quietude and remoteness.

2) Economic benefits must factor into decisions like these. With little local employment opportunity in this project and the potential of discouraging tourism in the long run our community cannot weather this risk. Traffic to Rockport State Park, North Cascades National Park, and other areas of natural wonder and scenic beauty are sensitive to projects like this. Please consider the economic jeopardy this proposal places us in.

3) The cultural value of this area cannot be underestimated. Favoring the worth of this land to its original inhabitants and stewards should be seen as a positive decision and an expression of goodwill to tribal inhabitants. Again from the detailed project description, "the properties have historically been used for forestry and mining". This is a narrow scope of history. In fact this land has been home to human societies for nearly 10,000 years, and for purposes far beyond forestry and mining.

While there are good reasons for providing hard-rock materials for jetty maintenance, I ask that the county do what's possible to delay this process so that more people can become aware and give voice to their concerns. Furthermore, though it's on privately held property, an EIS should be performed by an unbiased party do that threats to the watershed and forest ecology can be clearly understood. It is fair and right to do this in which ever community a proposal of this scale is proposed.

There is a troublesome trend in situations like these to espouse a 'not in my back yard' response. That is not what this is. This is an effort to take another moment in this process to assess the hard-to-grasp and easy-to-regret risks presented to tourists who value wild places like this, local residents who's way of life involves

remoteness and subtlety, and to the indigenous citizens of this place, who have lived here since time immemorial.

Thank you for reading,

Evan Holmstrom

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:10:56 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Robert D. Hopfield
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Wa.
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 & PL19-0047 & BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

Comments : I am in favor of the proposed Quarry operation near Marblemount. As a resident, and business owner here in Marblemount I look forward to the possibility of more jobs / revenue here in the eastern Skagit valley.

From Host Address: 50.34.170.5

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:29:15 PM

From: [Kathleen Howe](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Re: expansion of quarry
Date: Friday, March 29, 2019 1:47:00 PM

To whom it may concern;

I am opposed to the expansion of the rock quarry. I lived in Marblemount and worked for NOCA and know the area well. These are the reasons I am opposed to the projected expansion of the rock quarry on the Rockport/Cascade Road.

- Traffic. This road is already dangerous, particularly in the winter and spring, with icy conditions, and in the summer, with tourist conditions. With the number of trucks moving rock on a daily basis the incidence of accidents will surely increase, along with the possibility of accidents that result in mortalities
- Residential effects: the noise from blasting will surely create noise issues for those who live in this area. Residents of the Upper Skagit put up with a lot of adversity as far as conveniences, so they can enjoy the natural beauty and serenity of this area. A quarry that involves logging operations, blasting, and multiple truck trips a day will cause significant adverse effects for this community.
- Wildlife: the area is adjacent to a national park. Let's put nature and wildlife before humans for a change.
- Pollution: The Skagit River is a wild and scenic river with all five species of Pacific salmon using it (or Baker Lake) as a spawning ground. Potential runoff and dust from operations may have an adverse impact on the river.

There seems to me to be plenty of areas to quarry rock that would be more fitting than this site. The expansion of the quarry will adversely impact those communities living in the Upper Skagit. I am opposed to the expansion of this quarry.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Howe

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 4:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Helen Anne Hubka
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Comments : You've already received a number of letters from people in the Upper Skagit and elsewhere regarding the proposed Kiewit Quarry operation near Marblemount, many of them giving a great deal of detail as to the many negative consequences of such a project. I won't duplicate those efforts, but I will say that approval of this project would completely negate my up-till-now proud perception of what Skagit County stands for.

I have lived in Marblemount for eleven years while working at Diablo Lake inside of North Cascades National Park. From the beginning I've loved and deeply valued the ethos and unparalleled beauty of the Upper Skagit and the entire surrounding ecosystem, not to mention the spirit of the entire Skagit Valley. The Kiewit project would be an unconscionable assault on the beauty, integrity and health of this area and all its inhabitants and components: the land itself; the entire intricate watershed system, especially the Wild and Scenic Skagit River; all forms of animal life, some species of which are already endangered; the air quality; human and animal health and wellbeing; and the terrible congestion and degradation of local roads, including State Route 20. These concerns are only the most obvious, and there are many more.

Along with other members of my local community I'm asking for an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided. We're asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

From Host Address: 50.34.213.193
Date and time received: 3/27/2019 3:59:28 PM

John Cooper

From: PDS comments
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:13 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: Marblemount Quarry request for comment period extension

FYI

Sincerely,

Kathy Jewell
Administrative Coordinator
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
direct: 360-416-1338
www.skagitcounty.net/planning

-----Original Message-----

From: Ross Hudson [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 10:01 AM
To: PDS comments <pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: Marblemount Quarry request for comment period extension

I request that the public input/comment period for the proposed Marblemount Quarry be extended an additional 30 days to allow public proposal review. I am a property owner near the proposed site.

Ross Hudson
[REDACTED]
Seattle, WA 98136

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

From: [Ross Hudson](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Marblemount Quarry request for comment period extension
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 10:01:23 AM

I request that the public input/comment period for the proposed Marblemount Quarry be extended an additional 30 days to allow public proposal review. I am a property owner near the proposed site.

Ross Hudson

[REDACTED]

Seattle, WA 98136

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ross Hudson
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle

State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : The noise studies are basically flawed. Comparing noise impacts to levels acceptable in urban area or that will cause hearing damage ignores that this is a rural environment. Non naturally occurring noise is usually only from a very small volume of cars, an occasional barking dog and seasonal firewood cutting. The vehicular traffic is extremely light in this rural area. The value of land in this area is in a large part, the quiet rural atmosphere and natural surroundings.

The management plan, such as it is, is also flawed. I understand a gravel quarry operation is planned. My understanding is that a past quarry operation request was denied, in part due to noise and dust issues. The 20 foot sound buffer does not address that most operations quarry operations are at a far higher elevation. It also does not address that surface operation noise will be reflected off of the adjacent bare cliff surfaces.

Noise from truck back up alarms are excluded from mitigation. However with the potential of 150 high decibel alarms per day (1 per arrival, 1 per departure) is about 15-18 and hour. That's about one alarm every 4 minutes all day, and potentially 24/7 in critical supply periods.

Blasting, cat work, rock loading, truck arrival and departures, crusher operations and gravel loading, small rock relocation to specific storage areas and general operations must be considered in their entirety, not singled out individually one at a time.

The noise impact on livability and importantly, land valuations along the entire sound corridor must be considered. Who would purchase land within the quarry operation noise polluted zone? The decrease in land/residence value needs to be factored in as an impact.

From Host Address: 73.181.161.72

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:27:00 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2019 7:30 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Travis Huisman
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro-Woolley

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry, PL19-0033

Comments : I know I am late for the public comment. I apologize, I just heard.

I am adamantly opposed to any mining in the Skagit River watershed. Enough is enough. Please put protecting our natural resources and natural places ahead of economic mining interests.

You can not get this back.

Travis Huisman

From Host Address: 172.92.222.233

Date and time received: 3/30/2019 7:27:00 AM

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

Dear Mr. Hart

I'm writing to express my objection to the proposed Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemont.

I don't believe there is any tangible benefit to the upper Skagit community nor the people living in the immediate area.

The environmental impact will be great and the risks are too high. This plan would be unlikely to produce a single local job and appears to only enrich an international mining corporation.

Our land resources and our river must be protected. Please do not allow Kiewit to exploit these resources for their sole gain. Our beautiful valley will suffer if this is the direction we go. Don't sell out Skagit County to the multi-national corporations!

Thank you,
Sandra Hamilton

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 11:50 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : John Hurd
[REDACTED]

City : Burlington
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount quarry

Comments : I think the expansion of the quarry near Marblemount is a bad idea.

I understand our need for gravel. However, the location of the quarry so near to town as well as the greatly increased need to transport equipment and materials outweigh advantages to my mind.

Residents and tourists will be subject to significantly increased noise pollution, perhaps day and night. And the highways there, relatively narrow and often with sight-restrictive curves, are heavily trafficked now. The type of increased use proposed for the quarry expansion would make residents and tourists travel more unsafe. Hikers, bicycles, motorcycles, personal cars would all be put at risk by this traffic.

From Host Address: 172.92.219.225

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 11:45:46 AM

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS



Skagit River System Cooperative

11426 Moorage Way • P.O. Box 368 LaConner, WA 98257-0368
Phone: 360-466-7228 • Fax: 360-466-4047 • www.skagitcoop.org

March 27th, 2019

Mr John Cooper
Skagit County Planning & Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mt Vernon, WA 98273

Re: Kiewit quarry in Marblemount

Dear John:

The Skagit River System Cooperative (SRSC) has concerns with the proposed quarry expansion proposed by Kiewit Infrastructure for an existing quarry near Marblemount (PL19-0032, PL19-0033, PL19-0047, PL19-0070). As you are aware, SRSC represents the fisheries and natural resources interests of the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community and Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, both of which are federally recognized tribes and signatories to the Point Elliott Treaty. The natural habitats surrounding the Kiewit quarry site are important resources that deserve protection, however we feel that the quarry expansion project will have some unnecessary and unmitigated adverse impacts to those resources, which we seek with this letter to avoid and minimize.

First of all, we are requesting an extension of the public comment period under SEPA. Given the large number of documents to review, the length and complexity of those reports, and the unavailability of some documents until late in the review period, SRSC has not been able to complete more than a superficial review in the time allotted.

Secondly, SRSC feels that a Determination of Significance is warranted under WAC 197-11-330 and that an Environmental Impact Statement should be required. This proposal will have a significant impact on the local environment, particularly due to the local context. The absolute quantitative effects (the amount of rock removed, the number of truck trips, etc.) would be large regardless of context. But whereas a similar development in an industrialized region might be considered less disruptive, the introduction of such immense changes in activity, noise, and the landscape itself will be highly significant in what is now a tranquil corner in a remote part of the County. And this change in activity may last for decades. Several aspects of this project—noise, traffic, visuals, blasting, clearing, etc. — may not individually trigger an EIS, but combined they constitute a significant environmental impact that should be examined together in an EIS.

As the County is aware, SRSC's primary interest is in fisheries and fish habitat protection. Although we understand that the streams that traverse the site are not now fish

bearing, we are not blind to the possibility that changes in drainage patterns resulting from re-sculping the quarry landscape could concentrate and direct flow in the future. In anticipation of that outcome we think it prudent, and in the context of SEPA it would avoid or minimize potential environmental impacts, if the road proposed for the site did not include two unnecessary stream crossings (on "Watercourse B" in the critical areas assessment, Figure 4). If the "switchback" in the proposed road were moved further north then the two stream crossings and associated riparian impacts could be completely avoided. Culvert crossings on steep, forest roads concentrate flow, provide potential blockages, require regular maintenance, and are disproportionately responsible for debris flows. Debris flows are catastrophic for stream ecosystems, whether those streams are fish bearing or not. We strongly encourage the mitigative step of re-aligning the quarry logging and access road to avoid the mapped streams entirely, instead of putting the switchback on the south side of the stream.

In summary, the Kiewit Marblemount quarry will have several impacts which are not the direct concern of SRSC (wildlife, cultural resources) but may be concerns for the tribes we represent (and for which those member tribes will submit their own letters). We believe that our principal fisheries concern can be avoided or mitigated. Nevertheless, we think that the SEPA comment period should be extended so that we and others can make a more thorough examination of the potential impacts, and that ultimately those impacts should be examined together and cumulatively in an EIS.

As always, SRSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on this proposal, and we look forward continuing our interaction with the County on this and other matters. If you have any questions about our comments, or if there is anything that we can provide, please don't hesitate to contact me at (360) 391-4194 or thyatt@skagitcoop.org

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Hyatt", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tim Hyatt
Skagit River System Cooperative

cc:

Jason Joseph SSIT
Amy Trainer SITC

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Addie Irvin
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Dear John Cooper,

I am extremely concerned about the detrimental impacts of the proposed Marblemount Quarry. The Quarry, which is so extremely close to many homes, will cause extreme noise pollution, increased traffic, and many potential health hazards. I am worried for the negative affects it will have on our entire upper Skagit community and beyond. I am also worried for the negative impacts on the wealth wildlife that calls that area home, the health of the Skagit River, and the stability of entire landscape. I am want to voice these major concerns and express my opposition to the Marblemount Quarry.

Thank you for your time,
Addie Irvin

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 7:37:40 PM

From: [Lauren Jaye](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Opposed to Marblemount Quarry
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 1:17:55 PM

Hello,

I lived in Marblemount for 8 years and feel very strongly about the quality of life and potential environmental impact of a quarry. I am opposed to the quarry and am urging the county to get an EIS and to consider the impact of noise, tourism, road safety etc of this project.

Thank you,
Lauren Jaye

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:53 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 7:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Claus Joens

[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA

[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I oppose the proposed quarry of P45543, P128574, P120304, P45550, and parts of P45548 and P45541 in Skagit County, Washington. This is critical salmon habitat. The physical damage will scar the landscape that the local economy depends upon for viability. Heavy equipment contamination can leak into the surrounding properties, which is too close to the Skagit River, a federally protected waterway. Heavy trucks will decimate our fragile two lane highway and pose a safety risk to tourists our local economy relies heavily upon. The Upper Skagit Valley is a pristine area, one of the few remaining largest undisturbed areas the public can access. Until the federal government installs the tram system promised to Skagit County with the opening of North Cascades National Park, all future projects and promises related to these projects to the local residents should be placed on hold indefinitely until the existing promises to local residents, which do not harm the local economy and environment, have been kept.

From Host Address: 50.34.168.8

Date and time received: 3/21/2019 7:20:24 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 8:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Claus Joens
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : I respectfully request an extension of the comment period for including, but not limited to the following reasons.

This project seems contrary to the national conservation purposes as provided in the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act.

This project seems contrary to the Skagit County water rights dispute where the water required to support this project exceeds private landowner use that has been recently denied on thousands of parcels with much less environmental impact.

The county will not permit local landowners to use this stone on private parcels as riverbank protection against flooding as being toxic to salmon and the local ecosystem, so commercial use should be barred consistent with private use.

There is no guarantee the future site will not be converted to a landfill, further denigrating the local environment and posing additional health and safety issues to the surrounding communities.

Commercial vehicles licensed in Washington State will provide insufficient revenue to the county to maintain and repair the long term damage this heavy traffic will cause.

From Host Address: 50.34.168.8

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 8:38:46 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 5:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Linden G. Jordan
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : I live north of the proposed quarry site on the north side of the river. I am within hearing of the blasting and noise pollution that will be created by the operations proposed. I also use Highways 530 and 20 which will be directly impacted. This area of Skagit County is prime tourist country and critical to the economic well being of eastern Skagit County. It is also home to wild life and people who chose this area for the quality of life. This operation will pose dangers to all species. The proposed site is also above the wild and scenic Skagit River which is also critical to the economic well being of Skagit County.

The company proposing this operation has been cited for violations for the way they have conducted this business. Furthermore, there is little of benefit to our county since all materials produced at the quarry will be shipped elsewhere. I respectfully request that the permit application be soundly denied. Let this corporation ruin someone else's environment. Better yet, maybe with a concerted effort, they can be put out of business. Skagit County deserves better than this, and I hope our commissioners act for the benefit of our county residents.

From Host Address: 67.54.220.39

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 5:48:50 PM

John Cooper

From: Linden Jordan [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:16 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Marblemount Quarry

Hi, John: Thanks for making the time to work with us up here about the quarry. I live three miles east of Marblemount in the Diobsud Creek drainage. Although, I am not on the side of the river where this will happen, I will still be affected. I will hear the blasting and experience the increased traffic on Highway 20 and Highway 530. These roads are extremely busy in the tourist season, so this added traffic will increase the danger to the highways and the wear and tear on the highways. These corporations are great in the beginning, but then they leave and abandon the mess to the locals. I don't want this to happen to this pristine area that is such a treasure to the world. I look forward to working with you and the county. I hope we can find a way to block this permit process.

Thank you for your time,

Linden G. Jordan
[REDACTED]
Marblemount, WA 98267



RECEIVED
MAR 29 2019
SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

Tribal Historic Preservation Office
5318 Chief Brown Lane
Darrington, Washington 98241-9420

(360) 436-0131
Fax (360) 436-1511

March 27, 2019

Garth Baldwin
Principal Investigator
Drayton Archaeology
PO Box 782
Blaine, WA 98231-0782

Re: Marblemount Quarry Project CRM

Dear Garth Baldwin,

We, the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe (SSIT), are grateful for the opportunity to comment. In the weeks following our initial response, and upon reviewing the related SEPA documents, our Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Natural, and Cultural Resource Departments have additional concerns regarding the application by the Kiewit Infrastructure Company, LLC for rock mining and quarrying in Marblemount (at location 59252 Rockport-Cascade Road, Skagit County, within a portion of Section 24, Township 35 North, Range 10 East, Skagit County, WA – parcels P45543, P45541, P45548, P45552, P45550, P45548, P128574, and P120304). In particular, our comments focus on the quarrying project's associated permits PL19-0032, PL19-0033, PL19-0046, BP 19-0070, as well as on the cultural resource report produced by Drayton Archaeology.

Audible Impact: We suspect that the noise bearing on local cultural sites, including those on, or eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places was not fully considered. There was no mention of auditory impacts on the cultural environment within the Cultural Resources report provided. Residential houses in the immediate vicinity are similarly within the range of potentially enormous noise disturbance (due to, e.g. removal of rock, crushing, blasting, waste hauling, etc.).

Cultural Impact: Within a two-mile radius of the proposed quarry there are several cultural sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places, several more sites potentially eligible for the National Register, and numerous other archaeological sites, including at least one known cemetery. The SSIT use area would be further affected by quarrying operations as the project's location is a frequently visited locale for both Sauk-Suiattle and Upper Skagit tribes. The affiliation of this locale to the tribes' history is well known and therefore likely to contain culturally important features that can be identified only after a detailed consultation process with the tribal members.

Air-Quality Impact: As the extraction may be permitted for the period of one hundred years, the projected disturbance cannot possibly be assessed at this stage, thus the sheer distance in mileage

is a poor indicator of the cumulative effect on life over the long term. Related, we would also like to examine any additional studies of the air quality impacts on neighboring cultural settings in comparable extracting operations.

Biological Impact: We raise concerns based on recent findings regarding Federally-listed wildlife species that need to be further addressed in the project's Biological Assessment. Skagit River system ("a wild and scenic river") is an eminent case of ecological awareness and environmental concerns are at the forefront of the local demographic, native and non-native alike. There has not been enough time allotted for impacted Tribal entities to review the project plans and make adequate responses. The Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe would like to request more time to address all the potential biotic impacts of this project. Similar cases in the area (e.g. Beaver Lake Quarry from 1995-2000) suffered from insufficient consultation with relevant stakeholders in the process.

For the above reasons, SSIT request to be informed immediately of any anticipated and unanticipated ecological and/or cultural discoveries. We kindly ask to obtain copies of any additional archaeological site surveys and reviews, and environmental studies that may be conducted for this project in the future. We recognize the necessity of supplying the mineral material for the Army Corps of Engineers operations, and wish to be of assistance in the matter.

Thank you for your willingness to keep in touch with the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe and for our inclusion as a consulting party on this undertaking. We look forward to continuing to work with you in a collaborative manner.

Should you have any further questions or should you need to get a hold of us, please feel free to contact us at our office telephone: (360) 436-2218, or by email at kjoseph@sauk-suiattle.com and afrey@sauk-suiattle.com.

Sincerely,



Kevin Joseph
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe

Alex Frey
Tribal Archaeologist
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe

John Cooper

From: JV [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2019 4:48 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Marblemount Quarry Permit Posting (revised completed version)

(Sorry John, last revision, sitting by the river tapping on my phone is not the best way to comment I suppose)

Hey John, one of the biggest gripes and a significant source of confusion for people accessing the application posting on your department's site is the first sentence of the description "Kiewit infrastructure proposes to expand the existing 20 acre quarry to an approximately 79 acre operation".

After getting into the application materials as well as the existing quarry permit file the general reaction is something like "how can the county call this an expansion? This is completely new and completely different." I agree.

I think that Kiewit came up with this description in attempt to frame their request as reasonable and just an incremental extension of an already permitted use. We know that this is not true. I think that this is a strategy on Kiewit's part to mislead and throw people off. Kind of a "don't look here, there is nothing to see" approach.

After working through this with many people and groups we would describe the similarities of the existing quarry to the proposed quarry as "the existing talus quarry is small, strictly ground level, at or beyond its permitted area, entirely depleted, and completely inactive. Kiewit's application is for a quarry in a new unpermitted location on the property, with access and operations requiring purchase and incorporation of additional unpermitted properties, requiring construction of an over one mile road to reach the top of the 700 foot mountain, clear cutting of 600 acres to fund the new road, removal with high explosives of a different type of standing material, all new and expansive quarrying infrastructure, logistics and methods, exponentially larger scale of operation and amount of material to be extracted, exponentially larger on-road and off-road trucking volumes, and correspondingly, an exponentially larger impact on all the residences, businesses, waterways, wildlife, and all the unique attractions that have made this valley famous and beloved since the permitting of the tiny and now inactive quarry in 1976".

Or to put it another way, there are no similarities.

For this reason we feel that the county (or Kiewit) needs to fix the completely erroneous and misleading description on their website to reflect the true nature of this application as a part of the reposting so as not to mislead or misinform the Citizens or elected officials of Skagit County.

Thanks

From: [Nora K](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: "Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033"
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 1:10:59 PM

to: pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us

Subj: "Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033"

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in regard to the proposed expanded quarry on Rockport Cascade Road. I am a property owner in Rockport [REDACTED]

First, I would like **additonal time to review** this complex project in our valley. I did not hear about it until Friday March 22 from someone on Facebook, and comments are due on Friday March 29. This is not enough time to review the extensive documentation available on the County website supporting the application, and further, the County should have been promoting this information as it came available so that members of the community would not be so surprised by the application and the impacts of the project.

From what I have been able to glean from the documents available (again, not enough time to read in depth), I am concerned about the **storage of blasting explosives and fuel** (10,000 + 3,000 + 1,500 gallons) in a rural and forested environment in the Upper Skagit. Should an accident happen, it would fall on the Rockport **Volunteer Fire Department** and Marblemount Volunteer Fire Department to respond. The level of training and equipment required for such a response is above and beyond what is currently available in the community. Furthermore, the siting of the explosive storage is near a forested property line. Forest fire is a real and increasing risk to the valley, and this location has actually recently burned in 1998! In the event of a forest fire, the storage of explosives and fuel will put **wildland fire fighters** at undue risk, as well as distract from their true task of protecting life and property.

I am concerned about the haul route for this quarry. The turn from Hwy 530 to westbound Hwy 20 is a **difficult intersection**. I have had numerous close calls there myself. To be able to sufficiently see traffic coming from the east, I must steer my car slightly eastbound as I approach the stop sign (something a large truck cannot do), then turn left/westbound when the opportunity arises. Sight lines are difficult. Add to that the endless caravan of **tourists and RVs** heading over the pass to the Methow Valley during a peak summer weekend, and I see either long delays at the intersection, or worse, a traffic accident at a high-speed highway. Please pursue safety improvements to this intersection to allow such massive (heavy, slow to accelerate) and long trucks to make this dangerous turn. How are the sightlines from eastbound Hwy 20 onto Hwy 530? We know that the intersection of Farm to Market and Josh Wilson has dangerous and fatal issues due to the turn lane and large trucks obstructing the view of traffic travelling through, resulting in car accidents with casualties. Will turning trucks create a similar blind spot?

Should the trucks use an alternate route to avoid the difficult 530/20 intersection, they would be

travelling over the Cascade River Bridge and Marblemount Skagit River Bridge. The Marblemount Bridge seems narrow, old, and frail. This is supported by the Traffic Report for this project which calls the **bridge functionally obsolete**. Is this bridge wide enough for 2 passing quarry trucks? Is this bridge strong enough for 2 passing quarry trucks (one loaded one not)? It seems that regular and repeated traffic by such massive (tons and tons, day after day) loaded trucks would put undue and perhaps unsafe strain on the old Marblemount Bridge. Should the bridge be rendered a **one-lane bridge**, where one quarry truck would wait for the second the pass, I have concerns about the tail-end of a truck sticking out into Highway 20. The proximity of the Hwy 20 intersection to the end of the Marblemount Bridge (about 100 feet) doesn't seem to leave enough space for a truck to wait for an oncoming truck. Please study these scenarios to avoid any unsafe traffic on the bridge or complications to safe traffic patterns in the area.

I am concerned about the effects of blasting on fish in the Skagit River. We know that noise in the Puget Sound and ocean have a strong negative effect on whales and fish. What does the impact of blasting do to fish in the Skagit River and associated wetlands, Illabot Creek, or the Cascade River? These waterbodies are important **spawning and rearing areas** to our endangered fish. Does **blasting and resulting sound waves** affect their ability to home into their spawning grounds? Encourage them to travel elsewhere to spawn and/or rear? These are a precious and endangered resource, and we must be sure that mining rock does not come at the expense of our Skagit runs of fish.

I am concerned about the deposition of **dust on spawning grounds**. Fine sediment reduces the quality and quantity of desirable spawning gravels. The proximity to spawning grounds in Illabot Creek (downwind of project area during the typical Oct-March spawning season), and to the Cascade River and its critically endangered run of summer Chinook during the May-September months when the prevailing winds switch direction.

With regard to **visual impacts**, I will be affected at my property on Conrad Road, per the Visual Resources Report. While I am disappointed by this, I am more concerned about the visual impacts on the valley and the resulting impact to **tourism** in the valley. For one, picture this, that **iconic** stretch of Hwy 20 just east of Rockport, as one heads east passing the little chapel with the view of the mountains, Johnson's cattle pasture on your left and the turquoise Skagit River on your right and you are coming up on the gorgeous rows of **Cascadian Farms blueberries** with Eldorado and all the glory of the snowy North Cascades spread out before you. Yes, it is time for an ice cream cone, lets get out of the car.....and what is that?!? That quarry is going to be staring down at this iconic vista, one so special it graces cereal boxes and bags of granola nationwide, in its unspoiled beauty. But it will be spoiled. Will this affect tourism? Maybe not such a special place for an ice cream cone? Not such a nice reach to raft to view bald eagles with the background blasting of the quarry operations. Will the **eagles tolerate the noise**, or will they travel on, too?

The **SEPA Recreation analysis is significantly lacking in depth and scope** as it limits the description of recreation to fly fishing. That is it, fly fishing?!? There is also a good deal of visitation and recreation on the river for spin fishing, not to mention bird and eagle watching, river rafting during the winter eagle watching festival, summer canoeing and kayaking, fall foliage scenic drives, and scenic drives in general. The SEPA states that no recreational uses will be displaced. Do we know this to be true? If the quarry affects eagles in the reach, won't it affect recreational bird watching? I

don't know how else to describe a scenic drive other than as recreation, but quite a few people do that. They go out of their way to drive Highway 20 instead of Highway 2, and stop for ice cream and picnics. If the drive isn't so scenic, will they still recreate in the upper Skagit Valley? Please expand the SEPA analysis of recreation to better represent the actual opportunities (and resulting economic impacts and employment opportunities) in the upper Skagit Valley.

I am also concerned about the potential expansion of this project in the future beyond what is presently proposed, the so-called 'Future Phase' described in the Project Description. The report states that this would require an **expansion of the Mineral Resource Overlay** and Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. I am concerned about this process and the outcomes it might bring. I am especially concerned that I would not be aware of this amendment process and be able to participate and comment. How will the public be informed of this proposed amendment? Is it already proposed and underway? It is not fair to expect the general public to be able to track all things Comprehensive Planning, when it might affect us directly. Can the County send notifications to those within proximity to this proposed change?

Now, this project will likely happen. It is properly zoned (Mineral overlay) and privately owned by a big company that knows how to sell rocks. How do we know this will benefit the community? How many **living wage jobs** will this create? Will this SW Washington company bring SW Washington employees? Will the construction workers come from the greater Seattle area? Or **employ local residents** in the depressed upriver economy? This part of the County has needed quality, dependable, year-round employment options for decades – will this opportunity pass us by as well?

All in all, this is a very large project. There will be complicated outcomes. Because of this, I am left wondering, why not an **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**? Compiling all the impacts, both good and bad, would help the community and the County better understand what is planned and be more precise and measured in any conditions or mitigation required. Please consider requiring an EIS to study this project to ensure the character of the upper valley is not sacrificed in the interest of one privately owned venture.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my letter and consider my concerns.

Sincerely,

Nora Kammer

████████████████████ Bow WA 98232 (mailing)

████████████████████ Rockport, WA 98283 (local)

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Sophia Kast
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I am a local resident who is very concerned about all the impacts this quarry will have on our community. I am first and foremost concerned about impacts to the Skagit river watershed, including but not limited to pollution from runoff, erosion issues, impacts to wildlife, where the water for dust mitigation will come from, etc. I am also very concerned about the heavy truck traffic in what is currently a very quiet area (Rockport-Cascade Road). 75 trucks/day or more could greatly impact the safety of our community, not just for humans but for wildlife. This is also a great increase in carbon emissions in the local area (not only the trucks, but the generators used to run the quarry operations). Additionally, I am concerned about the noise impacts this will have on the community and wildlife. All of these issues deserve, at the very least, more time to thoroughly consider mitigation strategies. Please extend this comment period and ensure that this quarry will not negatively impact this community, both human and wild. Thank you.

From Host Address: 104.235.165.11

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:41:05 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 9:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jim Katrien
[REDACTED]

City : sedro woolley
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : marble mount quarry

Comments : the environmental concerns and the impact on our communities is to great. reject this application .

From Host Address: 50.34.176.250

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 9:17:12 AM

From: [Michael Keane](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: I am against the proposed mine near Marblemount.
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:47:53 AM

I live approximately one to two miles from the proposed site, in Marblemount. I believe this mine would affect the value of my property in a very negative way. I believe the best economic benefit for this area is tourism, not large industrial projects. I'm concerned about the environmental impacts and the impacts of blasting. Why not find suitable material further away from rural areas in which people would be negatively impacted?

Thank you,

Michael Keane

From: [Michael Keane](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Marblemount Mine Expansion PL19-0032 BP19-0070 PL19-0047 PL19-0033
Date: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:56:00 AM

I am against the proposed mine expansion adjacent to the existing rock quarry near Marblemount Washington.

I live very close to the proposed expansion. I fear my quality of life will be diminished, my property value will be negatively affected, and the structures on my property could be in jeopardy due to vibrations from blasting.

I am concerned about the increased traffic and damage to already marginal rural roads.

I am concerned about increased noise and air pollution.

I feel that the area and tax base would be better served via tourism than heavy industry. It's my belief that a project such as this could negatively affect tourism and thus local businesses in the area.

There is a lot of rock in the North Cascade mountain range; there is also a lot of area. I feel that a project such as this should be located further away from developed areas such as Marblemount.

Thank you,

Michael Keane



Marblemount, Washington 98267

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : GuruBani Whitney Khalsa
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : We are asking for an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

We are asking for Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant impact on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

From Host Address: 50.34.182.139

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:39:24 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 5:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : GuruBani Whitney Khalsa
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am writing in opposition to the proposed Marblemount Quarry (PL-19-0033). I am a Mother, Therapist, Homesteader, Business Owner and Environmental Steward in the upper Skagit Valley.

There are many reasons why the Marblemount Quarry would be detrimental to the Upper Skagit River Community and Corridor. below, I have addressed some of my concerns with this proposal.

The upper Skagit Valley is a quiet community that provides locals and visitors a place to retreat into nature and to get away from the chaos and sounds of the city. Home to many protected and endangered animals, military veterans, families, and homesteaders, the peace of the upper Skagit region is what draws people to this area. Those who live in this community and those who enjoy visiting here, choose to do so because of the beauty, calm, and connection that this pristine environment and delicate ecosystem offers. It connects us to a simpler time in our history, one where people worked together with their community, cherished time with their family, and connected to the natural environment around them. Sadly, with the proposal for the Marblemount Quarry, these precious assets will cease to exist.

With the constant sound of generators running around the clock, large trucks driving to/from the quarry, and the intense sound and vibrations caused by the blasting of the rock, our wildlife population would decrease, and our lifestyles would be greatly affected. Veterans and those in the community with PTSD, as well as sensitive pets, would be in constant distress due to the extreme increase in Noise Pollution; local businesses would be affected as well. Vacation rentals would see a decrease in visitors, affecting the already limited opportunities for locals to generate income, if the area's peaceful environment was no more. For instance, on Rockport Cascade Road, there is a retreat for wounded warriors, visitors will not be able to retreat to reduce their stress and trauma with sounds and vibrations caused by quarry blasting, and large trucks driving by all day.

It is well known that Quarries pose a high risk of contamination to groundwater resources. Pollution of the waterways would decrease the quality of the drinking water for residents, as most of this area is utilizing well water; with no hope for building new well systems, due to the already in place well moratorium by the Swinomish Tribe. In addition, the natural resources for wildlife, in this area and down river, would be affected; including the Salmon population. This river corridor is a wild and scenic area that has tribal communities overseeing the Salmon population, contaminated riverways and groundwater would severely affect their habitat.

Many people in this community have chosen to live here to be away from pollutants that affect their health and well-being. Even within permissible limits, the Air Quality would be greatly affected, due to the creation of airborne dust caused from the blasting. Each aspect of this quarry will diminish the quality of life for the residents, both human and wildlife of this area.

Families raising children upriver chose the upper Skagit, for the beauty, peace and as a safe haven for their loved ones. Our desire was to offer our children the opportunity to have a natural childhood. One where they can connect with nature, explore the beauty of the area, have clean air and water, and ride the bikes on quiet country roads. The quarry would take this away and more. The increase in traffic, on Rockport Cascade and Hwys 530 and 20, would create safety concerns for our children. Whether it be when they are out playing or when commuting to school, groceries, etc., the increased traffic of large trucks pose a safety concern. Side roads will see an increase in traffic posing harm to those riding their bikes, walking to neighbors and riding horses. Many cars will choose to detour through these quiet side roads in order to bypass the trucks hauling material, decreasing the safety and quality of life for those in the community. With commuting, the Hwys are winding and narrow and dangerous enough without the increase of large vehicles that are difficult to see around, have debris falling off, and are moving a large degree of mass at high speeds. Many children in the area ride the bus to and from school for over an hour each way, the buses would have to navigate around the trucks and there is an immense amount of danger to the children who are crossing the highway in dark hours. Those who commute their children to school or when going to work will have to follow behind trucks causing limited visibility and the potential hazard of debris falling off which causes an increase in accidents. We do not need to create further safety concerns on these highways than is already present with logging trucks, buses, recreational vehicles, and cars driving up and down the valley.

Considering the health, well-being and safety of the residents and visitors of the Upper Skagit community, and the grave environmental impact this quarry proposal will have, I ask that you please consider the larger impact that is at stake. Please help keep the Upper Skagit corridor Wild, Scenic, Safe, and Healthy.

Thank you for your consideration,
GuruBani Whitney

From Host Address: 50.34.223.200

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 5:52:34 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 7:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Tanya Kitterman
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Thank you for taking the time to read citizen comments. First of all, please extend the comment period. I am sure I am not the only one who found out about this project proposal just days before the commenting deadline, and given the large volume of materials to read through, it is not enough time to do informed research.

I live directly across the river from the project site, at [REDACTED], in full view of where the area will be clearcut and the terrace mining will begin. My first concern is obviously the noise. One of the most delightful features of Marblemount is the tranquility and freedom from noise pollution. It is usually so quiet here that even a single gunshot here is jarring, echoing through the valley. Constant blasting for decades would destroy the quality of life here. As a town that struggles in the off season while Washington Pass is closed, the few months of tourist traffic in the summer is a lifeline. I am concerned about the lodging businesses down the street and whether they will lose customers.

Another concern is impact to air and water quality. How will this affect salmon? Has the Forest Service been consulted about impact to Skagit Wild and Scenic River qualities?

There are so many other factors to consider, please extend the comment period. Thank You.

From Host Address: 50.34.218.66

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 7:38:58 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 12:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Paul Klein
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewits Marblemount Quarry Application (Skagit County PL19-0032,-0033,-0047, BP19-0070)
Comments : March 28, 2019

Re: Kiewit's Marblemount Quarry Applications (Skagit County PL19-0032, -0033, -0047; BP19-0070)

To Whom It May Concern:

Kiewit Infrastructure Co.'s ("Kiewit") applications for a special use permit and associated authorizations from Skagit County to expand a less than 3-acre quarry supplying materials to the local community into a 640-acre mine site supplying jetty stone (aka armor stone) along the west coast of North America are expressly prohibited by Skagit County zoning, such that Kiewit's application should either be (i) denied, or (ii) suspended so that Skagit County can properly first consider amending its Comprehensive Plan to expand its mineral resource overlay ("MRO") to cover all of the areas for which Kiewit is now seeking permits, including Kiewit's proposed mine access road. (If Kiewit modifies its proposed project to be confined entirely within the existing MRO, that necessarily would constitute a substantial project revision under the Skagit County Code ("SCC") and the application process should be restarted and/or the public given an opportunity to comment on such substantially revised project.) In addition, Kiewit's application materials are, at best, misleading, and Skagit County should require that Kiewit provide additional information pursuant to SCC 14.06.100(5), after which the public should have an opportunity to comment with Kiewit's actual plans in mind. Notwithstanding the minimal "mitigation" proposed by Kiewit, it is clear that Kiewit's proposed project "may have a probable significant adverse environmental impact," such that an environmental impact statement must be prepared under Washington's State Environmental Policy Act.

Background

According to Kiewit's application materials, the site contains a "small-scale quarry (under 3 acres)" that received a conditional use permit in 1982. This quarry has an extremely limited history of use and has never been extended to mining the upland talus slopes with the exception of a small-scale localized landscape supply of stone. Kiewit proposes to expand this "small-scale" activity to "supply jetty stone for several major projects on the west coast including the emergency repair on the Mouth of the Columbia River."

According to Kiewit's application materials, "the Marblemount Quarry as one of the very few sources of ready-to-permit jetty rock on the west coast." This is simply not true. First, this site is not "ready-to-permit," as it is not even fully zoned for mining. Second, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Revised Final Environmental Assessment, Rehabilitation of the Jetty System at the Mouth of the Columbia River (June 2012) identified 15

quarries as potential sources of jetty stone. In the seven years since the Corps' 2012 assessment, additional quarries fully capable of supplying jetty stone for that project have been permitted and opened.

The Corps' forthcoming jetty work at the mouth of the Columbia River is anticipated to require at least 500,000 tons of armor stone. Assuming Kiewit is able to produce its desired 4 to 28-ton armor stone at a 20% rate (i.e., 20% of the rock removed from the mine constitutes armor stone), which would reflect the best industry averages, Kiewit would need to mine 2,500,000 tons (or one million cubic yards at a 1:2.5 cubic yard to ton ratio) for that one project alone. Kiewit's application estimates that Step 2 would produce about 3.8 million cubic yards. Kiewit would mine that material in rapid progression.

What would happen to the 80% of the rock that is not armor stone? For Step 2, Kiewit would deposit at least 3,040,000 cubic yards (i.e., at least 80% of 3.8 million cubic yards) on a 13-acre "undersized rock stockpile area." There are 62,920 square yards in 13 acres. Accordingly, to accommodate 3,040,000 cubic yards of rock, Kiewit would need to create roughly 50-yard high stockpiles or, more accurately, tailings. Cunningham Crushing could then screen and crush Kiewit's tailings to supply the local community. Kiewit notes that Cunningham Crushing's operations "will be completely dependent upon local market conditions." As Cunningham Crushing's operations over the prior almost 40 years have only mined "under 3 acres," it is clear that Kiewit's tailings will remain on site for decades to come. And this is without even accounting for Kiewit's desired Step 3, which would result in the tailings expanding to cover another 15 acres. All told, Kiewit's project would result in at least 7.68 million cubic yards (i.e., 80% of 9.6 million cubic yards) of tailings on site.

In addition, Kiewit proposes, among other things, to clear-cut 90 acres of timber (2.7 million board feet), cut-and-fill almost 1,000,000 cubic yards to build a mine access road (outside the existing MRO), divert active stream flows that the Washington State Department of Natural Resources has determined are fish-bearing, and conduct extensive drilling and blasting using a mixture of ammonium nitrate and diesel fuel (ANFO). The ANFO load to ground water will exceed 5,000 tons of residuals. Kiewit's project will contribute to extensive habitat loss of both flora and fauna and could result in ground and surface water impacts. The analysis Kiewit has provided concerning environmental impacts, and the minimal mitigation proposed by Kiewit, is deficient and conflicts with determinations made by state agencies. Skagit County should exercise its authority under SCC 14.06.100(5) to require Kiewit provide additional information or studies to address these matters, which also necessitate the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Kiewit's proposed mining activities are expressly prohibited by Skagit County zoning. The six properties subject to Kiewit's application are within Skagit County's Industrial Forest-Natural Resources Lands (IF-NRL), Secondary Forest-Natural Resource Lands (SF-NRL), and Rural Resource-Natural Resource Lands (RRC-NRL) zones. In each of those, commercial mining activities can only be approved (and the hearing officer only has authority to consider commercial mining applications) "within a designed mineral resource overlay." SCC 14.16.410(5)(d), 14.16.420(4)(d), 14.16.430(4)(g). However, Kiewit's application includes mining and mining-related activities in areas outside the existing MRO. Consequently, Kiewit's application simply cannot be approved. See SCC 14.16.020(3) (only uses listed within a particular zone shall be allowed).

Kiewit's application acknowledges that an MRO expansion of "approximately 43 acres" is needed and that such an expansion is done "through a Comprehensive Plan Amendment." However, rather than pursue a Comprehensive Plan Amendment first, Kiewit wants mining activities within a future (currently just hypothetical) MRO expansion to be "permitted conditions (preferred) contingent upon MRO expansion."

Kiewit has it backwards. SCC 14.06.210(3)(b) expressly requires that if a permit decision is "dependent upon amendments to the Comprehensive Plan," then the Comprehensive Plan amendment is to occur "first." If Kiewit wants permits for the entire project site, it first needs to pursue a Comprehensive Plan amendment. That sequencing reflects the planning process mandated by the Growth Management Act of developing planning

policies, embodied in the comprehensive plan, first. Kiewit's application is akin to asking the hearings officer to approve a commercial building in a residential zone conditioned on Skagit County subsequently amending its Comprehensive Plan to allow that. Such an approach is antithetical to appropriate land use planning and is prohibited by the SCC.

Moreover, even Kiewit's Step 1 and 2 activities are not entirely within the existing MRO. For example, as part of Step 1 and to facilitate mining in Step 2, Kiewit proposes to construct "an approximately 6,700-foot gravel access road would be built to access the top and eastern portions of the project site." This mining access road would be built in areas outside the existing MRO. See, e.g., application at page 3 (the expanded MRO would include the then "existing [mine access] road"). However, "activities associated with mining or quarrying operations," such as mining access road building and maintenance, can only occur "in the Mineral Resource Overlay." SCC 14.16.440(7)(b). As the mining access road to be built and used for Steps 1 and 2 is outside the current MRO, Kiewit's Steps 1 and 2 activities cannot be permitted as proposed.

As Kiewit's applications are not allowed under Skagit County's existing comprehensive plan and zoning regulations, the hearings officer should deny Kiewit's applications. Alternatively, Skagit County should suspend processing Kiewit's applications so that Skagit County can consider amending its comprehensive plan to expand the MRO to cover all the activities in Kiewit's application. If Kiewit does not want to wait for a Comprehensive Plan amendment expanding the MRO to include these areas, Kiewit must modify its proposed project to be wholly within the existing MRO, which would necessarily constitute a substantial revision and the application process should be restarted and/or the public given an opportunity to comment on such substantially revised project.

In summary, Kiewit's applications pending before Skagit County are prohibited by the SCC and must be denied or suspended until the Comprehensive Plan is amended to expand the MRO to include the entire area in which Kiewit has proposed to conduct mining activities.

From Host Address: 67.183.254.246

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 12:52:42 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 12:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Robert Klengler
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry, PL19-0033

Comments : In DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION 1.2 Project Purpose:

The applicant claims emergency status for repair of the Mouth of the Columbia River.

The 2,566 page official US Army Corp of Engineers report:
Major Rehabilitation of the Jetty System at the Mouth of the Columbia River
was publish in 2012. Work started in 2014.

The claim of "emergency", while USACE may have used that term in 2012, does not relate to a permit six years later that claims "emergency".

From Host Address: 50.34.210.120

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 12:22:25 PM

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

Full Name: Robert Klengler



Marblemount, WA 98267



Proposal Name or Permit Number: Marblemount Quarry, PL19-0033

To:

Mr. John Cooper

Planning and Development Services

1800 Continental Place

Mount Vernon WA 98273

Below is an overview of my main concerns. The next section is my comments resulting from an initial reading of the SEPA.

- One purpose of SEPA is to determine if an environmental impact statement is required. After reading the SEPA and related appendices, it is clear that an EIS is more than warranted.
- Appendix E proposes two sound mitigation options. Appendix K: Mitigation Plan specifies either the weakest mitigating Level-I from Appendix E or restricting activity before 7:00 AM. Restricting activity before 7:00 AM is NOT one of the two options layed out in Appendix E. The conclusion on page 17 of Appendix E is "With Level-II sound mitigation measures in place, project sound levels from the project would produce only a slight sound-level increase compared to existing baseline conditions and would not create any significant noise impacts." However, Appendix K does not even mention Level-II. This casts doubt on the veracity of the mitigation proposal.
- Appendix E fails to explain how a 12 foot berm would mitigate noise from explosions and other noise on the site - much of which is more than 1,000 feet above the berm. Even so, Appendix K allows the applicant to choose an option that disregards any berm, and therefore disregards recommendations in Appendix E.
- The applicant's lack of concern for the local ecology is exemplified by an FBI investigation. The applicant has been fined \$5 million for "negligently violating the Clean Water Act" following a two year FBI investigation. The applicant had retention ponds, but employees siphoned toxic water into the San Joaquin River for a period of at least three years before being caught. This behavior by the applicant casts doubt on the mitigation proposal, and on the entire application. To get the facts, search "Kiewit FBI 5 million", which leads to the official FBI government website. This negligence casts additional doubt on claims in Appendix J. An actor with such a blatant disregard for the environment has no place in Skagit County.

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

- The application reflects disregard for local communities and the impact of this project on the primary economic drivers in this area: recreation and tourism.
- Appendix G page 6 cavalierly points out that since the quarry is 0.5 instead of 0.25 miles from the Skagit River, that its Wild and Scenic River designation doesn't matter. Even though the application admits that users on the river will see the quarry. Users will hear it, too. Though noise is so poorly addressed in the proposal that this was not even considered.
- The maximum number 75 loaded trucks is referenced in many locations. It is not until page 26 of the SEPA that one finds that the real number is 260 vehicle trips daily. That is one every three minutes. Including 40 miles of Highway 20 that is lined with public bus stops, children waiting for school buses, driveways to homes, entrances to businesses, passing through a congested area of Sedro Woolley. The applicant claims that no mitigation is necessary.
- In Appendix G the applicant admits that the project can be seen (or could be seen) from Highway 20, the Skagit River, Illabot Creek, Skagit River Recreation Areas, Mountain Climbing/Hiking Recreation, Rockport, Marblemount and Corkindale. Yet yet the applicant claims that "Views impacts in the immediate vicinity would be minimal....".
- Many organizations have long term financial and volunteer commitments to maintaining and improving the natural beauty and environment in this area. This one project can undo decades of work, and inflict serious economic and health damage to local residents and businesses.

This section contains my comments specifically related to the SEPA and documents referenced by SEPA. Numbering used here refers to the section number in the SEPA document.

- A.6. Proposed timing
 - Phase 3 of the project is outside the MRO, awaiting a future Comprehensive Plan Amendment? So the infrastructure and damage will have been done, even before the scope of the project is approved. This sounds like the camel's nose in the tent.
 - Comment: Project should not start until the entire plan is approved.
- A.8. List any environmental information....
 - "the Proposed Project as proposed would not likely cause more than a moderate impact on the environment."
 - Comment: After reviewing the scale of this project, that claim is very hard to believe. "moderate" is not defined.

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

- From Appendix E page 17: “With Level-II sound mitigation measures in place, project sound levels from the project would produce only a slight sound-level increase compared to existing baseline conditions and would not create any significant noise impacts.”
 - Comment: Level II sound mitigation is not offered as an option in Appendix K: Mitigation Plan, which identifies EITHER a berm OR restriction of activities before 7:00 am. Appendix E proposes berm OR berm AND hour restriction, not hour restriction only.
 - Comment: Therefore, the “moderate impact” claim is not supported when cross-referencing the Appendices provided.
- A.11. Project description
- “Hours of Operation for quarrying and hauling operations would occur between 6:00 AM and 6:00 PM Monday through Saturday; however, occasional operation outside of these hours may occur during limited, short-duration time periods. Other supportive and normal activities, such as equipment maintenance, may occur after the stated work hours.”
 - Comments: Appendix E and K specify hours of operation to begin at 7:00 AM.
 - The way the Hours of Operation is described is meaningless. Noise and dust and vibration can be 24 hours a day, and still be in compliance. From page 17 of SEPA: “Night shifts may be required for certain contracts.” Which contracts are “certain contracts”?
 - “The Proposed Project would have a maximum of 75 loaded trucks per day leaving the site....”
 - Comment: Page 26 of the SEPA shows that the real number is 260 vehicle trips daily. That is one every three minutes. Including 40 miles of Highway 20 that is lined with public bus stops, children waiting for school buses, driveways to homes, entrances to businesses, passing through a congested area of Sedro Woolley. With Phase 3 expansion it could be a truck every two minutes, because the application predicts a 150% increase in rock yield.
- B.1.d
- “The project area contains slopes that are regulated Critical Areas due to the presence of Landslide, Erosion, and Seismic Geologically Hazardous Areas as defined in SCC 14.24.410”
 - “Steep areas that are developed, modified, or disturbed during quarry or road development and operations are susceptible to rockfall and erosion hazard occurrence.”

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

- Comment: It appears unwise to have an operation of this scale under this circumstance. It is hard to determine if claimed mitigation addresses safety and environmental concerns.
- B.3.a.6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.
 - “No”.
 - Comments: When an explosive charge does not detonate, the cavity is flushed with water. Where does that toxic mix go?
 - When diesel fuel spills from filling and accessing 3,000 and 10,000 gallon tanks, where does that go?
 - Hydraulic fluid is toxic and leaks from equipment even under normal circumstances. Where does that go?
 - We get 90 inches of rain per year here. Toxic materials on the surface will leach into ground water.
- B.3.b.1) Ground water
 - “Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.
 - No. There is an existing permitted residential well on site but it will be decommissioned by a certified well driller as part of this project.
 - Comment: The well must not be decommissioned. It must be tested weekly, by the county, paid for by the applicant. If ground water is polluted the mining operation must stop immediately until ground water is proven to be safe.
 - Decommissioning an operable well seems to be a ploy to prevent evidence of ground water contamination.
- B.3.c.2)
 - Comments: Appendix C: Hydrogeologic Site Assessment is just copies of well water reports starting in the 1980’s. It does not seem relevant if the claim is that it will be decommissioned.
 - Appendix K identifies standards and regulations, but mostly refers to Appendix J for mitigation. Among the recommendations are two ponds, though it is unclear how all the toxins will move from source to pond without seeping into the ground water.
 - It must be noted that the applicant has been fined \$5 million for “negligently violating the Clean Water Act” following a two year FBI investigation. The applicant did have retention ponds, but employees siphoned toxic water into the

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

San Joaquin River for a period of at least three years. This behavior by the applicant casts doubt on the efficacy of claimed mitigation.

- 5. Animals
 - Comment: Explosions, heavy equipment and rock crushing will affect wildlife far beyond the borders of the project. Those effects have not been studied.
- B.5.a.):Wildlife was not observed on the site or in the vicinity of the site during our site investigations.”
 - Comments: Seattle City Light includes animal habitat conservation as a priority on land owned adjacent to the project.
 - Perhaps more “observation” is needed.
- B.5.b. “...no PHS-listed species occurring at the project site.” “No federally listed species were observed on the Proposed Project site.” “the federal effects determination for the overall Proposed Project is May Affect, Is Not Likely to Adversely Affect the biological environment of the area.”
 - Comments: Peregrine is not mentioned anywhere, and has been seen in the vicinity by residents.
 - The last quote above demonstrates that an EIS must be performed.
- B.5.b: “site reclamation will restore the site to forested conditions and restore herbaceous balds and talus habitats.”
 - Comment: It should be noted that reclamation is in 100 years.
- B.6.c. “What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: Mobile mining equipment would be maintained to maximize fuel efficiency. Spill response equipment would be kept onsite and would be used in the event of a spill.
 - Comment: Maintaining diesel and gas equipment does not appear to be meaningful conservation.
- B.7.a.4) “Describe special emergency services that might be required: 911 EMS services might be required in the event of an accident/incident.
 - Comment: Marblemount volunteer fire and ambulance is not designed to handle an industrial complex of this scale.
- B.7.b.2) Noise
 - Comment: Hours of operation are 12 hours. Except maintenance, which is 18 hours. Except night shifts may be required for certain contracts.
 - In other words, there is no real restriction on the hours of noise.
- B.7.b.2) and 3) Sound analysis

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

- Comment: Appendix E proposes two sound mitigation options. Appendix K: Mitigation Plan specifies either the weakest mitigating Level-I from Appendix E or restricting activity before 7:00 AM. Restricting activity before 7:00 AM is NOT one of the two options layed out in Appendix E. The conclusion on page 17 of Appendix E is "With Level-II sound mitigation measures in place, project sound levels from the project would produce only a slight sound-level increase compared to existing baseline conditions and would not create any significant noise impacts." However, Appendix K does not even mention Level-II. This casts doubt on the veracity of the mitigation proposal.
- In other words, the applicant can ignore the two recommendations in Appendix E and still be in compliance according to Appendix K: Mitigation Plan.
- Because of echoing on the mountains surrounding the populated valley floor, a rifle shot two miles away can be startling. Nothing in the application addresses the effect of noise echoing that would impact everyone in the upper Skagit valley.
- Appendix E fails to explain how a 12 foot berm would mitigate noise from explosions and other noise on the site - much of which is more than 1,000 feet above the berm. Even so, Appendix K includes an option that disregards any berm.
- The issue of noise has not been meaningfully addressed in this application.
- B.8.I "The Proposed Project is consistent with the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan goals...."
 - Comment: This quote from the Comprehensive Plan is contrary to claims in this project, and speaks for itself:
 - Skagit County, in exercising its land use regulatory authority to protect the public health, safety and general welfare (Article XI Section 11 of the State Constitution), must respect private property rights by not exceeding the constitutional limits on its authority. Planning, land use regulations and zoning protect individual and community rights in the following ways:
 - • by avoiding nuisances through ensuring against incompatible neighboring land uses;
 - • by balancing public and private responsibilities that may have conflicting interests;
 - • by providing predictability that enhances the value of private property;
 - • by protecting and conserving the natural resources that provide us with clean air and water;
 - • by protecting our heritage by preserving both natural and man-made resources, and scenic and cultural areas that generate civic pride;

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

- • by assuring that each generation has responsibilities as a trustee of the environment for future generations;
 - • by attaining the widest range of land uses without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences; and
 - • by recognizing that each person has a fundamental and inalienable right to a healthful environment and that each person has a responsibility to contribute to the protection and enhancement of the environment;
 - • by recognizing existing non-conforming land uses and the development rights associated with them.
- B.10.b. "Views impacts in the immediate vicinity would be minimal except for at a few locations where unobstructed views of the quarry face exist. Most views are obstructed by vegetation. See Appendix G: Visual Resources Report for details."
- Comments: The lack of definition of "immediate vicinity" renders this answer meaningless. In Appendix G the applicant admits that the project can be seen (or could be seen) from Highway 20, the Skagit River, Illabot Creek, Skagit River Recreation Areas, Mountain Climbing/Hiking Recreation, Rockport, Marblemount and Corkindale. I would not call that "minimal".
 - It's easy to see the extent of visual pollution through use of Google Earth. The number of places the project can be seen and heard is breathtaking.
 - Views have not been associated with noise in this application. However, noise will travel further where there is line of sight, in addition to noise echoing off the mountains. The areas affected are extensive. This has not been addressed in this application.
 - Appendix G is referenced in this section. On page 6 Appendix G cavalierly points out that since the quarry is 0.5 instead of 0.25 miles from the Skagit River, that its Wild and Scenic River designation doesn't matter. Even though the application admits that users on the river will see the quarry. Users will hear it, too. Though noise is so poorly addressed in the proposal that this was not even considered.
- B.11. Light and Glare
- Comment: the answers do not take into consideration light reflection from low clouds which occur here frequently.
- B.12.c.: "Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: None necessary.
- Comment: The response "None necessary" demonstrates the disrespect for our community and the importance of tourism to our local economy. A breathtaking disregard. The annual Eagle Festival provides an economic lifeline to local businesses during winter months when many hundreds of eagles line the shores of

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

the Skagit River in this area. Eagles are unlikely hang around when there are explosions in the area. Loss of even this one important tourist attraction could cripple local businesses.

- B.14. Transportation

- Comment: The applicant contends that no mitigation is required. Even though of the 260 daily vehicle trips will include a large percentage of oversized trucks weighing up to 105,500 lbs, and other trucks will carry gravel, diesel fuel, gasoline, explosives, maintenance and replacement equipment, and other support vehicles.
- This section makes many references to Appendix I Traffic Impact Analysis. Let's take a look.
- The Executive Summary equates the Beaver Lake quarry to the proposed Marblemount site. Beaver Lake quarry is fewer than 8 miles from I-5, while the Marblemount site is 48 miles from I-5, most of it along Highway 20.
- The conclusion of the Executive Summary is that "...the proposal is not forecast to adversely impact local conditions." Heavy truck traffic every three minutes, entering Highway 20 with not enough sight distance, along 40 miles of Highway 20. Highway 20 has numerous public bus stops, children waiting for school buses, driveways to homes, businesses, and it goes through the congested area of Sedro Woolley. Trucks carrying gravel that will inevitably strike the windshields of residents, tourists, business owners and visitors. Highway 20 is one of only several cross-country bicycle routes because it passes through North Cascades National Park. There is significant motorcycle traffic due to the national park, and motorcyclists are at particular risk of injury due to gravel a sight-limiting large trucks.
- It is hard to believe that the weights and frequencies of these trucks will not damage road beds. There is no shoulder on Rockport Cascade Road - another hazardous situation.
- From Detailed Project Description: "Haul Routes: The haul route identified is via Rockport Cascade Road to Rockport and west on SR-20 to I-5." However, Appendix I shows some truck traffic heading east on Rockport Cascade Road, over a bridge crossing Cascade River, and then over the Marblemount bridge. From Detailed Project Description: "Truck Loads: Trucks will be legal loads of up to 105,500 pounds. If loads exceed this weight limit, appropriate permits will be obtained. Maximum over-load hauls would be less than 10 percent of total hauls." Residents living near the Marblemount bridge have eye witnessed more than one fully loaded trucks carry rocks on the bridge at the same time for other projects, exceeding weight limits. This is a narrow bridge. One careless incident involving trucks of weights proposed by the quarry, even gravel trucks, could bring the bridge down. The bridge is frequently used by pedestrians, bicyclists, photographers and tourists. Tourists entering and exiting the driveway at the boat launch make for another dangerous situation.

Comments on Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

- B.15. Public Services
 - Comment: The applicant contends that no mitigation is necessary. Marblemount volunteer fire and EMS are not set up to handle industrial activity of this scale. In section B.7.a.4) the applicant admits that 911 EMS would be used in the event of accidents or incidents.
- Supplemental 6.
 - Comment: Section A.11. specifies a 150 percent increase in rock volume if MRO is extended. In this section, only minor impacts on traffic are claimed. Where is all that increase in rock material going? The application is for 100 years independent of MRO expansion, yet here the claim is that existing impacts would simply be extended. Does that mean 150 years?
- Supplemental 7.: "The proposed MRO expansion does not conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment."
 - Comment: I believe that proper analysis and investigation of this project will prove otherwise.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project, which will impact all residents in the local area and Highway 20. And that of our children. And grand-children. And great grand-children. This is what is at stake.



Robert Klengler

Marblemount resident

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Robert Klengler
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry, PL19-0033

Comments : "1.3 Why Marblemount Quarry for Jetty Stone

Jetty stone requires unique physical properties that few available quarry sources along the west coast of the United States can provide. The previous primary source of jetty stone was the Beaver Lake Quarry in Mt. Vernon, WA which is now nearly depleted. There are extremely limited sources of suitable rock in high enough quantities that can be permitted in the necessary time frame to be viable."

FALSE

The US Army Corps of Engineers, page 126 of "Revised Final Environmental Assessment
Columbia River at the Mouth, Oregon and Washington
Rehabilitation of the Jetty System at the Mouth of the Columbia River"

document identifies 15 quarries with suitable rock that are not only permitted, but in operation. They are:

Key:

No.

Quarry

County and State

Nearest City

Road Miles from MCR

Unit Weight (pcf)

Reserves Available (tons)

Likely Transportation Method

Nearest Barge Facility

1

Columbia Granite Quarry

Thurston, WA

Vail, WA

129

168.5

28 M

Truck

N/A

2
Beaver Lake Quarry
Skagit, WA
Clear Lake, WA
251
181.1
1.86 M
Truck, then Barge
Anacortes, WA

3
Texada Quarry
BC, CANADA
Texada Island, BC
363
173.5+
275 M
Barge
Onsite

4
Stave Lake Quarry
BC, CANADA
Mission, BC
311
169.1
74 M
Truck, then Barge
Mission, BC, Canada

5
192nd Street Quarry
Clark, WA
Camas, WA
109
168.5
0.5 M
Truck/Barge
Camas, WA

6
Iron Mountain Quarry
Snohomish, WA
Granite Falls, WA
225
174
Unknown
Truck
N/A

7
Marble Mount Quarry
Skagit, WA
Concrete, WA
276
189.7
2M
Truck, then Barge
Anacortes, WA

8
Youngs River Falls Quarry
Clatsop, OR
Astoria, OR
20
181.8
0.5 M+
Truck
N/A

9
Liscomb Hill Quarry
Humboldt, CA
Willow Creek, CA
515
179.1
0.5 M
Truck, then Barge
Eureka, CA

10
Baker Creek Quarry
Coos, OR
Powers, OR
275
200
Unknown
Truck, then Barge
Coos Bay, OR

11
Phipps Quarry
Cowlitz, WA
Castle Rock, WA
69
167.4
0.5 M
Truck
N/A

12

Cox Station Quarry
BC, CANADA
Abbotsford, BC
313
167.9
150 M
Barge
Onsite

13
Ekset Quarry
BC, CANADA
Mission, BC
309
172.2
10 M
Truck, then Barge
Mission, BC, Canada

14
Fisher Quarry
Clark, WA
Camas, WA
108
168.5
2M
Barge
Camas, WA

15
Bankus Quarry
Curry, OR
Brookings, OR
347
183 & 195
0.7M
Truck, then Barge
Crescent City, CA

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

From Host Address: 172.58.41.85

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 10:35:59 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:50 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Robert Klengler
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry, PL19-0033

Comments : As a 23 year resident I have become accustomed to appropriate-scale use of our natural resources, including gravel pits.

A quarry of the proposed scale and timeline is inappropriate for this wild and scenic area.

Logging is a major activity in our area, but it is qualitatively and quantitatively different from quarry operations. Hillsides are logged, trees are planted, and the operation moves on. They do not operate 12+ hours per day. I've had many experiences with logging trucks over the years who have been respectful of bicyclists, pedestrians, motorcycles and cars. I've had few interactions with trucks carrying large stone and gravel, but they have almost always been negative. Driving too fast, and especially too close to pedestrians and bicycles. Debris always flies in the air as they pass.

The quarry will not move on as logging operations do. It would be an outsized scale for this natural environment for 100 years. Its current permitted size is more appropriate to this area.

From Host Address: 172.58.41.85

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 10:49:15 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 1:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Karen Kopper
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry near Marblemount - PL19-0033, PL-0047, BP19-0070, PL19-0032

Comments : Dear Skagit County Planning and Development,

I am strongly OPPOSED to the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, and urge you to reject it. Please evaluate their application with due diligence and extend the period of public comment. This is an enormous project that has extreme consequences, not only to the local community, but to outdoor enthusiasts across the nation that visit the area for its scenic beauty and wilderness appeal.

Here are some of the reasons for my concern:

1) As a landowner/commuter/seasonal resident: I own property in the neighboring town of Rockport that I live at during the summers, from which I commute by car or bike to Marblemount for work and pleasure. The estimated 75 trucks per day along my commuting route will not only prevent me from biking along the Rockport-Cascade Road, but also severely impact my frequent commute from Seattle to Rockport and Marblemount via State Routes 530 and/or 20. It is bad enough getting stuck behind a single dump truck on these windy and narrow roads, much less encountering several per hour.

2) As a trained botanist, I read through the biological assessment and noticed that the surveyor recommended replanting the herbaceous balds with NON-NATIVE PLANTS (*Agrostis tenuis*, *Arrhenatherum elatius*, and *Bromus commutatus*). The recommendation to replant with *Bromus commutatus* is particularly disturbing because this species is listed as a NOXIOUS WEED in some states, and is closely related to “cheat-grass”, one of the most notorious, federally-listed noxious weeds. Replanting with non-native grasses would not only degrade the herbaceous balds (rather than restore them) – it would also provide a seed source for these non-natives to invade the entire project area once the soil is exposed. This type of gross negligence brings into question the validity of the entire BA. I can’t help but question their diligence to the wildlife surveys and other values at risk.

3) As an outdoor enthusiast: People, including myself, travel from all over the country to visit the pristine North Cascades. The entire Kiewit Quarry operation is completely incongruous to the solitude and aesthetics that attracts visitors (and their commerce) to this area. Imagine hiking a trail while listening to blasts from the quarry, and passing a huge swath of denuded forest on your way in and out of “the American Alps”. This should never come to pass.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Karen Kopper

From Host Address: 71.212.30.30

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 1:08:08 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 9:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Karen Krauch
[REDACTED]

City : MARBLEMOUNT

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Mining Special Use/Forest Practice Conversion/Grading Permit/SEPA Kiewit Infrastructure
PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

Comments : This will destroy our small, beautiful rural community. The major reason most of us moved up here was to get away from the noise of the cities. This project will impact the number of tourists that come though Marblemount and spend their money up here. The land is already unstable in this area. My husband and I and many people will be negatively affected health-wise with poor quality air, not to mention the increased rise of forest fires with blasting. The waves from the blasting could have a negative effect on our wells and our homes and structures. This project will also impact wildlife and fisheries. This is a mistake! This is some of most beautiful and pristine land around. This mine will change that and not for the better.

Thank You,
Karen Krauch

From Host Address: 50.34.218.120

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 9:03:43 AM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 10:38 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: PL19-0032 Comment Letter

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 3:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Karen Krauch

City : MARBLEMOUNT
State : WA

PermitProposal : SEPA application: PL19-0032

Comments : This special permit application if approved will contribute nothing to those of us upriver. What it will do is destroy people's health, peace, wildlife habitat, the tourist industry we count on; not to mention the instability of the land around here. The dynamiting process every two hours while building a road to the top of the mountain is not acceptable!!! The road traffic that would happen are accidents in the making! There are people that suffer from PTSD up here as well. The people that moved up here did so for the peace and quiet and beauty of the area. We have the Eagle Festival up here and lots of nesting areas. How will this not negatively affect the eagles and the people that come to see them every year. This is wrong on so many levels. Please listen to our concerns.

From Host Address: 50.34.218.120

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 3:42:13 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Sarah Lane
[REDACTED]

City : Twisp
State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am opposed to this permit application. It is not in a compatible location for recreation. It will be an eyesore as well as a danger in terms of potential contamination of an important listed species salmonid river. Please reject the application.

From Host Address: 63.142.207.34

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 2:49:00 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 1:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : erik larsen
[REDACTED]

City : mount vernon

State : wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : As a concerned citizen I would like a study done about how This will negatively affect all of Skagit Valley: the tourist industry, congestion/wear on roads, massive noise pollution upriver from blasting up to 6 times a day! This is a threat to endangered/threatened species, the Skagit river, and therefore salmon, orcas, and anyone who loves the North Cascades!

From Host Address: 76.191.116.166

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 1:39:17 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 1:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : rebecca larsen
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro Woolley
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : We're asking for an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

We're asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

From Host Address: 76.191.116.166

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 1:15:56 PM

From: editorial@europeanweekly.net
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Comments on the Marblemount Quarry
Date: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:23:37 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in regard to the proposed expanded quarry on Rockport Cascade Road.

I am not a resident of this area, but as a very active member of a large mountaineering as well as a hiking group, I visit this area very often along with fellow climbers and hikers.

Each time we visit, we are amazed about how beautiful the region is. The area has offered many recreational possibilities to many of us living in the Greater Seattle area. And each time we come and climb, hike, backpack, we love to stop in Marblemount for dinner or even stay for a few nights.

The thought of this incredibly beautiful area (and refuge for so many from the urban area) being considered for a stone mining company is deeply concerning. I'm almost certain that the impact on the area and particularly on its residents will be negatively felt. For instance, according to a Traffic Impact Analysis employee and hauling traffic would go up to 260 vehicles each day. This is a significant increase to the traffic that this area is currently seeing. I further read that blasting would occur up to six times per day during construction of the access road and once or twice during mining operations. Although a sound analysis claims otherwise, I am almost certain that this drastic increase of traffic will surely be felt and heard by its residents.

I can't even begin to imagine what environmental impact a big operation like this one would have on the region. With a rapidly vanishing natural world, we need to make sure that we safeguard our natural resources as best as we can. Skagit River has spawning populations of all 5 species of Pacific salmon, some of them endangered.

I truly hope you will reconsider your plans for many reasons: for the residents who have chosen to move out there so they can live as close to nature as possible (and for some the dream of living close to nature has also turned into their livelihoods); for tourists like myself who depend on natural areas like this for recreational purposes, and for its natural diversity (fauna and flora) this region has to offer.

Thank you very much.

Martina Law

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 3:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : John Scott Lee
[REDACTED]

City : MARBLEMOUNT

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 KIEWIT Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : RE: Special Use Permit Application Submittals PL19-0033, (received January 22, 2019)

Greetings,

I am a 35 year resident of Marblemount, living about 2 miles from the site of this proposed project. Although the project impacts us in Marblemount in multiple ways, I am particularly concerned about 3 aspects.

1) RISKS TO WATER QUALITY. The proposal notes that there will be thousands of gallons of diesel fuel and gasoline on-site. Over the course of the years-long life of this project, there is a high probability of accidents and spills with these toxic fuels.

The risk of contamination is notable enough that the "HydroGeologic Site Assessment" in the proposal recommends that even further measures be taken to try to control spill episodes.. "facilities should have secondary containment structures to further reduce the potential for hazardous fluids from spilling and/or being released into the environment".

They also note in the proposal SEPA that their intended mitigation for "fugitive dust" will be to spray down the work area with a mix of water and/or magnesium chloride. Dust will be a constant companion to this operation, given that they intend to explode rock, break rock, and push rock around every day. If they are committed to dust mitigation, they will be spraying a lot of water or water-chemical mix every day.

In their proposal's HydroGeologic appendix regarding impact on on-site watercourses, they state that the "groundwater presumably discharges into the Skagit River", 2100 feet away from the site.

So, we have the guarantee that wastewater from the spray-down will sink into the shallow water table, which drains downhill into the Skagit. We also have the likelihood over time of accidental spills of clearly toxic fuels which would also affect water quality in the Skagit.

It bears pointing out that the Applicant, Kiewit Infrastructure, has already been convicted and fined millions of dollars for the egregious secret dumping of toxic waste from their mining operations into the San Joaquin River in California, a critical resource for irrigation and drinking water. This criminality raises the question of how committed the company will be to caring about and mitigating any impacts to the Skagit watershed. Millions of dollars and decades of effort have gone into improving water quality and conserving water quantity for the Skagit. Is the profit for this company worth the risk over many years to the Skagit fisheries, the public drinking water of Anacortes and other downstream users, and the health of the entire watershed?

2) NOISE. The applicant asserts that since the estimated noise level is within the Skagit County guidelines (barely), they will construct a maximum 20 foot tall berm which will make the operations-noise acceptable to local residents.

While the acoustic assessment offered in the proposal may show this is sufficient mitigation, it is doubtful that such a limited barrier is going to significantly reduce the noise from the crushing, dropping and detonating of rock for 12 hours a day, 6 days a week. Local residents will confirm that living in a valley surrounded by

mountain-walls of rock, we hear the resounding echo of every gunshot, every chainsaw, and every loud truck on Highway 20. The denuded mountain slope of this project will simply be a giant acoustic mirror, reflecting operations noise far across the valley. A 20 foot berm will hardly diminish that. And how will constant industrial noise from this operation impact recreational users of the Skagit River, 2100 feet away, surrounding wildlife, and the hundreds of residents well-within hearing range on a daily basis?

ROAD TRAFFIC DENSITY & MAINTENANCE COSTS. The Traffic Impact Analysis states that the average daily traffic volume at the Hwy20 /Hwy530 intersection is 2300 vehicles. The analysis also states the Quarry operations expect to add 260 vehicle trips per day, most of which will go through this intersection. It seems legitimate to question the proposal assertion that the impact of a 10% increase in heavy truck traffic through this neighborhood means "no mitigation is required". It should be noted that the latest paving of Hwy 20 was acknowledged by WA DOT as a lower-cost, less long-lasting, and less damage-resistant "chip/seal" job, rather than higher-quality paving, because there was insufficient funding for a better road surface. How well will such a surface stand up to one additional 26-Ton truck every 7 minutes, 6 days a week, for decades? And is Kiewit going to contribute to the increased maintenance and repaving costs?

There are many more impacts upon our community, and they will continue for decades as outlined in this proposal. We believe that at the very minimum, a full EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) AND a longer period for public comment and hearing should be instituted, given the magnitude and duration of the potential impact of this project on the citizens and environment of the Upper Skagit.

Respectfully submitted,
John Scott Lee, [REDACTED] Marblemount, WA, [REDACTED]

From Host Address: 104.235.182.30

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 3:19:38 PM

Re: Marblemount Quarry
PL 19-0033, 0046, 0072 BP 19-0070

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2019

March 25, 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

Dear Planning Department of Skagit County,

I am deeply worried about the proposal to mine large quarry rock in Marblemount and have trucks of stone running on highway 20. It is already a busy and often dangerous road, I can't imagine how many people and animals will be harmed by these trucks.

Many people come to visit this beautiful area to fish and see eagles. This plan with all the noise, and runoff, and traffic will be bad for the fish, eagles + visitors.

Please do not let it happen. I just missed a very dangerous accident with a logging truck and I really am afraid of 75 rock trucks a day!

Thank you for your help,

Terry Leishman

[REDACTED]
Rockport, WA
[REDACTED]

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 7:35 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Emily Lester

[REDACTED]
City : Marblemount
State : WA

[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Co., LLC: mining special use permit (PL19-0033), a forest practice conversion application (PL19-0047), a grading application (BP19-0070) and SEPA application (PL19-0032).
Comments : I am deeply disturbed by the proposed plan to expand the quarry located at 59252 Rockport-Cascade Road, Skagit County, within a portion of Section24, Township 35 North, Range 10 East, Skagit County, WA (Parcels P45543, P45541, P45548, P45552, P45550, P45548, P128574, & P120304). The expansion of this quarry will have negative impacts on the rich riparian zone of the protected wild and scenic Skagit River ecosystem. The damage done to the roads by large trucks hauling quarry rock will no doubt seep into the the water ways that are so important to the livelihood of anadromous salmon species of the Puget Sound. The Skagit River watershed is the largest tributary to the Puget Sound and important habitat to the 5 native salmon species. This fishery is depended on by declining orca population of the Puget Sound, any degradation to this important habitat puts the already suffering orca populations at risk. I am against any expansion of this quarry where trucks will be driving up the fragile roads degrading them and putting this riparian zone at risk of pollution causing negative impacts on native salmon species.

From Host Address: 165.83.47.253

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 7:35:04 AM

John Cooper

From: Richard Lewis [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 4:29 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: proposed Kiewet quarry

John, could we have more time to submit letters of concern about the proposed quarry? Myself and others are just now getting access to information and documents (many lengthy and difficult reading for lay people) that could help us assess what Kiewet would be responsible for, what we might expect in terms of noise and mitigation, and in general further details of their proposal to Skagit County. We need some more time to get acquainted with the proposed quarry in order to have an informed understanding of the scope of the project. Thank you.

Richard Lewis
Rockport

John Cooper

From: Richard Lewis [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 2:09 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: proposed Marblemount quarry

To John and the Skagit Planning department.

The proposed quarry is not in the interests of 99% of the upper Skagit Residents (nor of anyone living along the route the trucks will take down hwy 20). The less than 1 % of our community that may get a job driving a truck would be the only community members benefiting from the operations of the quarry. The project will certainly be noisy and disruptive, as well as polluting and conceivably silting the downstream Illabot and Skagit drainages which we have been enhancing for the last several years as pristine Salmon habitat. Diverse groups have come together (the Native Tribes, Wa Fish and Wildlife, The Nature Conservancy, Seattle City Light, others), spending millions on stream restoration of the Illabot, and creating detailed hydrological and biological studies of the Barnaby Reach ecosystem for restoration (also 2 miles downstream of the proposed quarry). There is nothing to be gained in our community from this quarry — and much to be lost and suffered through in the process. Please, think of how such an operation would would impact us. Imagine yourselves in our position. And deny permits for this proposed quarry.

Richard Lewis
[REDACTED]
Rockport, Wa 98283

March 21 2019

RECEIVED
MAR 27 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

Planning dept:

The opening of the "Marblemount Quarry" on the Rockport Cascade Road is NOT IN MY INTEREST. Nobody in our neighborhood will benefit from this; we all will suffer from the noise of the operation, the air-borne pollutants + dust, the traffic, the degradation of the land, and the indignities of a foreign corporation benefiting from our misery. Please Please hear our concerns and ask yourselves what you personally would do in our situation.

Richard Lewis

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Rockport WA 98283
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Richard Lewis
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : This proposed quarry between Marblemount and Rockport is not in the interests of the Upriver Community -- we reap absolutely no benefit and we would bear years if not decades of suffering. Our quality of life, the health of our ecosystem, our property values, potentially our physical safety, our sanity and our community would all be negatively impacted. There is no other way to say this: our lives would absolutely be adversely affected by the development of this quarry.

From Host Address: 104.235.165.57

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:02:01 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 5:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ronald C Lewis
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete

State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marble Mt. Quarry PL19-0033

Comments : This is far too large an impact on a small community. Just the eyesore, clearly visible from "scenic" hwy 20, let alone the traffic and blasting noise will damage property value in an already impoverished area. I watched hundreds of forest jobs in the upper Skagit disappear due to the unsustainable harvest practices of the '80s and don't care to witness an unrenovable resource provided for an Alaskan project, at the cost of removing the forest land base in my community. I am the founder and Registered Agent of a forestry Cooperative based in Rockport, Skagit co. mainly concerned with forest inventory and genetic studies.

From Host Address: 174.216.23.241

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 5:06:14 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 10:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Carla Macnab
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Special Use Permit Application Submittals PL19-0033, (
Comments : I am against the approval of this permit. This project would be disastrous for the land, wildlife and the intrastate of Marblemount all along SR20 down to I5. The noise, pollution, use of community resources, decline of already lower property values, and the affect on businesses who need tourist dollars would be devastating. To hear the day in and day out blasting and the constant running of big rigs on this two lane highway is a huge accident waiting to happen. The danger of wildfires is scary enough every year without the added risk of constant explosions.
As a registered voter, this project does NOT have my approval!

From Host Address: 172.58.40.183

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 10:37:13 AM

John Cooper

From: Mark Malone [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:20 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: comment on Kiewit project

Hello Mr. Cooper,

I just submitted this comment below using the County form, but was encouraged by some of my neighbors to also email you directly.

Thanks,
Mark Malone
Marblemount

Dear Mr. Cooper,

I was distressed to learn last week of the proposal to greatly expand the scope of operations of the quarry on Rockport-Cascade Road. My wife and I spend the majority of our time at our home just north of Marblemount, at [REDACTED]. And we're greatly looking forward to living here full-time as of March 2021. Like most of our neighbors, what brought us to Marblemount is the extraordinary quiet, natural beauty, and environmental attributes of this area, the gateway to North Cascades National Park. The proposed industrial quarry operations, as described in Kiewit's paperwork, imperil these qualities.

The impacts are many, but as I've studied the proposal, my immediate concern is the noise that will be generated by the project. Mining, crushing, and transport operations are scheduled to run 12 hours/day, for six days/week, generating 260 vehicle trips/day. 150 of those daily vehicle trips will be heavy trucks. During the road building phase, six blasting operations/day are planned, and then two/day for the life of the mining operation. This level of industrial mining activity is incompatible with a community whose economy depends very much on tourism. Those businesses that serve people traveling to the North Cascades will wither.

The project plainly violates the spirit of the County Comprehensive Plan. Please see the bulleted points in the "Respect Property Rights" section. If Kiewit's plan goes forward, then anyone who lives within a couple miles of this operation will surely feel that the County did NOT "ensure against incompatible neighboring land uses."

Our home is a quarter mile from the Skagit River. From our porch, we can often hear the river flowing. That's the quality of quiet we have out here. Sure, we hear some traffic during the summer, some gunfire, chainsaws, etc. We occasionally hear rock-crushing from a small gravel operation southeast of our place, across the river. But the activity that Kiewit is proposing is of an entirely different level--industrial and constant. It's wholly incompatible with the nature of our community here in Marblemount.

I urge the county to reject Kiewit's proposal.

Thanks for reading,
Mark Malone

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 7:45 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Rebecca Mandelbaum
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Comments : To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing regarding the plan to quarry Bear Mountain on Rockport Cascade Road in Marblemount, Washington. As someone who has lived in this area for the past two years, I am extremely concerned about the impact a project like this will have on the surrounding environment, human and non-human alike. Not only do people live and recreate on this road--people who have chosen to settle in this area because of the quiet, natural beauty, solitude, and healthy living environment (clean water, fresh air)--but there are also numerous plants, animals, and water systems that would likely be affected by such a plan. The noise pollution created by trucks alone would undoubtedly disturb the many birds and mammals that call this area of the Cascades home.

There is also the issue of traffic. The number of cars traveling on highway 20 and SR530 during the summer tourist months--June through late August--is already high for such one-lane highways. Large logging trucks already cause a problem for tourists trying to safely access North Cascades National Park, Rockport State Park, Howard Miller Steelhead Park, and other popular recreation areas near the proposed quarry site. Introducing dozens of transportation vehicles to these already congested highways would not only interfere with tourism but would also pose a safety concern, as people often try to pass trucks on these roads.

I urge the planning committee to, at the very least, extend the timeline of this decision so that the residents of this area can learn more about the project and the pros and cons it may have on the community.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Mandelbaum

From Host Address: 172.92.196.221

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 7:41:03 AM

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS



Skagit Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1101
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

March 29, 2019

John Cooper
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Re: File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

(Also submitted electronically via the Planning & Development Services website on 3/29/2019)

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Please accept the following comments on the application for the proposed Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount. I am submitting these comments on behalf of Skagit Audubon Society, the local chapter of National Audubon. Our 260 member families share the Audubon mission of conserving and restoring natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity. The proposed quarry operation is relevant to our group's interests in many ways.

The potential adverse impacts on local residents and their property are many and of long duration.

The application materials and related reports which Kiewit has submitted for this project describe the types and quantity of noise the project would produce. Even at the understated level mentioned in the application materials, residents' loss of the present peace and tranquility of their neighborhood will be profound and long-lasting, whether the quarry operates for the proposed 30 years or the 100 hundred years of the projected expansion. Skagit Audubon members, including those living in the Marblemount area and visitors, presently enjoy the opportunity to observe a wide variety of bird species in settings that do not involve loud and continuous industrial activity. This opportunity will be severely impaired if the proposed quarry operation goes forward. Residents of the area will, of course, also lose value in their property as a result of the quarry operation, which it would appear can only be mitigated to a very limited degree.

We note that the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan states, "Planning, land use regulations and zoning protect individual and community rights in the following ways:

- by avoiding nuisances through ensuring against incompatible neighboring land uses;
- ...
- by protecting and conserving the natural resources that provide us with clean air and water;"

~ to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity ~

Our County Commissioners frequently declare that their first responsibility is ensuring the safety and well-being of the county's residents. The Kiewit proposal provides an opportunity for the Planning and Development Department and the County Commissioners to demonstrate adherence to the values stated in the Comprehensive Plan and their public statements. Are the property rights and the well-being of residents to take a back seat to the plans of a large corporation whose actions will adversely affect residents and the environment with limited possible mitigation and for many years to come?

Fifteen days to comment is insufficient.

The Notice of Development Application for this project was published March 14th with a 15 day comment period. Two weeks and a day allow insufficient time to study the application materials and gather related information to make thorough comments and suggestions. It is not reasonable to fast track a proposal of this scale and duration (30 years with potential expansion to 100 years) and with such significant and varied potential impacts to people and the environment. We therefore request an extension or reopening of the comment period.

The potential adverse effects on state and/or federal listed species are severely understated.

Gray Wolf

The *Biological Assessment and Skagit County Critical Areas Report* prepared for Kiewit by Element Solutions of Bellingham states conclusions related to potential impacts on listed species on page 45 of its report. The report states, "...the overall proposed project May Affect, Is Not Likely to Adversely Affect the biological environment of the area." Element Solutions states this conclusion, for example, for the federal and state-listed Gray Wolf, even though there is, and has for some time been, a WDFW-radio collared wolf in the vicinity, and there could be others. The project's SEPA application, on page 15 under "Federal Species," states, "FWS data list the gray wolf (*Canis lupus*) as an endangered species that may occur in the project site vicinity." The term "may" is incorrect. At least one gray wolf is known to be living in the vicinity. On what grounds does Element Solutions conclude that the proposed industrial quarrying activity would not affect this listed species? The report does not state.

Migratory Birds

Several migratory birds are mentioned, such as Willow Flycatcher and Olive-sided Flycatcher, with the unsupported statement that there would be "No Jeopardy" to these species from this project. No basis is given for this conclusion. From our own experience we can say that particularly for the Olive-sided Flycatcher, the conclusion of Element Solutions is unwarranted. Particularly in migration, it is virtually certain that this species occurs on the project property and would be impacted adversely were it clear cut and quarried. These are only a few examples of the insufficiency of the biological assessment, whose conclusions have been incorporated into the SEPA application.

Peregrine

We would also note that the property proposed for quarrying is the location of a peregrine falcon nest. Although this bird is no longer state-listed, the bird and its nests are still protected under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The proposed mining activity would obliterate this nest site and, among other things, deprive local residents and visitors to the vicinity of observing this fastest of all birds. The opportunity to see such species is part of what gives the area the special character it has now and will lose if the proposed project goes forward. We would also note that while the peregrine is no longer state-listed, it is designated a Species of Concern under the federal Endangered Species Act. That the biological assessment prepared by Element Solutions has no mention of this species is another measure of the report's inadequacy and, thus, the inadequacy of the SEPA application.

Fisher (Pekania pennant)

Page 15 of the SEPA application states that no state species requiring special consideration "were observed on the site." This sets a very low bar for determining whether the proposed project could have adverse effects on protected species. How much time did he contracted biologists spend on the site? The biological assessment and the SEPA application omit all mention of the fisher, which is state-listed as Endangered and federally designated as a Candidate species for listing under the Endangered Species Act. It has been well-publicized that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service are engaged in a long-planned program to restore the fisher to the Cascades. Within the last few months there have been multiple releases of fishers in in the Skagit watershed not many miles from the project site and within the range that this species will wander. To not address adverse effects of the proposed quarry project on this listed species is a significant omission.

Marbled Murrelet

We note that Element Solutions contracted with Hamer Environmental to assess the project site for potential Marbled Murrelet and Spotted Owl nesting habitat. While the contractors did not find habitat meeting all the nesting criteria for these 2 species, they omitted an important consideration related to the murrelet. The Cascade River drainage, tributary to the Skagit River, is an area that has had active Marbled Murrelet nests in past years and may still. This federally listed Threatened species, state-listed as Endangered, is in rapid decline in Washington State and particularly Puget Sound. Murrelets lay a single egg on the large, high branch of an old growth tree, sometimes using other natural platforms such as those formed by mistletoe. The adult birds fly to marine waters to catch forage fish, which they bring back to the nest to feed their single chick. When the chick fledges, it must reach marine water on its first flight if it is to survive. The transit area from nest to saltwater can present a variety of hazards making that first essential flight, as well as the daily flights of the adults, fraught with danger. These flights typically occur around dawn and dusk. The proposed quarry operation would be from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. six days a week and is along the path murrelets nesting in the Cascade River drainage would likely follow to the sea. During much of the year, the daily work period for the quarry would include dawn and dusk. Excessive noise, dust, explosions,

upward-directed lighting: these are among the factors which could jeopardize the successful flight of Marbled Murrelets traveling up and down the Skagit Valley between their nest sites and marine waters. The biological assessment for this proposed project does not address this issue and, consequently, describes no mitigation.

Conclusion: An EIS should be required.

Skagit Audubon has other concerns with the project being proposed, but the short comment period does not permit addressing them in this letter. From what we have read so far, it is clear that an Environmental Impact Statement should be required for this project which is so large-scale, long-term, and controversial with foreseeable significant adverse effects on people and the environment.

We ask that you keep our organization informed at each stage of the project review, including the opportunities for public oral or written comment. Please use this address for written information: Conservation Chair, Skagit Audubon Society, P.O. Box 1101, Mount Vernon, WA 98274 and this address for emailed notices: conservation@skagitaudubon.org .

We appreciate your attention to our concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Timothy Manns', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Timothy Manns
Conservation Chair
Skagit Audubon Society

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Timothy Manns
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Quarry operation near Marblemount, File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

Comments : March 29, 2019 Skagit Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1101
Mount Vernon, WA 98274

John Cooper
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Re: File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

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We appreciate your attention to our concerns.

Sincerely,

/s/ Timothy Manns

Timothy Manns
Conservation Chair
Skagit Audubon Society

From Host Address: 73.169.232.196

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:08:44 PM

John Cooper

From: Karen Marks [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:16 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Upper Skagit Mining PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

John Cooper, LG, LHg
Geologist/Hydrogeologist/Natural Resource Planner
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
johnc@co.skagit.wa.us
(360) 416-1334

PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

I attempted to leave a public comment three times and got an error message each time, then I learned that you would take public comments via email- since the website kept showing an error message.

This proposal has come as a great surprise to many of us in the upper Skagit watershed and we have not had time to read all the reports in order to verify the information and make informed comments. I would like it if we were given more time to study Kiewit Infrastructures proposal and make additional comments. This week the link was broken to the documents for two days which did not allow me access.

*This plan does not take into account the Faber Hill slide and other compromised areas of highway 20. Not to mention the 8 elk crossings.

*Tourism and summer camping season brings hundreds of people pulling campers and RV drivers into the area. This will pose a greater conflict because both of these types of vehicles are not quick to maneuver when they encounter one another.

*The traffic section of the report does not list the log truck roll overs that occurred at the intersection of highway 20 and 530 junction just below the Rockport Store. This grade in the junction needs evaluation.

*My other main concerns is that there needs to be a more extensive Environmental impact study so that we can be assured this quarry will not compromise the Skagit River which drains a third of the fresh water into the Puget sound.

*Regarding the SEPA environmental checklist;

Kiewit Infrastructure cannot be issued an oversized or overload vehicle permit because according to DOT this is not allowed on the 530 Sauk River Bridge this would force all their trucks through the town of Marblemount- which would adversely affect tourism.

R 530 56.22 East & West 530/207 Sauk River Bridge 3.5 N Snohomish Lane

SR 530, MP 56.22 WB & EB, Legal weights only/No over legal axle weights. Legal Gross Weight limited to 105,500 lbs. 5.5 mi S of Town of Rockport. 4/26/2010

*5. Animals <In this section Kiewit claims> "Wildlife was not observed on the site or in the vicinity of the site during our site investigations."

I was at the proposed site yesterday and photographed an eagle flying over the area.

*I have concerns for potential slides that might occur and cause injury or harm to residents who live below the proposed quarry area as occurred in OSO. I am also concerned for my own and the mental

health of those living in the area who would be forced to deal with the blasting sounds, truck noise pollution and or forced to sell their homes because of all the things mentioned and light pollution. *My final concern is for the maintenance of quiet during the winter migration of the eagles into the upper Skagit river corridor. WDFW has rules regarding noise during the yearly migration of our nation's symbol. Boats are not allowed to race along the river making noise during certain hours will Kiewit Infrastructures take these matters into consideration?

Because we have conservation efforts in place regarding noise and pollution the bald eagle was removed from the federal endangered species list in 2007. But it has only been more recently that it was removed from the protected species in Washington State list. That was in 2016. It would be a shame if we put a strain on this species and regressed its numbers in our state back to endangered because of lack of continued protection. The skagit river is hosts one of the largest wintering eagle populations in the lower 48 and I believe the consideration of these migratory birds should be included in a Environmental Impact study.

Thank you in advance for considering my concerns.

Please feel free to reach me any time at [REDACTED]

Karen Marks

Edgar Marks-Franks

Simon Marks-Franks

Lawrence Franks

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Edgar Marks-Franks
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation in Marblemount Washington

Comments : Hello, recently I was informed about the proposed Quarry operation in marblemount Washington.

As someone who grew up in the upper Skagit valley I have an interest in preserving the natural beauty of the area.

Beyond that, I have spent several years working with the Washington Conservation Corps and with the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group to restore vital salmon habitat.

My concern with this proposed project would be the potential for negative impact on the local watershed that drains into the Skagit river. In turn, undoing much of the work the state's tax revenue has been spent on to restore vital salmon habitat for Chinook and other salmon.

I would like to be sure that all appropriate permits and compliance with the Washington state department of ecology are met, and that an in depth assessment, and environmental impact Study/statement is performed on this proposed work before any permits are issued by the county.

Thank you for your time.

From Host Address: 73.83.14.16

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:01:31 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 7:07 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: Feedback Submission

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:00 PM
To: website <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: Feedback Submission

Department : Planning and Development Services
Name : Bonnie Marks-Wright
[REDACTED]

Other : Please do NOT allow Kiewit Infrastructure Company to develop the Marblemount Quarry. This will negatively affect our environment. The wildlife will suffer. The traffic will increase and slow down. These trucks will tear up the roads. The chemicals used in the blasting will hurt humans, wildlife, our soil, our air and our water. Noise pollution will affect humans and wildlife. There is NO stated time for the blasting. It could go on 24 hours a day if they want to or if they are behind on a contract. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE do not allow Kiewit Infrastructure Company to develop the Marblemount Quarry.

From Host Address: 66.235.39.113

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 2:55:10 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : CHRISTIAN MARTIN
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I work in Skagit County and have over a decade of professional and personal experience visiting Marblemount and the national park and forest service lands further up the road, and can say unequivocally that this project proposal is absolutely the wrong future for this special area in our great state. It is so wrong-headed that it is difficult to know where to begin critiquing it, but here are a few things to consider:

- 1) UNACCEPTABLE IMPACTS on wildlife, including endangered salmon species in the great Skagit River, as well as an array of robust, yet imperiled, mammals like bears, wolverines, beavers, pine marten, wolves and the recently-restored fisher. Endangered Peregrine falcons, along with other bird species, are known to be present in the area too. Daily blasting and constant heavy-vehicle traffic are incompatible with all of their survival in the area.
- 2.) The removal of 2.7 million board feet of maturing forest, which provides invaluable ecosystem services including habitat for the aforementioned wildlife, water retention and filtration, and carbon sequestration. As the US Forest Service has stated, "Interest in terrestrial carbon sequestration has increased in an effort to explore opportunities for climate change mitigation. Carbon sequestration is the process by which atmospheric carbon dioxide is taken up by trees, grasses, and other plants through photosynthesis and stored as carbon in biomass (trunks, branches, foliage, and roots) and soils. The sink of carbon sequestration in forests and wood products helps to offset sources of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, such as deforestation, forest fires, and fossil fuel emissions."
- 3.) UNACCEPTABLE IMPACTS to water quality for the nearby Skagit River, which is one of the healthiest, most vibrant rivers in the entire United States -- one of the last rivers home to all native species of salmon as well as the endangered Bull trout -- and is federally protected by the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act.
- 4.) UNACCEPTABLE IMPACTS to the local residents, including families, many of whom have chosen to live and invest in this area exactly for its rural attributes and natural setting, as well as detrimental harm to the local tourism and recreation economy, a powerful economic driver in Skagit County. Tourists (and their dollars) visit this region from all over the planet, drawn to the protected federal lands nearby, to experience this increasingly-rare slice of a functioning, intact natural ecosystem. Education, recreation, scientific studies, escape from the stress of the non-stop technological web of our modern world and spiritual renewal are just a few of the things visitors, both local and global, access this greater area for -- values far greater than one company's temporary profits.
- 5.) Last but definitely not least, UNACCEPTABLE IMPACTS to the Upper Skagit people, who have called this

region home since Time Immemorial and depend on the well-being of the natural systems for their way-of-life, self-identity and ancient culture.

Eastern Skagit County is blessed to have retained its' wilderness characteristics, to be in proximity to a national park, Wild & Scenic river, and other protected wildlands and habitats. With the intense development and population pressures underway in our state, the value of places like Marblemount increases year after year. This area should be a source of pride for everyone living in Skagit County, as others around the state who haven't proactively preserved wild, natural, peaceful places look upon it with envy.

In the last century, the Upper Skagit Valley went through immense industrial development with the Seattle City Light hydropower project, which destroyed thousands of acres of forest, altered wildlife habitat and tamed the Skagit River forever. In this new century, we have learned better than to wreak such destruction on our own home and on the species we share it with. We have learned better than to treat the natural world as a limitless bank for short-sighted, unsustainable resource extraction. We are learning -- the hard way -- about limits, about restraint, about respect for the original inhabitants of these lands and the other species we share this place with. And, in the face of unfolding climate change, we understand that our society needs to work towards sustainability and resiliency in the natural systems that sustain us.

It is a FACT — long known by the indigenous people of this continent — that we cannot continue to shred corners of the fabric of life that sustains us without destroying ourselves too.

The quarry expansion project for the Marblemount area is the wrong idea for the wrong time. It is archaic, destructive, selfish, short-sighted and, frankly, it is an insult to have even been proposed.

Thank you for hearing the concerns of Skagitonians in denying the application for this project.

From Host Address: 73.35.166.54

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:41:05 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jake Marty

[REDACTED]
City : Concrete

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Quarry in Marblemount

Comments : This would be terrible for our valley. It will destroy our heritage and deter tourism.

Please do not rob our families of jobs and landscape.

From Host Address: 174.216.1.142

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:04:44 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 5:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Juliana Frye Matragrano
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry Mine

Comments : We're asking for an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

We're asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

From Host Address: 67.171.28.241

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 5:40:14 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 1:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jennifer Maxwell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Comments : This will negatively affect all of Skagit Valley!

From Host Address: 97.73.244.147

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 1:07:11 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : John E. McAmis
[REDACTED]

City : Chico
State : CA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-032, -033, -0047; BP19-0070
Comments : March 28, 2019

Re: Kiewit's Marblemount Quarry Applications (Skagit County PL19-0032, -0033, -0047; BP19-0070)

To Whom It May Concern:

Kiewit Infrastructure Co.'s ("Kiewit") applications for a special use permit and associated authorizations from Skagit County to expand a less than 3-acre quarry supplying materials to the local community into a 640-acre mine site supplying jetty stone (aka armor stone) along the west coast of North America are expressly prohibited by Skagit County zoning, such that Kiewit's application should either be (i) denied, or (ii) suspended so that Skagit County can properly first consider amending its Comprehensive Plan to expand its mineral resource overlay ("MRO") to cover all of the areas for which Kiewit is now seeking permits, including Kiewit's proposed mine access road. (If Kiewit modifies its proposed project to be confined entirely within the existing MRO, that necessarily would constitute a substantial project revision under the Skagit County Code ("SCC") and the application process should be restarted and/or the public given an opportunity to comment on such substantially revised project.) In addition, Kiewit's application materials are, at best, misleading, and Skagit County should require that Kiewit provide additional information pursuant to SCC 14.06.100(5), after which the public should have an opportunity to comment with Kiewit's actual plans in mind. Notwithstanding the minimal "mitigation" proposed by Kiewit, it is clear that Kiewit's proposed project "may have a probable significant adverse environmental impact," such that an environmental impact statement must be prepared under Washington's State Environmental Policy Act.

Background

According to Kiewit's application materials, the site contains a "small-scale quarry (under 3 acres)" that received a conditional use permit in 1982. This quarry has an extremely limited history of use and has never been extended to mining the upland talus slopes with the exception of a small-scale localized landscape supply of stone. Kiewit proposes to expand this "small-scale" activity to "supply jetty stone for several major projects on the west coast including the emergency repair on the Mouth of the Columbia River."

According to Kiewit's application materials, "the Marblemount Quarry as one of the very few sources of ready-to-permit jetty rock on the west coast." This is simply not true. First, this site is not "ready-to-permit," as it is not even fully zoned for mining. Second, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Revised Final Environmental Assessment, Rehabilitation of the Jetty System at the Mouth of the Columbia River (June 2012) identified 15 quarries as potential sources of jetty stone. In the seven years since the Corps' 2012 assessment, additional

quarries fully capable of supplying jetty stone for that project have been permitted and opened.

The Corps' forthcoming jetty work at the mouth of the Columbia River is anticipated to require at least 500,000 tons of armor stone. Assuming Kiewit is able to produce its desired 4 to 28-ton armor stone at a 20% rate (i.e., 20% of the rock removed from the mine constitutes armor stone), which would reflect the best industry averages, Kiewit would need to mine 2,500,000 tons (or one million cubic yards at a 1:2.5 cubic yard to ton ratio) for that one project alone. Kiewit's application estimates that Step 2 would produce about 3.8 million cubic yards. Kiewit would mine that material in rapid progression.

What would happen to the 80% of the rock that is not armor stone? For Step 2, Kiewit would deposit at least 3,040,000 cubic yards (i.e., at least 80% of 3.8 million cubic yards) on a 13-acre "undersized rock stockpile area." There are 62,920 square yards in 13 acres. Accordingly, to accommodate 3,040,000 cubic yards of rock, Kiewit would need to create roughly 50-yard high stockpiles or, more accurately, tailings. Cunningham Crushing could then screen and crush Kiewit's tailings to supply the local community. Kiewit notes that Cunningham Crushing's operations "will be completely dependent upon local market conditions." As Cunningham Crushing's operations over the prior almost 40 years have only mined "under 3 acres," it is clear that Kiewit's tailings will remain on site for decades to come. And this is without even accounting for Kiewit's desired Step 3, which would result in the tailings expanding to cover another 15 acres. All told, Kiewit's project would result in at least 7.68 million cubic yards (i.e., 80% of 9.6 million cubic yards) of tailings on site.

In addition, Kiewit proposes, among other things, to clear-cut 90 acres of timber (2.7 million board feet), cut-and-fill almost 1,000,000 cubic yards to build a mine access road (outside the existing MRO), divert active stream flows that the Washington State Department of Natural Resources has determined are fish-bearing, and conduct extensive drilling and blasting using a mixture of ammonium nitrate and diesel fuel (ANFO). The ANFO load to ground water will exceed 5,000 tons of residuals. Kiewit's project will contribute to extensive habitat loss of both flora and fauna and could result in ground and surface water impacts. The analysis Kiewit has provided concerning environmental impacts, and the minimal mitigation proposed by Kiewit, is deficient and conflicts with determinations made by state agencies. Skagit County should exercise its authority under SCC 14.06.100(5) to require Kiewit provide additional information or studies to address these matters, which also necessitate the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Kiewit's proposed mining activities are expressly prohibited by Skagit County zoning. The six properties subject to Kiewit's application are within Skagit County's Industrial Forest-Natural Resources Lands (IF-NRL), Secondary Forest-Natural Resource Lands (SF-NRL), and Rural Resource-Natural Resource Lands (RRc-NRL) zones. In each of those, commercial mining activities can only be approved (and the hearing officer only has authority to consider commercial mining applications) "within a designed mineral resource overlay." SCC 14.16.410(5)(d), 14.16.420(4)(d), 14.16.430(4)(g). However, Kiewit's application includes mining and mining-related activities in areas outside the existing MRO. Consequently, Kiewit's application simply cannot be approved. See SCC 14.16.020(3) (only uses listed within a particular zone shall be allowed).

Kiewit's application acknowledges that an MRO expansion of "approximately 43 acres" is needed and that such an expansion is done "through a Comprehensive Plan Amendment." However, rather than pursue a Comprehensive Plan Amendment first, Kiewit wants mining activities within a future (currently just hypothetical) MRO expansion to be "permitted conditions (preferred) contingent upon MRO expansion."

Kiewit has it backwards. SCC 14.06.210(3)(b) expressly requires that if a permit decision is "dependent upon amendments to the Comprehensive Plan," then the Comprehensive Plan amendment is to occur "first." If Kiewit wants permits for the entire project site, it first needs to pursue a Comprehensive Plan amendment. That sequencing reflects the planning process mandated by the Growth Management Act of developing planning policies, embodied in the comprehensive plan, first. Kiewit's application is akin to asking the hearings officer to

approve a commercial building in a residential zone conditioned on Skagit County subsequently amending its Comprehensive Plan to allow that. Such an approach is antithetical to appropriate land use planning and is prohibited by the SCC.

Moreover, even Kiewit's Step 1 and 2 activities are not entirely within the existing MRO. For example, as part of Step 1 and to facilitate mining in Step 2, Kiewit proposes to construct "an approximately 6,700-foot gravel access road would be built to access the top and eastern portions of the project site." This mining access road would be built in areas outside the existing MRO. See, e.g., application at page 3 (the expanded MRO would include the then "existing [mine access] road"). However, "activities associated with mining or quarrying operations," such as mining access road building and maintenance, can only occur "in the Mineral Resource Overlay." SCC 14.16.440(7)(b). As the mining access road to be built and used for Steps 1 and 2 is outside the current MRO, Kiewit's Steps 1 and 2 activities cannot be permitted as proposed.

As Kiewit's applications are not allowed under Skagit County's existing comprehensive plan and zoning regulations, the hearings officer should deny Kiewit's applications. Alternatively, Skagit County should suspend processing Kiewit's applications so that Skagit County can consider amending its comprehensive plan to expand the MRO to cover all the activities in Kiewit's application. If Kiewit does not want to wait for a Comprehensive Plan amendment expanding the MRO to include these areas, Kiewit must modify its proposed project to be wholly within the existing MRO, which would necessarily constitute a substantial revision and the application process should be restarted and/or the public given an opportunity to comment on such substantially revised project.

In summary, Kiewit's applications pending before Skagit County are prohibited by the SCC and must be denied or suspended until the Comprehensive Plan is amended to expand the MRO to include the entire area in which Kiewit has proposed to conduct mining activities.

From Host Address: 198.204.218.186

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:07:29 AM

From: [Anthony McColl](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Cc: [John Cooper](#)
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Date: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:38:55 PM

Good Afternoon,

Concerning: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

I believe that the Quarry will have a negative impact on our community and safety. There could be 75 to 150 haul truck trips to and from the site. How will this affect traffic in our area? How will it affect traffic and tourism along Hwy 20 to I-5? Also, with more traffic, who will enforce speed and safety along this rural road? We have school buses serving children within close proximity of the quarry 4 times a day.

Increased traffic will no doubt have an impact on our roads. Kiewit has no plan for maintaining or repairing damage to the road. The traffic will not just affect Rockport Cascade Road. It will also affect Concrete, Lyman, Hamilton, and Sedro Woolley. The trucks will likely take Cook Road to get to I-5.

Rockport Cascade Road is a popular place for local cyclists, joggers, and walkers. I'm concerned about our safety as increased traffic along this road exposes us to a higher risk of accidents. Since Rockport Cascade Road is chipsealed it has different weight limitations. Have any studies been done on the weight limit in regards to the trucks.

There are several people within close proximity to the quarry site that have vulnerable health conditions; we have multiple families with small children, there are two young children with Down syndrome within a mile of the quarry (one has a heart condition, stimulus noise sensitivity, and breathing issues), individuals fighting cancer, someone with MS, Seniors, and Veterans (many of whom have been traumatized by explosions while serving our country).

Sincerely,

Anthony McColl

, Marblemount WA

John Cooper

From: Anthony McColl [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:39 PM
To: PDS comments
Cc: John Cooper
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

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Sincerely,

Anthony McColl

[REDACTED] Marblemount WA

From: [Christina Mccall](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Cc: [John Cooper](#)
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Date: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:32:27 PM

Good Afternoon,

I'm concerned about the geological impact of the Quarry.

How will the mining and blasting affect the hills around us? Can we expect another Oso? We just had the anniversary of the Oso landslide and I'm concerned of the impact the blasting/mining operations will have on our land. It's scary to think of another event like the Oso mudslide happening near my family. I looked though the material provided and according to their own data, the quarry is located on a Landslide Hazard Critical Area, a Seismic Hazard Critical Area, and an Erosion Hazard Critical Area. Their reports say that "Rockfall hazards could be encountered during the road building and quarrying activities as well as potentially occurring intermittently without obvious triggers", and that, "Seismic Hazards Seismic activity is likely to occur in the vicinity of the subject area in the future. The magnitude of seismicity may range for small, imperceptible events to significant ground motion for larger magnitude events. During significant ground motion, rockfall and other landsliding may result as well as potential liquefaction of saturated soils". Furthermore, the report says that a, "Potential risk to the public may exist from rockfall hazard occurrence". The report also says that, "Rockfall occurrence will be greatest during the road construction" and that "The geotechnical analysis cannot be completed until the access road is complete to allow for the investigation". Since the geotechnical analysis has not been completed, we don't know the true scope of how dangerous the quarry will be or what we can expect. I am very concerned about my family's safety as well as the safety of everyone in my community. We are located within two miles of the Quarry. The nearest family is located within 600 ft.

It's also scary to think that there is a potential for water contamination. The report says that the groundwater is 28 ft. below the quarry with access to the Skagit River. This home is my children's legacy and part of our family's story. How do I know that it be safe? Kiewit wants to mine for the next 100 years. Our families will be here after they are gone. How will they ensure that there will not be a spill or pollution from their operations? How will they leave the site after they are gone? Are there plans or finances put in place to restore the land or clean up any pollution?

Christina McColl

, Marblemount WA

John Cooper

From: Christina Mccall [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:32 PM
To: PDS comments
Cc: John Cooper
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

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Christina McColl
[REDACTED] Marblemount WA

From: [George](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Cc: [John Cooper](#)
Subject: Stop Marblemount Quarry
Date: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:24:38 PM

Good Afternoon,

Concerning the [Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount](#)

I'm concerned about the levels of noise and vibration pollution. Kiewit says that vibrations will not affect local residences because there are no local residences within 50ft and that their vibration levels (from the mining and their trucks) are within a category 2 Residential construction criteria (nothing above 80 Vbd). The closest residence is within 600 ft. and there are 30 residences within $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. Vbd decrease at a rate of 6 Vbd per doubling distance. If we can experience a Vbd of 80 within 50 ft., then it would stand within reason that we would experience 56 Vbd within 800 ft. If the average urban neighborhood is at a level of 50 to 70 Vbd, I'm confused why the report submitted by Kiewit states that there will be no impact to residences outside of the 50 ft. radius.

In Marblemount, you can hear the sound of someone shooting a gun 2 miles away because of the way the sound echoes off of the valley. How will the sound of a mining operation be different? I'm concerned because the noise pollution from the mining operation will be 12 – 24 hours per day, 6 days a week and the closest residence is within 600 ft. The sounds of blasting, mining activity and traffic noise will negatively impact our community. Our community is made up of elderly, young families, veterans, and multi-generational families. These groups are sensitive to these types of sounds.

As property owners, we are concerned about the way the quarry will negatively impact our property values. No one will want to buy a house within two miles of a quarry.

George A McColl

, Marblemount WA

John Cooper

From: George [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:25 PM
To: PDS comments
Cc: John Cooper
Subject: Stop Marblemount Quarry

Good Afternoon,

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George A McColl
[REDACTED] Marblemount WA

From: [George](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Cc: [John Cooper](#)
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Date: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:26:05 PM

Good Afternoon,

Concerning the [Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount](#)

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George A McColl

, Marblemount WA

John Cooper

From: George [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:26 PM
To: PDS comments
Cc: John Cooper
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

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George A McColl
[REDACTED] Marblemount WA

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PDS comments](#)
Cc: [John Cooper](#)
Subject: Concerning the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry
Date: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:53:18 PM

Good Afternoon,

Concerning the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

I'm concerned how the Quarry will affect the wildlife in our area. First of all, the noise pollution from the blasting, trucking traffic, and mining will also have an impact on our wildlife. The local fishery is trying to support salmon growth within our area and the vibrations/noise levels will negatively impact this project. Kiewit is applying for a 100 year permit. What will be the 100 year impact to our wildlife, water, and land from the noise and vibration levels? Our area contains federally protected species such as the Gray Wolf and Fisher. We also have peregrine falcons nesting in this area. Also, this will drive away the deer and encourage animals like bear and wolves to hunt closer to well-populated areas. I'm concerned about safety.

Also our water and Air quality will significantly diminish as operations begin. In the past few years, we have already had a hard time with pollution from the forest fires. Dust and exhaust fumes from the quarry will be blown into residential areas. Also, how will leaks from fuel, blasting chemicals, etc. be kept from our ground water and the Skagit River? What is Kiewit's plan if there is a spill? Has Kiewit been involved in water contamination from their mining operations before? If there is a spill, how will it affect our safety and surrounding wildlife?

Sincerely,

Holly McColl

[REDACTED], Marblemount WA

From: [Mackenzie McColl](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Cc: [John Cooper](#)
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Date: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:34:08 PM

Good Afternoon,

I'm very concerned about the Quarry proposed by Kiewit Infrastructure.

The application materials state that mining will be conducted from 6am to 6pm, but that doesn't mean that all noise coming from the quarry will end at 6pm. Equipment Operation could continue until 12am. They also say that operations may be conducted outside business hours but they will be limited and in short-time duration. How can we enforce this? What can we expect when they say operations outside of business hours will be during "limited, short-duration time periods"? What protection/resources do we have if operations are conducted on a more frequent level outside of business hours? Technically, the quarry can be in operation for 24 hours – mining can be conducted all day and then equipment operations will continue throughout the night as the trucks are loaded, not to mention the generators that will be used since the site has no power.

Also, the application materials only mention the total truck loads and are unclear about the total vehicle traffic that will be generated by the quarry. Are the noise level assessments based only on the 75 loads per day? Also, do the noise level assessments take into consideration the use of compression release engine breaks? We are in a quiet area. In urban areas, the noise of trucking, mining and blasting horns might be easy to ignore (or be drowned out by other noises), but we live in a very quiet community. You can hear when your neighbor is cutting down a tree.

I also don't think the trucks will be as quiet as the report indicates. A coal company in the Northeast lists their trucks as running at 115 decibels while Kiewit shows that theirs will run at 45. This doesn't really make sense.

We have small children in the area. I'm concerned about their water being contaminated by the fuel and blasting chemicals. We have no water utility in the nearby homes. Instead, we rely on relatively shallow wells. If there is contamination, what do we do? Is there a plan in place? Kiewit is requesting a 100 year permit. Do they have a way to keep our water safe for the next 100 years? How about the Skagit River?

Sincerely,

Mackenzie McColl

 Marblemount WA

John Cooper

From: Mackenzie McColl [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:34 PM
To: PDS comments
Cc: John Cooper
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

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Sincerely,

Mackenzie McColl

[REDACTED] Marblemount WA

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 3:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Mitchell McCommons



City : Kent
State : Wa



PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Comments : I wholly oppose this project and hope that it can be moved to another location away from the National Park or done away with entirely.

From Host Address: 174.225.132.52

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 3:11:45 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:25 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Tara McGown
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : The proposed quarry in Marblemount has serious and lasting impacts on my home which is located within a mile of Rockport-Cascade Road, 1/2 mile from 530 and 1 mile from Hwy 20. In other words I am surrounded by the chosen lanes of transport for the proposed quarry and I object strongly to the project for many reasons but will first focus on the increased traffic and noise it will cause. It is definitely more than negligible. I walk and ride bicycle regularly on the Rockport-Cascade Road and see no more than 10 cars in 2 hours time. The projected volume of traffic (up to 150 trips/day) of large trucks, equipment and workers will have a devastating effect on my use of that roadway. It will no longer be safe or healthy for me - the noise and the degradation of air quality will make it prohibitive. The increased traffic and the noise will also impact my home. The rural forest and farming community that I now live in will be hit with a major increase of large vehicles rumbling and braking on the nearby roadways 6 AM - 6 PM, 6 days a week. Noise carries! Noise has a negative effect on health! Constant large vehicle noise is not part of rural living!

From Host Address: 104.235.165.13

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 10:20:24 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 8:10 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Cynthia McGuiness
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : SEPA App. PL19-0032, Mining Permit PL19-0033

Comments : Dear Mr. Cooper,

The proposed Marblemount Quarry appears to be a risky intrusion into our river valley. I ask that the county weigh the concerns and threats from blasting, heavy & frequent truck traffic down Hwy 20, and the potential damage to water runoff into the Skagit River.

This appears to be a heavy industrial operation ill suited to our fragile valley and communities all up and down Hwy 20 from Marblemount and south through Sedro-Woolley.

Please re-consider these permits or at least allow for more time to comment at public hearings.

Thank you!

From Host Address: 50.34.212.173

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 8:05:56 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Claire McIlvain
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount, PL19-0033

Comments : My name is Claire McIlvain. I live in Grassmere, outside of Concrete, WA. Although this quarry is not right in my own backyard, I have no doubt that this project will severely impact me, my family, my friends, my community, and the entire ecosystem.

I have several friends who live directly below the proposed quarry site and I often take my toddler there to play with their small children. The rock face is sheer, jutting up suddenly out of the valley floor. I worry that clear-cutting 600 acres of trees from the top of this mountain will destabilize the entire slope. With the reverberations from multiple blasts a day, what guarantee do we have that my friends' homes and families will be safe from landslides? Five years after the tragedy in Oso, have we learned anything?

Living in the country, my friends' houses get their water from wells. Their water is exceptionally pure, clean, and healthy. Chemicals from blasting, as well as diesel that is sure to eventually spill out of equipment, will inevitably wash down the mountainside and into their groundwater. What protections do they have that their water will remain free of pollutants? Should I be prepared to pack in drinking water whenever my son has a playdate?

This groundwater will next seep into the Skagit River, a federally-protected Wild and Scenic River, the lifeblood of our entire county. What will happen to the salmon? The eagles? All other creatures that depend on the river? What will happen to people who want to fish, to boat, or to camp along the river?

From Host Address: 72.107.184.128

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 4:23:53 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Claire McIlvain
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount, PL19-0033
Comments : This is a continuation of my prior comments.

This community is the gateway to North Cascades National Park. People travel from all over the world to experience the beauty and wildness of this place that we call home. Will they still want to come with the vista marred by an open-faced quarry? What of the cyclists who want to share the roads? Will they be willing to chance their safety biking up Highway 20 with a large truck roaring past every three minutes? We should not concede to sacrificing our budding eco-tourism industry, which brings so much life (and revenue) into our community.

Back at my house in Concrete, I wake up every morning to the sound of birdsong. I've been learning the names of the birds I hear: mountain chickadee, variegated thrush, barred owl, Stellar's jay, flicker, Swainson's thrush, spotted towhee. Although I live about half a mile away from Highway 20, I can clearly hear every time a vehicle passes especially big trucks. Sounds reverberate for miles around. With a truck from the mine passing by every three minutes, beginning at six a.m., six days a week, will my home continue to be a peaceful refuge? And I have no question that we will be able to hear reverberations from the blasts at the quarry. The sound carries for incredible distances in this valley.

The past several summers, our skies have been darkened by the smoke blowing in from forest fires in other places. As the eery pink sun struggled to illuminate anything through the haze, I felt myself constantly on edge, praying that every person passing through our valley would miraculously be responsible enough to avoid lighting any small fire, or even throwing a cigarette butt out of their car window. In our bone-dry summers, any tiny spark could be enough to light up the whole valley in flames. And yet we want explosives powerful enough to destroy a mountainside to be stored, unguarded, on these very slopes? Marblemount only has a tiny volunteer fire department, already stretched thin. It's entirely unrealistic to expect that they'll be able to contain an industrial-scale fire before it spreads to consume thousands of acres and beyond. With climate change only predicted to make our periods of drought longer and our summers hotter, this risk will only continue to grow more dire.

From Host Address: 72.107.184.128

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 4:26:25 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Claire McIlvain
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount, PL19-0033
Comments : This is a continuation of my prior comments.

At a recent guided tour of Rockport State Park, a park ranger pointed out a lichen called Usnea or Methuselah's beard. This half-algae, half-fungus, which has medicinal uses and grows only millimeters a year, is festooned all over the old growth trees of the park. The rangers told us that this lichen grows only in conditions of the purest air quality. With the "fugitive dust" escaping from this project and the 201 additional tons of CO2 produced daily by the trucks passing on Highway 20, will the Usnea shrivel and fall to the ground?

I ask that you extend the comment period for this proposal. The amount of time the community has been given to review this large amount of technical information is comically inadequate. Or it would be comical, if the consequences of this project weren't so catastrophic for our communities. I also ask that an Environmental Impact Statement be completed. The effects of this project look to be so much higher than what was indicated by Kiewit.

Thank you for your consideration. I ask that you give credence to the voices of the people who live in this area, whose lives would be directly and negatively impacted by the approval of this project.

Sincerely,
Claire McIlvain

From Host Address: 72.107.184.128

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 4:28:42 PM

John Cooper

From: Claire Oppy [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:41 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Comments regarding the Kiewit Quarry proposal

Dear John,

I'm writing regarding the commenting period to the Kiewit quarry proposal. I also left you a phone message. Could you tell me if the comment period ended today at 4:30 pm, or whether it ends tomorrow?

I submitted my comments on the county website just before 4:30 today, around 4:25, but I noticed that the site gave me a timestamp of 4:35. This is incorrect. If commenting ended today, will my comments still be accepted?

Jose Vila posted in the private "Stop the Marblemount Mine" facebook group that it would be ok to send comments directly to you if we had problems with the website. I'll be attaching my comments below.

Thanks for your time and help!

Sincerely,
Claire McIlvain

"My name is Claire McIlvain. I live in Grassmere, outside of Concrete, WA. Although this quarry is not right in my own backyard, I have no doubt that this project will severely impact me, my family, my friends, my community, and the entire ecosystem.

I have several friends who live directly below the proposed quarry site and I often take my toddler there to play with their small children. The rock face is sheer, jutting up suddenly out of the valley floor. I worry that clear-cutting 600 acres of trees from the top of this mountain will destabilize the entire slope. With the reverberations from multiple blasts a day, what guarantee do we have that my friends' homes and families will be safe from landslides? Five years after the tragedy in Oso, have we learned nothing?

Living in the country, my friends' houses get their water from wells. Their water is exceptionally pure, clean, and healthy. Chemicals from blasting, as well as diesel that is sure to eventually spill out of equipment, will inevitably wash down the mountainside and into their groundwater. What protections do they have that their water will remain free of pollution? Should I be prepared to pack in drinking water whenever my son has a playdate?

This groundwater will next seep into the Skagit River: a federally protected Wild and Scenic River, the lifeblood of our entire county. What will happen to the salmon? The eagles? All other creatures that depend on the river? What will happen to people who want to fish, to boat, or to camp along the river?

This community is the gateway to North Cascades National Park. People travel from all over the world to experience the beauty and wildness of this place that we call home. Will they still want to come with the vista marred by an open-faced quarry? What of the cyclists who want to share the roads? Will they be willing to chance their safety biking up Highway 20 with a large truck roaring past every three minutes? We should not concede to sacrificing our budding eco-tourism industry, which brings so much life (and revenue) into our community.

Back at my house in Concrete, I wake up every morning to the sound of birdsong. I've been learning the names of the birds I hear: mountain chickadee, variegated thrush, barred owl, Stellar's jay, flicker, Swainson's thrush, spotted towhee. Although I live about half a mile away from Highway 20, I can clearly hear every time a vehicle passes. Sounds reverberate for miles around. With a truck from the mine passing by every three minutes, beginning at six a.m., six days a week, will my home continue to be a peaceful refuge? And I have no question that we will be able to hear reverberations from the blasts at the quarry. The sound carries for incredible distances in this valley.

The past several summers, our skies have been darkened by the smoke blowing in from forest fires in other places. As the eery pink sun struggled to illuminate anything through the haze, I felt myself constantly on edge, praying that every person passing through our valley would miraculously be responsible enough to avoid lighting backyard fires, or even throw a cigarette butt out of their car window. In our bone-dry summers, any tiny spark could be enough to light up the whole valley in flames. And yet we want explosives powerful enough to destroy a mountainside to be stored, unguarded, on these very slopes? Marblemount only has a tiny volunteer fire department, already stretched thin. It's entirely unrealistic to expect that they'll be able to contain an industrial-scale fire before it spreads to consume thousands of acres and beyond. With climate change only predicted to make our periods of drought longer and our summers hotter, this risk will only continue to grow more dire.

At a recent guided tour of Rockport State Park, a park ranger pointed out a lichen called Usnea or Methuselah's beard. This half-algae, half-fungus, which has medicinal uses and grows millimeters a year, is festooned all over the old growth trees of the park. The rangers told us that this lichen grows only in conditions of the purest air quality. With the "fugitive dust" escaping from this project, as well as the 201 additional tons of CO2 produced daily by the trucks passing on Highway 20, will the Usnea all disintegrate and fall to the ground?

I ask that you extend the comment period for this proposal. The amount of time the community has been given to review this large amount of technical information is comically inadequate. Or it would be comical, if the consequences of this project weren't so catastrophic for our communities. I also ask that an Environmental Impact Statement be completed. The effects of this project look to be so much higher than what was indicated by Kiewit.

Thank you for your consideration. I ask that you give credence to the voices of the people who live in this area, whose lives will be directly and negatively impacted by the approval of this project.

Sincerely,
Claire McIlvain"

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Joe McIlvain
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete

State : WA
[REDACTED]

Permit Proposal : PL19-0033 (Marblemount Quarry)

Comments : Kiewit has a track record of willful pollution violations:

"68 Ontario industrial wastewater violations, most of them in 2012 and 2013"

- from projects.thestar.com

"Kie-Con, a division of Kiewit Pacific Co., pled guilty to routinely dumping polluted water from the concrete-making process into the San Joaquin River and agreed to pay \$5 million, according to U.S. Attorney Melinda Haag."

- from trialinsider.com

From Host Address: 50.35.49.79

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:53:38 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Joe McIlvain
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 (Marblemount Quarry)

Comments : Comments on the Sound Analysis document:

"In any one-hour period, the basic noise limits can be exceeded by 5 dBA for a total of 15 minutes or by 10 dBA for a total of 5 minutes or by 15 dBA for a total of 1.5 minutes. The 15-dBA short-term permitted exceedance corresponds to a noise limit on the hourly Lmax of 75 dBA (permitted for no more than 1.5 minutes) for Class A receiving properties during daytime hours."

- This section rightly points out that Skagit County noise pollution regulations have requirements not only for long-term ambient noise levels (Leq) but also short-term intermittent noises (Lmax). However, the Sound Analysis *contains no analysis or simulation of Lmax noise levels* - all of the simulation data presented (table 6-3 and 7-1) only discuss Leq noise levels. As such, *further analysis is required* to determine if the proposed mitigation plans are sufficient to comply with Skagit County noise pollution regulations for short-term intermittent sounds.

"With Level II mitigation in place, projected sound levels during all proposed phases of operation are within 5 dBA or less of baseline sound levels at the Rural-Residential Analysis Locations. As presented in Section 3.1 of this Analysis, a sound-level increase of 4 to 5 dBA is near the threshold between an imperceptible and a noticeable effect and therefore does not constitute a significant noise impact."

- Having obtained a degree in the field of audio and acoustics and previously been professionally employed in that field, I can confidently state that there is not sufficient evidence presented in the Sound Analysis report to make statements like this. Analyzing sound levels without accounting for spectral distribution may be adequate for demonstrating compliance with relevant noise pollution laws and ordinances, but it is not sufficient methodology to make claims about whether noises will be noticeable or perceptible. Sound masking and perceptibility of combined sounds is closely tied to the difference in frequency between the combined sounds, so a frequency-spectrum analysis of the combined sounds is required to make such claims. The Sound Analysis should be expanded to include such methodology and evidence, or *such statements lacking in evidence should be purged from the analysis* to avoid influencing the judgment of the board of county commissioners with unfounded claims.

From Host Address: 50.35.49.79

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:54:22 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Joe McIlvain
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 (Marblemount Quarry)
Comments : Comments on the Reclamation Plan document:

"Reclamation to be performed in a single phase at the end of mining operations"

- The plan states that reclamation will not begin until the end of (up to 100 years of) mining operations. However, Washington DNR recommends segmental reclamation as best practice (see WA DNR website "Surface Mining and Reclamation" page). Single-phase reclamation is unlikely to be effective at restoring the landscape in any reasonable time frame, so segmented reclamation should be required by the county.

"Wood mulch and topsoil would be stockpiled on site for future reclamation"

- The fertility and composition of stockpiled topsoil will degrade dramatically over the course of a 100-year project. At the end of the 100 years, there will be very little topsoil left, and what remains will not be fertile enough to act as effective topsoil. Faced with too little topsoil that is too infertile to reseed the landscape, Kiewit, being driven by profit motive is unlikely to invest additional resources to acquire fresh topsoil, unless actively required by diligent regulators. Segmented reclamation would reduce perverse incentives and decrease risk to the county.

- Stockpiled wood mulch is a dangerous fire hazard, especially in the very dry summer seasons that the Skagit valley has seen in recent years. This is too big a danger for a residential area that is already at risk for fires. Again, segmented reclamation would reduce the risk to the county by limiting the size of the wood mulch stockpile and limiting the bare segments of the quarry at any given time. Further analysis is needed to determine safe depths of wood mulch stockpile for fire safety.

Additionally, the reclamation plan is incomplete, as confirmed with Rian Skov, Chief Reclamation Geologist at the Washington DNR, who mentioned in a phone call that he had not seen a complete plan yet in the submitted documents. He also agreed in a phone call that segmented reclamation should be required for a quarry of this size. In his words, to do single-phase reclamation is "too big of a risk".

From Host Address: 50.35.49.79

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:57:52 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Joe McIlvain
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 (Marblemount Quarry)

Comments : Comments on the Critical Areas Application - Rockfall Hazard Study (by Shannon & Wilson):

"Our modeling suggests that rockfall runouts may increase near residential structures due to construction of the haul road. We also anticipate that construction activities will greatly increase the number of rockfall events capable of impacting the residential structures."

- This comment from the Rockfall Hazard Study and the implied danger to "residential structures" (the homes of Skagit valley families) has been downplayed by Kiewit, who have not identified any mitigation plans to prevent these dangers. This risk to public safety is unacceptable.

From Host Address: 50.35.49.79

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:58:49 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Joe McIlvain
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 (Marblemount Quarry)

Comments : Comments on the Mitigation Plan section 2.5.3 Mitigation Measures - Noise:

- The proposed mitigation plan for this section does not meet the "Minimum Required" mitigation described in the Sound Analysis document, which **requires** construction of the Level I mitigation berm. The alternative proposal in this section of merely limiting hours of operation is not sufficient to meet the "Minimum Required" plan described in the Sound Analysis document.
- Note also that the **recommendation** of the Sound Analysis specialist was to **both** restrict hours of operation **and** construct a Level II mitigation berm of higher proportions than the Level I mitigation berm, in order to reduce impact on the surrounding residential community. According to the Sound Analysis, the more modest Level I mitigation plan would more than double the averaged ambient noise level for residents, with intermittent sounds being much louder than that average level.

From Host Address: 50.35.49.79

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:59:43 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Joe McIlvain
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 (Marblemount Quarry)
Comments : Comments on the Biology Report:

- Of the birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, the peregrine falcon is not mentioned in this report, but it is known to nest in the area. The impact to nesting sites for this species of protected bird was not studied in the report, or perhaps was omitted purposefully.

From Host Address: 50.35.49.79

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:00:58 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : William John McMillan
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : My wife and I use Rockport Cascade Rd to access mushroom sites each spring, and otherwise travel the road as an alternative to Hwy 20 to and from our home off the South Skagit Hwy to Marblemount. It is also an area I fish on the Skagit River. The quarry proposal for a permit is very concerning regarding the long-term planned use of the quarry (up to 100 years), the effects of blasting on ESA listed Chinook salmon and steelhead that spawn in the Skagit River in the area, and the intensive usage of the Rockport Cascade Rd with heavy truck loads indicated to be up to 75 loads per day. At 75 loads per day, it results in a truck leaving the quarry every 6.4 minutes of an 8 hour work day; and considering that an equal number of empty trucks would be returning each 8 hour day to pick up each load, it would mean a truck coming or going every 3.2 minutes. This is an unthinkable level of use for a rural road by heavy equipment that will require greatly increased upkeep for road repair, noise for those living on the road, and traffic and accident danger from the intense use. Who will have to bear the costs of this? Presumably the county as funded by us Skagit Co. tax payers? And who will have to bear the inconvenience of a shift from a little-used rural road to one of intensive industrial usage? Those of us who travel the road for past enjoyment and recreational activities, and more so those poor people who chose former rural seclusion along that road for their homes and families will bear the brunt of this for many years to come. This is not sensible planning.

From Host Address: 174.216.33.28

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:37:49 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 1:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Melrena
[REDACTED]

City : mount vernon

State : wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : As a concerned citizen I would like a study done about how This will negatively affect all of Skagit Valley: the tourist industry, congestion/wear on roads, massive noise pollution upriver from blasting up to 6 times a day! This is a threat to endangered/threatened species, the Skagit river, and therefore salmon, orcas, and anyone who loves the North Cascades!

From Host Address: 76.191.116.166

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 1:40:31 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Erin Meyer
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I am writing to OPPOSE the county granting a permit to this project. The future of the Upper Skagit is in tourism, not in large scale resource extraction. The scale of this project is entirely inappropriate for this area, and people who live and work in this area are opposed to it. We are asking that the comment period be extended for this project so that more people who live and work in this community can collect their thoughts and have a say. Thank you.

From Host Address: 72.106.54.31

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:00:30 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jim and Harlyn Meyer
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro Woolley
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : We OPPOSE this proposal. The industrial scale and potential negative impacts of this project make it an inappropriate land use so close to the Wild and Scenic Skagit River with its many tourist oriented activities and businesses. The economic future of the Upper Skagit community lays with tourism and small scale resource use, NOT with large scale resource extraction.

From Host Address: 104.235.176.32

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:24:13 PM

John Cooper

From: Terrance M Meyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 6:37 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Quarry

Hi John

There is a bunch of hubbub about this proposed quarry upriver.

I just want to let you know that even though it is a bunch of my friends rallying against it I got no problems with what little I know about it, and a bit of a problem with the NIMBY burst.

We do already have three quarries upriver so I don't know why they think they need a third but as long as it is not something odly evil for some reason I don't have a problem with someone porting rocks out of Rockport of all places.

Thanks a ton

Terrance

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 8:35 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Timothy Miller
[REDACTED]

City : Mt Vernon
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I am opposed to allowing an increase in any quarry activity at the Marblemount Quarry. In the absence of a thorough Environmental Impact Statement, this project should be denied. It is incompatible with the residential community of Marblemount, creating daily explosions and endless truck traffic that will have profound impacts on human residents and wildlife. It is adjacent to O'Brien Riggs State Park, negatively affects traffic and tourism along State Highway 20, and will create far more negative results for the surrounding communities than any positive results, other than to benefit Kiewit infrastructure at the expense of the many people who have built their homes and enjoy the peace and quiet.
Please deny this application.

From Host Address: 67.183.71.225

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 8:32:03 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:30 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Ashley Minnerath
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit quarry in Marblemount; File #PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070, PL19-0032
Comments : March 29, 2019

Mr. John Cooper
Skagit County Planning & Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mt. Vernon, WA 98273

RE: Kiewit quarry in Marblemount

Dear John,

Cascadian Farm and our parent company, General Mills Inc. have significant concerns with the proposed quarry expansion proposed by Kiewit Infrastructure for an existing quarry near Marblemount, WA.

Cascadian Farm operates an organic farm and roadside stand east of Rockport, WA. This is the site of our iconic Home Farm where the brand first started in 1972. Although we have grown far beyond our original farm to become a national organic brand, this site and the surrounding ecosystem, remains at the heart of our brand. Its images grace our packaging and online presence. Over 60,000 visitors stop by the iconic farm stand each year to enjoy ice cream and fresh berries among the unspoiled views of Eldorado, Mount Chaval, the Cascade Foothills, and the Skagit River. We strive to educate our visitors on our farming and land stewardship practices. Our Home Farm employs approximately seventeen full time year-round and seasonal employees that live in eastern Skagit County.

Our business relies on regional, national, and international tourism in the area. Our patrons visit Eastern Skagit County to recreate and enjoy the quiet solitude of this pristine and diverse ecosystem. We are concerned about how the visual impacts, noise, traffic, and environmental impact to wildlife will affect tourism and recreation in eastern Skagit County. Our business, and many others in the community, rely on eco-tourism which could be negatively impacted by the numerous and cumulative aspects of this project.

We are requesting an extension of public comment period under SEPA. Given the large number of documents to review, the length and complexity of those reports, and the unavailability of some documents until late in the review period Cascadian Farm has not been able to complete a detailed review in the time allotted to understand the impacts to our business and the community in which we operate.

Additionally, Cascadian Farm believes that a Determination of Significance Is warranted under WAC 197-11-330 and that an Environmental Impact Statement should be required. This project proposal will likely have a significant adverse impact on the local environment particularly due to the local context. The absolute quantitative effects (the amount of rock removed, the number of truck trips, blasting impacts, etc.) would be large regardless of context. But, whereas a similar development in an industrialized region might be considered less disruptive, the introduction of such immense changes in activity, noise, and the landscape itself will be highly significant in what is now a tranquil corner of a remote part of the County. This tranquility is what attracts tourists to our region and would be at risk should this project advance. Additionally, this change in activity may last for decades, and the cumulative impacts have not been identified or addressed. Several aspects of this project, including noise, traffic, visual impacts, blasting, clearing, etc. may not individually trigger an EIS, but combined they constitute a significant environmental impact that should be examined individually and cumulatively in an EIS.

In summary, we believe that the proposed significant expansion of the Kiewit Company's Marblemount quarry would have several impacts that necessitate an extension of the SEPA comment period so that we and others can more thoroughly examine the potential adverse project impacts. We believe that those impacts should be exemplified together, as well as cumulatively, in an EIS.

Cascadian Farm appreciates your consideration of our comments. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Ashley Minnerath
Site Director, Cascadian Farm Home Farm / General Mills

From Host Address: 174.216.1.142

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:24:19 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Amy Mitchell
[REDACTED]

City : Lyman
State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Project :Kewitt infrastructure Quarry Marblemount PL19-0033

Comments : I need more time to review and comment. Comments should be extended to 90 days. This is 100 year permit and I've just become aware of the massive project taking place in the valley where I live and the area I recreate in. I object to the project on many levels. The negative human, environmental, and economic, and road/traffic impacts need to be carefully considered. This project does not align with protecting the Skagit as a wild and scenic river, protecting salmon, and orca whales.

I demand a thorough independent Environmental Impact Study be done. This area is a popular tourist and recreation area, a gateway to the north cascade national park. Do u really want to destroy the tourist appeal with massive noise and environmental pollution? The sensitive areas around the Skagit river should be protected. I am deeply concerned about the threat to the river. My tax dollars should not pay for road destruction caused by this project. I have friends that live very close to the site. Does the county consider the health and safety of the citizens living in the area? It seems this project priorities corporate profits over the environment and well being of the Skagit valley.

From Host Address: 66.235.36.49

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:42:00 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 2:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Sam Monroe Olson
[REDACTED]

City : Chelan

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : The upriver communities, crowned by Marblemount, are blessed with quiet, solitude-invoking forests. In everyone's own way, the land invites us to witness interconnection. That could be through hunting, fishing, mushroom gathering, hiking, tree-felling, etc. We set out and discover that we are a part of a place. For those that live here, upriver is prized for that kind of solitude. Having lived near Diablo, I was constantly amazed I could spend a day in the forests up Cascade River and never see a person- instead, I'd see salmon and chanterelles.

So now there's talk of a quarry. Trust me, I get it: jobs are jobs. I've tried looking for work in the valley, and there's not much. Not even in Darrington. And that's the last place I looked. But what makes thirty truck jobs enough to necessitate the mucking up of peace and quiet with vehicular traffic? And who's gonna pay for the roads? Are those boulder-haulers forking up some extra taxes?

I still wish I could wake up and see those fir trees, the chinook salmon in Bacon Creek. I'd do anything to go back. But that gets less appealing when there's 80 acres of rock being blasted overhead.

Maybe I'm biased. My grandfather was an audiologist who couldn't stand loud noises in the forest. He was also a poet. So take this with a grain of salt: The people of Marblemount deserve more. They deserve access to health care, stable incomes, and peace and quiet.

I offer this as my comment. Long live the salmon.

From Host Address: 63.135.48.106

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 2:39:51 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Crystal Rainbow Mort
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Comments : I am against this permit, please protect these headwaters

From Host Address: 174.216.17.124

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 2:31:28 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Greta Movassaghi
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Keiwi Infrastructure Quarry Near Marblemount: PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070

Comments : Please accept my comments on the named proposal. Please keep me informed

I have been a resident of the Rockport-Marblemount area for 40 years. In that time there has been significant industrial forestland activity, which includes, blasting, road-building, logging and hauling. To my knowledge there has been no operation on the scale of this proposal. Therefore this proposal requires the highest standard of impact analysis, an EIS. The time period of the permit should be limited to 10 years, one that can realistically be analyzed.

Length of Permit Requested

The permit period should be limited to 10-years. The applicant has requested a 100 year time-frame for their permit. This is unreasonable given the limited ability to address long-term impacts. Impacts to traffic, economy, health, air, water, fish, wildlife and climate change over 100 years, cannot adequately be addressed in such a limited review of this type. Even an EIS cannot adequately address impacts on such a scale.

Noise

Require limited operating hours respectful of residents and visitors. Require noise studies while operations are underway, at least quarterly, and if there is significant concern raised by residents. The noise generated by the operations 12 hours a day 6 days a week will be detrimental to the entire area, both residents and tourists. Operations should be limited to reasonable hours, 7AM-6PM to allow school children and residents to get adequate rest at night. Operations should cease on the weekends when both residents and tourists should reasonably expect use and enjoyment of the area.

Traffic and road impacts

Complete a thorough review of the traffic impacts, infrastructure impacts, and require mitigation. Provide for analysis of traffic impacts while operations are underway to address ongoing issues. The county road is narrow with poor visibility and limited shoulders. Highway 20 carries high volume of recreational traffic, including cyclists, in the summer months. All roads are used by local residents, businesses and school buses. The increase in traffic, both employee vehicles, log trucks and the large tractor trailer required to haul rocks, should be further analyzed. Hauling should be limited to weekdays from 7Am to 6PM. The increase in traffic and its impact on local roads also needs to be addressed. The proponent should be responsible for road subgrade and surfacing improvements, as well as signing and lighting.

Local Economy

Conduct a full analysis of the impacts both to the local economy and on local residents. Local residents and businesses would suffer economic losses from the proposed operations. Property would be devalued due to the noise, traffic and pollution. Business would suffer loss of tourism revenue. People would suffer bodily harm resulting from increased traffic accidents. Human health would be adversely affected by noise, dust, stress and traffic. The quality of rural life many residents value would be lost.

From Host Address: 104.235.180.73

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 12:52:43 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Patrick J. Mulcahey
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I am extremely concerned about the degradation of our local natural resources, the likelihood of particulate air and water pollution, the displacement of local wildlife — all for a project that will create only 25 local jobs and consume vast acreage of forest and rock? All conducted by a company *already* known to be a polluter? Kiewit pled guilty to a knowing violation of the Clean Water Act in 2011 and paid a five million dollar fine — paid it happily, I presume, since I imagine the illegal dumping of acid pollutants into the San Joaquin River saved them more money than the fine cost them. You really expect they'll behave any differently here?

I don't understand why Skagit County would even be considering this proposal. It sounds like a bad, bad deal in every possible way. The Eagle Festival alone provides many more than 25 incomes — but where will that revenue be if this project succeeds? Gone with the eagles.

And why is this project being rammed down our throats at such speed? Almost none of us here in the east county even heard of the plan before this week. And we're supposed to read and digest a one-thousand page project description? That's not my job. It's yours. Put on the brakes, please, and think about what it will do to those of us living up here — as well as to everyone who relies on the clean waters and aquifers of the Skagit.

From Host Address: 66.235.36.15

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:26:18 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 2:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Patrick E Mulcahey
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

Comments : To:

Mr. John Cooper

Planning and Development Services?

1800 Continental Place?

Mount Vernon WA 98273

I am opposed to granting the permits which will allow the expansion of the Marblemount Quarry.

The Marblemount Quarry is not needed for "emergency" repair of the jetties at the mouth of the Columbia River. The restoration of the jetties by the US Army Corps of Engineers began in 2014.

Additionally, although "Applicant KIC has identified the Marblemount Quarry as one of the very few sources of ready-to-permit jetty rock on the west coast." as noted in DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION 1.2, the US Army Corps of Engineers has identified fifteen (15) west coast quarries in their document, "Environmental Assessment of Rehabilitation of the MCR Jetty System" (which is located at the following url)

cdm16021.contentdm.oclc.org/utills/getfile/collection/p16021coll7/id/2200

or by searching the internet for: Rehabilitation of the MCR Jetty System Revised Final Environmental Assessment

You will notice that two (2) of the quarries listed in that document sit along the banks of the Columbia River in Camas, Washington. A quick internet search revealed that rock from Fisher Quarry in Camas, WA, (which by the way was reportedly owned by applicant KIC in the past) has been used in jetty repairs at the mouth of the Columbia River for the past century and still has significant reserves. That indicates to me that the stone from the Fisher Quarry meets the density requirements which are mentioned in DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION 1.3: Why Marblemount Quarry for Jetty Stone.

Please seriously consider the ramifications this project will have on the future of this area and on its residents for generations. One hundred plus years is an awfully long time to wait for remediation to begin.

I look forward to being apprised of the status of Permit #PL19-0033 as it is being considered by your agency.

From Host Address: 66.235.36.15

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 2:45:32 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : James Mullen
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : US
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewet Marblemount Quarry permit PL19-033
Comments : RE: Kiewet Marblemount Quarry permit PL19-033

I recently became aware of the potential quarry project being planned, located off Rockport Cascade road in Marblemount. As a longtime resident of the area our family has enjoyed owning property along the majestic Skagit River at [REDACTED]. In addition we live in the town of Marblemount and operate a seasonal restaurant at 60147 SR 20 better known as the "Marblemount Diner:

Imagine our surprise when less than 2 weeks ago we saw a post on face book the idea that a permit was in the works to mine the very mountain that we see from our river beach front when you look up river from our property. I understand the rocks are needed, but also suspect that for profit enterprise will mostly benefit people outside the county and is not likely to produce any meaning full time local employment and will cost those of that live here dearly.

If approved this operation will completely ruin the value of our river front property and take away the joy we get from spending week ends on the river fishing, rafting and hiking in the area. This area is full of wild life, including Bob cats, Coyotes, an occasional wolf has been spotted high up the mountains, local deer, elk and bear all roam the area. Of even more concern is our winter nesting eagles. The eagles feed in the early morning hours and in order to protect the calm and allow them to nurture their young we can't even float or operate boats on the river before 10:00 AM between November and January for fear it might disturb the eagles. How is blasting, heavy equipment use, rock crushers and heavy trucking not going to upset this fragile eco-system?

My two other main concerns are related to the increased highway traffic. SR 20 is designated a scenic highway. As such it draws people in from all over in the summer months to camp, hike, mountain climb, bicycle and or just take in the beautiful drive over the passes to Winthrop and beyond. Traffic is already tough at times and adding the rock trucks to it will no doubt make it worse and could ultimately keep tourists from wanting to make the drive.

That will hurt our seasonal business, where we employ 6-10 people from May through to November at the restaurant. This business like many others in our town count on tourism for their livelihood and frankly we barely survive as it is, if we lost as little as 10-15 of revenue we would close, it's a safe bet this mining operation can only hurt us and risks the jobs of our employees and the investment we made in this community 8 years ago.

The second most serious concern comes from a knowing firsthand the traffic hazards on our highway as they exist today. I have served as the Battalion Chief of Skagit County district 19 VFD for previous six years and continue to serve as first responder and fireman today. It is hard to believe that the truck route going south on

Rockport Cascade Road to the SR 20 intersection at Rockport, followed by making a full stop (perhaps not) and proceeding to make an uphill left hand crossing turn won't cause significant risk of increased MVA related accidents and possible fatalities. Our Local Marblemount and Rockport VFD are not prepared to handle this and the risks pointed out should not be ignored.

In closing, I understand the ports, harbors and waterways need the rocks, I understand it's a business opportunity. I hope you in reading this letter and the many other voices of the upper valley, will understand we came here for the tranquility and beauty that will be destroyed if this mining operation is all owed to proceed.

Respectfully,

Jim Mullen

[REDACTED] Marblemount WA 98267

[REDACTED]

From Host Address: 104.235.161.41

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:01:28 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Melissa Norris
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : Please hold off on issuing this permit for Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount , as a life long resident of this area more time is needed to go through all of the information and safely assess the huge ecological impact this project would have on the area.

From Host Address: 104.235.166.192

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 12:52:21 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 8:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Susan Nygaard
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry Proposal

Comments : I am writing to ask you to apply the brakes on this proposal. I am a frequent user of the area and have concerns over the impact it would visit on it from Marblemount to Sedro Woolley. I do not think realistic projections have been put forth about traffic impact, road wear, noise pollution to wildlife and humans, habitat impact on birds and wildlife, etc. How will this effect the eagles? How will this impact the people who live there evryday? We need to see impact statements from independent sources. We need time to make an informed decision.

From Host Address: 172.92.196.179

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 8:08:11 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Erin Aileen OBrien
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation Near Marblemount
Comments : My home is closest to the quarry.

From Host Address: 174.216.12.131

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 8:15:27 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:50 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Erin Aileen OBrien
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation Near Marblemount

Comments : My home is closest to the quarry. The quiet natural paradise that I own outright will be permanently replaced by an ecological nightmare. I firmly oppose the quarry operation and its complete destruction of the delicate balance which we work so hard to sustain, living with nature and protecting it. I am now a retired widow with a rare MS-like disease. I grew up in a war zone and then became a humanitarian aid worker in Africa. When my husband died, it took everything I had to buy this beautiful place. I came here to heal, and have found that this peaceful, quiet refuge does that. It is what has kept me alive and healing. This is all I have. Please don't destroy my last hope and refuge.

Erin A. OBrien

From Host Address: 174.216.12.131

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 8:49:36 AM

From: [Rose Oliver](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Date: Thursday, March 28, 2019 7:44:26 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in regard to the proposed expanded quarry on Rockport Cascade Road. I was born and raised in Marblemount and the beauty and serenity of the area is incomparable. This quarry would do great damage to the environment and the community.

First, I would like additional time to review this complex project in our valley. I did not hear about it until yesterday from someone on Facebook, and comments are due tomorrow. This is not enough time to review the extensive documentation available on the County website supporting the application, and further, the County should have been promoting this information as it came available so that members of the community would not be so surprised by the application and the impacts of the project.

I am concerned about the storage of blasting explosives and fuel (10,000 + 3,000 + 1,500 gallons) in a rural and forested environment in the Upper Skagit. Should an accident happen, it would fall on the Rockport Volunteer Fire Department and Marblemount Volunteer Fire Department to respond. The level of training and equipment required for such a response is above and beyond what is currently available in the community. Furthermore, the siting of the explosive storage is near a forested property line. Forest fire is a real and increasing risk to the valley, and this location has actually recently burned in 1998! In the event of a forest fire, the storage of explosives and fuel will put wild land fire fighters at undue risk, as well as distract from their true task of protecting life and property.

I am concerned about the haul route for this quarry. The turn from Hwy 530 to westbound Hwy 20 is a difficult intersection. I have had numerous close calls there myself. To be able to sufficiently see traffic coming from the east, I must steer my car slightly eastbound as I approach the stop sign (something a large truck cannot do), then turn left/westbound when the opportunity arises. Sight lines are difficult. Add to that the endless caravan of tourists and RVs heading over the pass to the Methow Valley during a peak summer weekend, and I see either long delays at the intersection, or worse, a traffic accident at a high-speed highway. Please pursue safety improvements to this intersection to allow such massive (heavy, slow to accelerate) and long trucks to make this dangerous turn. How are the sight lines from eastbound Hwy 20 onto Hwy 530? We know that the intersection of Farm to Market and Josh Wilson has dangerous and fatal issues due to the turn lane and large trucks obstructing the view of traffic travelling through, resulting in car accidents with casualties. Will turning trucks create a similar blind spot?

Should the trucks use an alternate route to avoid the difficult 530/20 intersection, they would be travelling over the Cascade River Bridge and Marblemount Skagit River Bridge. The Marblemount Bridge seems narrow, old, and frail. This is supported by the Traffic Report for this project which calls the bridge functionally obsolete. Is this bridge wide enough for 2 passing quarry trucks? Is this bridge strong enough for 2 passing quarry trucks (one loaded one not)? It seems that regular and repeated traffic by such massive (tons and tons, day after day) loaded trucks would put undue and perhaps unsafe strain on the old Marblemount Bridge. Should the bridge be rendered a one-lane bridge, where one quarry truck would wait for the second the pass, I have concerns about the tail-end of a truck sticking out into Highway 20. The proximity of the Hwy 20 intersection to the end of the Marblemount Bridge (about 100 feet) doesn't seem to leave enough space for a truck to wait for an oncoming truck. Please study these scenarios to avoid any unsafe traffic on the bridge or complications to safe traffic patterns in the area.

I am concerned about the effects of blasting on fish in the Skagit River. We know that noise in the Puget Sound and ocean have a strong negative effect on whales and fish. What does the impact of blasting do to fish in the Skagit River and associated wetlands, Illabot Creek, or the Cascade River? These water bodies are important spawning and rearing areas to our endangered fish. Does blasting and resulting sound waves affect their ability to home into their spawning grounds? Encourage them to travel elsewhere to spawn and/or rear? These are a precious and endangered resource, and we must be sure that mining rock does not come at the expense of our Skagit runs of fish.

I am concerned about the deposition of dust on spawning grounds. Fine sediment reduces the quality and quantity of desirable spawning gravels. The proximity to spawning grounds in Illabot Creek (downwind of project area during the typical Oct-March spawning season), and to the Cascade River and its critically endangered run of summer Chinook during the May-September months when the prevailing winds switch direction.

With regard to visual impacts, I will be affected at my property on Conrad Road, per the Visual Resources Report. While I am disappointed by this, I am more concerned about the visual impacts on the valley and the resulting impact to tourism in the valley. For one, picture this, that iconic stretch of Hwy 20 just east of Rockport, as one heads east passing the little chapel with the view of the mountains, Johnson's cattle pasture on your left and the turquoise Skagit River on your right and you are coming up on the gorgeous rows of Cascadian Farms blueberries with Eldorado and all the glory of the snowy North Cascades spread out before you. Yes, it is time for an ice cream cone, lets get out of the car.....and what is that ?? That quarry is going to be staring down at this iconic vista, one so special it graces cereal boxes and bags of granola nationwide, in its unspoiled beauty. But it will be spoiled. Will this affect tourism? Maybe not such a special place for an ice cream cone? Not such a nice reach to raft to view bald eagles with the background blasting of the quarry operations. Will the eagles tolerate the noise, or will they travel on, too?

The SEPA Recreation analysis is significantly lacking in depth and scope as it limits the description of recreation to fly fishing. That is it, fly fishing?!? There is also a good deal of visitation and recreation on the river for spin fishing, not to mention bird and eagle watching, river rafting during the winter eagle watching festival, summer canoeing and kayaking, fall foliage scenic drives, and scenic drives in general. The SEPA states that no recreational uses will be displaced. Do we know this to be true? If the quarry affects eagles in the reach, won't it affect recreational bird watching? I don't know how else to describe a scenic drive other than as recreation, but quite a few people do that. They go out of their way to drive Highway 20 instead of Highway 2, and stop for ice cream and picnics. If the drive isn't so scenic, will they still recreate in the upper Skagit Valley? Please expand the SEPA analysis of recreation to better represent the actual opportunities (and resulting economic impacts and employment opportunities) in the upper Skagit Valley.

I am also concerned about the potential expansion of this project in the future beyond what is presently proposed, the so-called 'Future Phase' described in the Project Description. The report states that this would require an expansion of the Mineral Resource Overlay and Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. I am concerned about this process and the outcomes it might bring. I am especially concerned that I would not be aware of this amendment process and be able to participate and comment. How will the public be informed of this proposed amendment? Is it already proposed and underway? It is not fair to expect the general public to be able to track all things Comprehensive Planning, when it might affect us directly. Can the County send notifications to those within proximity to this proposed change?

All in all, this is a very large project. There will be complicated outcomes. Because of this, I am left wondering, why not an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)? Compiling all the impacts, both good and bad, would help the community and the County better understand what is planned and be more

precise and measured in any conditions or mitigation required. Please consider requiring an EIS to study this project to ensure the character of the upper valley is not sacrificed in the interest of one privately owned venture.

Thank you. Please take my comments and the comments of many other concerned residents to heart.

Sincerely,

Rose Oliver

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 4:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Arthur W. Olson
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL 19-0033

Comments : Regarding the Marblemount Quarry proposal - I have lived on the west end (milepost 10) of the Rockport Cascade Rd. for 40 years. One week ago, I received an email from a neighbor who lives only 1600 feet from this project. They had JUST dis-covered, accidentally, that a huge mining and blasting operation was proposed in our community. NO ONE here was ever contacted! At any rate, I am familiar with the defunct, 20-acre gravel pit that is the base site for this enormous proposal. I am baffled at how that could be legally expanded to a 600-acre full blown quarry! It is a complete diversion of "current use". In addition, the traffic alone that this would create is a big concern. The Rockport Cascade Rd. is a chipseal, rural, county road with no shoulder, certainly not up to standards for this type of operation. Their route would go right past my home and I abhor the thought of constant jake brakes as they approach the Hwy 530 junction that would ruin my quality of life. I'm sure it would tear up the road, as well. Over 10 years ago I went to a public meeting when the county wanted to raise the speed limit from 35mph to 50mph on our rural road. I asked that at least the last 1/4 mile should be reduced to 35mph as one approached the stop sign and the Hwy 530 junction. It never was. If this quarry goes into operation, the speed limit MUST be reduced, and jake brakes outlawed! After all, the road has a 0% grade so they not necessary.

I was a logger, equipment operator, and a federally licensed blaster for most of my 40 year career. I intend to review the proposal word-for-word and you can be sure I will comment on every hole I see in this plan - and there are many! The first being that I see no EIS required - where the heck is it??

From Host Address: 104.235.187.133

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 4:19:28 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 1:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Grace Oppy
[REDACTED]

City : Bloomington
State : IN
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, PL19-0033

Comments : I am a repeat tourist to the area as my sister and family lives locally. I always look forward to my trips because of the beautiful landscape and fresh air. All of the locals are private but welcoming and it is a great place to live quiet lives. I am afraid the construction of a mine would be damaging in many ways, but especially ecologically. Air pollution from dust, noise pollution from blasting rocks, water pollution and contamination of the river from chemicals used for blasting and displacement of wildlife. Those are the things I can think of off the top of my head, but as a biology student at Indiana University I have spent years studying the impact of construction like mines and the toll is unconscionable. PLEASE reconsider allowing a mine to be built. I may not be a local, but the construction of a mine would negatively impact both the locals and the environment. Thank you for your consideration.

From Host Address: 68.45.23.16

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 1:12:50 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 2:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : ira orton
[REDACTED]

City : rockport

State : wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : marblemount quarry p119-0033

Comments : We live on the [REDACTED] I have to agree with all the concerns mentioned about air pollution, ground pollution water pollution. I'm also concern about fir,e we lived thru one, that was started in that quarry. I would like to know about road restriction and does that address the new 21 vechilces per hour. not to include daily traffic. I would like more time to read these reports and also I did not see any reports for the logging trucks and usage of the road.

From Host Address: 174.216.28.212

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 2:17:28 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 10:00 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : ira orton
[REDACTED]

City : rockport

State : wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : marblemount quarry (kiewit co)

Comments : My wife and I live on [REDACTED], I agree with all the other concern, but wound like to add the fire season is here and no mention of how to deal with it. Also I didn't see any logging reports other than their going to clear cut 600 acre. we are both seniors with health issues and use the road going west to get down river almost daily. so I would like more time to go thru all the papers

From Host Address: 174.216.28.212

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 9:59:03 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 9:35 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : mary parker
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA.
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : mary parker

Comments : My family and I oppose the Marblemount Quarry expansion.

Thank you,
Mary Parker

From Host Address: 66.235.38.108

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 9:30:25 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jessica Pegg
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry

Comments : As someone who has friends and family living in the area, I am concerned about the increased truck traffic on an already dangerous highway. I am also concerned about the ecological impacts of a quarry that size so close to a chinook salmon bearing river. We really can't afford to affect their spawning grounds.

From Host Address: 73.83.14.16

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:56:15 PM

From: [Diane Percefull](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 1:33:15 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in regard to the proposed expanded quarry on Rockport Cascade Road. I am a property owner in Rockport [REDACTED]

First, I would like additional time to review this complex project in our valley. I did not hear about it until Friday March 22 from someone on Facebook, and comments are due on Friday March 29. This is not enough time to review the extensive documentation available on the County website supporting the application, and further, the County should have been promoting this information as it came available so that members of the community would not be so surprised by the application and the impacts of the project.

From what I have been able to glean from the documents available (again, not enough time to read in depth), I am concerned about the storage of blasting explosives and fuel (10,000 + 3,000 + 1,500 gallons) in a rural and forested environment in the Upper Skagit. Should an accident happen, it would fall on the Rockport Volunteer Fire Department and Marblemount Volunteer Fire Department to respond. The level of training and equipment required for such a response is above and beyond what is currently available in the community. Furthermore, the siting of the explosive storage is near a forested property line. Forest fire is a real and increasing risk to the valley, and this location has actually recently burned in 1998! In the event of a forest fire, the storage of explosives and fuel will put wildland fire fighters at undue risk, as well as distract from their true task of protecting life and property.

I am concerned about the haul route for this quarry. The turn from Hwy 530 to westbound Hwy 20 is a difficult intersection. I have had numerous close calls there myself. To be able to sufficiently see traffic coming from the east, I must steer my car slightly eastbound as I approach the stop sign (something a large truck cannot do), then turn left/westbound when the opportunity arises. Sight lines are difficult. Add to that the endless caravan of tourists and RVs heading over the pass to the Methow Valley during a peak summer weekend, and I see either long delays at the intersection, or worse, a traffic accident at a high-speed highway. Please pursue safety improvements to this intersection to allow such massive (heavy, slow to accelerate) and long trucks to make this dangerous turn. How are the sightlines from eastbound Hwy 20 onto Hwy 530? We know that the intersection of Farm to Market and Josh Wilson has dangerous and fatal issues due to the turn lane and large trucks obstructing the view of traffic travelling through, resulting in car accidents with casualties. Will turning trucks create a similar blind spot?

Should the trucks use an alternate route to avoid the difficult 530/20 intersection, they would be travelling over the Cascade River Bridge and Marblemount Skagit River Bridge. The Marblemount Bridge seems narrow, old, and frail. This is supported by the Traffic Report for this project which calls the bridge functionally obsolete. Is this bridge wide enough for 2 passing quarry trucks? Is this bridge strong enough for 2 passing quarry trucks (one loaded one not)? It seems that regular and repeated traffic by such massive (tons and tons, day after day) loaded trucks would put undue and perhaps unsafe strain on the old Marblemount Bridge. Should the bridge be rendered a one-lane bridge, where one quarry truck would wait for the second the pass, I have concerns about the tail-end of a truck sticking out into Highway 20. The proximity of the Hwy 20 intersection to the end of the Marblemount Bridge (about 100 feet) doesn't seem to leave enough space for a truck to wait for an oncoming truck. Please study these scenarios to avoid any unsafe traffic on the bridge or complications to safe traffic patterns in the area.

I am concerned about the effects of blasting on fish in the Skagit River. We know that noise in the

Puget Sound and ocean have a strong negative effect on whales and fish. What does the impact of blasting do to fish in the Skagit River and associated wetlands, Illabot Creek, or the Cascade River? These waterbodies are important spawning and rearing areas to our endangered fish. Does blasting and resulting sound waves affect their ability to home into their spawning grounds? Encourage them to travel elsewhere to spawn and/or rear? These are a precious and endangered resource, and we must be sure that mining rock does not come at the expense of our Skagit runs of fish.

I am concerned about the deposition of dust on spawning grounds. Fine sediment reduces the quality and quantity of desirable spawning gravels. The proximity to spawning grounds in Illabot Creek (downwind of project area during the typical Oct-March spawning season), and to the Cascade River and its critically endangered run of summer Chinook during the May-September months when the prevailing winds switch direction.

With regard to visual impacts, I will be affected at my property on Conrad Road, per the Visual Resources Report. While I am disappointed by this, I am more concerned about the visual impacts on the valley and the resulting impact to tourism in the valley. For one, picture this, that iconic stretch of Hwy 20 just east of Rockport, as one heads east passing the little chapel with the view of the mountains, Johnson's cattle pasture on your left and the turquoise Skagit River on your right and you are coming up on the gorgeous rows of Cascadian Farms blueberries with Eldorado and all the glory of the snowy North Cascades spread out before you. Yes, it is time for an ice cream cone, lets get out of the car.....and what is that?!? That quarry is going to be staring down at this iconic vista, one so special it graces cereal boxes and bags of granola nationwide, in its unspoiled beauty. But it will be spoiled. Will this affect tourism? Maybe not such a special place for an ice cream cone? Not such a nice reach to raft to view bald eagles with the background blasting of the quarry operations. Will the eagles tolerate the noise, or will they travel on, too?

The SEPA Recreation analysis is significantly lacking in depth and scope as it limits the description of recreation to fly fishing. That is it, fly fishing?!? There is also a good deal of visitation and recreation on the river for spin fishing, not to mention bird and eagle watching, river rafting during the winter eagle watching festival, summer canoeing and kayaking, fall foliage scenic drives, and scenic drives in general. The SEPA states that no recreational uses will be displaced. Do we know this to be true? If the quarry affects eagles in the reach, won't it affect recreational bird watching? I don't know how else to describe a scenic drive other than as recreation, but quite a few people do that. They go out of their way to drive Highway 20 instead of Highway 2, and stop for ice cream and picnics. If the drive isn't so scenic, will they still recreate in the upper Skagit Valley? Please expand the SEPA analysis of recreation to better represent the actual opportunities (and resulting economic impacts and employment opportunities) in the upper Skagit Valley.

I am also concerned about the potential expansion of this project in the future beyond what is presently proposed, the so-called 'Future Phase' described in the Project Description. The report states that this would require an expansion of the Mineral Resource Overlay and Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. I am concerned about this process and the outcomes it might bring. I am especially concerned that I would not be aware of this amendment process and be able to participate and comment. How will the public be informed of this proposed amendment? Is it already proposed and underway? It is not fair to expect the general public to be able to track all things Comprehensive Planning, when it might affect us directly. Can the County send notifications to those within proximity to this proposed change?

Now, this project will likely happen. It is properly zoned (Mineral overlay) and privately owned by a big company that knows how to sell rocks. How do we know this will benefit the community? How many living wage jobs will this create? Will this SW Washington company bring SW Washington employees? Will the construction workers come from the greater Seattle area? Or employ local residents in the depressed upriver economy? This part of the County has needed quality, dependable, year-round employment options for decades – will this opportunity pass us by as

well?

All in all, this is a very large project. There will be complicated outcomes. Because of this, I am left wondering, why not an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)? Compiling all the impacts, both good and bad, would help the community and the County better understand what is planned and be more precise and measured in any conditions or mitigation required. Please consider requiring an EIS to study this project to ensure the character of the upper valley is not sacrificed in the interest of one privately owned venture.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my letter and consider my concerns.

Diane Percefull

From: [Diane Percefull](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: "Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033"
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 1:45:29 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in regard to the proposed expanded quarry on Rockport Cascade Road. I am a property owner in Rockport [REDACTED]

First, I would like additional time to review this complex project in our valley. I did not hear about it until Friday March 22 from someone on Facebook, and comments are due on Friday March 29. This is not enough time to review the extensive documentation available on the County website supporting the application, and further, the County should have been promoting this information as it came available so that members of the community would not be so surprised by the application and the impacts of the project.

From what I have been able to glean from the documents available (again, not enough time to read in depth), I am concerned about the storage of blasting explosives and fuel (10,000 + 3,000 + 1,500 gallons) in a rural and forested environment in the Upper Skagit. Should an accident happen, it would fall on the Rockport Volunteer Fire Department and Marblemount Volunteer Fire Department to respond. The level of training and equipment required for such a response is above and beyond what is currently available in the community. Furthermore, the siting of the explosive storage is near a forested property line. Forest fire is a real and increasing risk to the valley, and this location has actually recently burned in 1998! In the event of a forest fire, the storage of explosives and fuel will put wildland fire fighters at undue risk, as well as distract from their true task of protecting life and property.

I am concerned about the haul route for this quarry. The turn from Hwy 530 to westbound Hwy 20 is a difficult intersection. I have had numerous close calls there myself. To be able to sufficiently see traffic coming from the east, I must steer my car slightly eastbound as I approach the stop sign (something a large truck cannot do), then turn left/westbound when the opportunity arises. Sight lines are difficult. Add to that the endless caravan of tourists and RVs heading over the pass to the Methow Valley during a peak summer weekend, and I see either long delays at the intersection, or worse, a traffic accident at a high-speed highway. Please pursue safety improvements to this intersection to allow such massive (heavy, slow to accelerate) and long trucks to make this dangerous turn. How are the sightlines from eastbound Hwy 20 onto Hwy 530? We know that the intersection of Farm to Market and Josh Wilson has dangerous and fatal issues due to the turn lane and large trucks obstructing the view of traffic travelling through, resulting in car accidents with casualties. Will turning trucks create a similar blind spot?

Should the trucks use an alternate route to avoid the difficult 530/20 intersection, they would be travelling over the Cascade River Bridge and Marblemount Skagit River Bridge. The Marblemount Bridge seems narrow, old, and frail. This is supported by the Traffic Report for this project which calls the bridge functionally obsolete. Is this bridge wide enough for 2 passing quarry trucks? Is this bridge strong enough for 2 passing quarry trucks (one loaded one not)? It seems that regular and repeated traffic by such massive (tons and tons, day after day) loaded trucks would put undue and perhaps unsafe strain on the old Marblemount Bridge. Should the bridge be rendered a one-lane bridge, where one quarry truck would wait for the second the pass, I have concerns about the tail-end of a truck sticking out into Highway 20. The proximity of the Hwy 20 intersection to the end of the Marblemount Bridge (about 100 feet) doesn't seem to leave enough space for a truck to wait for an oncoming truck. Please study these scenarios to avoid any unsafe traffic on the bridge or complications to safe traffic patterns in the area.

I am concerned about the effects of blasting on fish in the Skagit River. We know that noise in the Puget Sound and ocean have a strong negative effect on whales and fish. What does the impact of blasting do to fish in the Skagit River and associated wetlands, Illabot Creek, or the Cascade

River? These waterbodies are important spawning and rearing areas to our endangered fish. Does blasting and resulting sound waves affect their ability to home into their spawning grounds? Encourage them to travel elsewhere to spawn and/or rear? These are a precious and endangered resource, and we must be sure that mining rock does not come at the expense of our Skagit runs of fish.

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I am also concerned about the potential expansion of this project in the future beyond what is presently proposed, the so-called 'Future Phase' described in the Project Description. The report states that this would require an expansion of the Mineral Resource Overlay and Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. I am concerned about this process and the outcomes it might bring. I am especially concerned that I would not be aware of this amendment process and be able to participate and comment. How will the public be informed of this proposed amendment? Is it already proposed and underway? It is not fair to expect the general public to be able to track all things Comprehensive Planning, when it might affect us directly. Can the County send notifications to those within proximity to this proposed change?

Now, this project will likely happen. It is properly zoned (Mineral overlay) and privately owned by a big company that knows how to sell rocks. How do we know this will benefit the community? How many living wage jobs will this create? Will this SW Washington company bring SW Washington employees? Will the construction workers come from the greater Seattle area? Or employ local residents in the depressed upriver economy? This part of the County has needed quality, dependable, year-round employment options for decades – will this opportunity pass us by as well?

All in all, this is a very large project. There will be complicated outcomes. Because of this, I am left

wondering, why not an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)? Compiling all the impacts, both good and bad, would help the community and the County better understand what is planned and be more precise and measured in any conditions or mitigation required. Please consider requiring an EIS to study this project to ensure the character of the upper valley is not sacrificed in the interest of one privately owned venture.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my letter and consider my concerns.

Diane Percefull

[REDACTED]

Mount Vernon, WA 98273

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 8:25 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : William Pfeifer
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount:PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070

Comments : I am very concerned that there will be a strong, negative impact on the community and the environment in Marblemount and neighboring communities due to this activity. I think resources for this material should be found elsewhere, with transportation methods that would not have such a critical impact to the local area.

There needs to be more time allowed for investigation and discussion with respect to this project before a final decision is made.

From Host Address: 66.235.38.132

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 8:21:06 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Joan Poor
[REDACTED]

City : Edmonds
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : I am writing to express concern regarding a proposed expansion of the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount.

The nearby Skagit River is designated as a Wild and Scenic River. The Skagit is home to endangered species including Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. This river is an important wildlife corridor for federally protected species under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and the communities along the Skagit River corridor are cherished respites for other travellers as well, whether as a destination for a peaceful unwind listening to birdsong near Marblemount, a picnic at Rockport State Park, eagle watching at the river's edge, or visiting Cascadian Farms for pumpkins in autumn or espresso milkshakes in the summer. These communities along the scenic two-lane State Route 20 and the Skagit River are gateways to the wilderness and recreation of North Cascades National Park, and these communities are home to families that choose to live in a quiet rural setting surrounded by mountain and riverine scenery and the myriad wildlife that also calls the Skagit home.

Kiewit Infrastructure's proposal looks to expand the existing infrequently used quarry from a site of 20 acres to approximately 79 acres. This expansion would require the logging of 600 acres for access and infrastructure associated with the expanded quarry, and the permit is requesting up to a staggering number of 75 loaded trucks traveling daily, six days a week. Residents and wildlife in the area are being asked to endure up to 6 blasts a day during initial construction and 2 a day for ongoing operations. All of this in the watershed and aquifer of a Wild and Scenic River. The stone from this quarry along the Skagit will be used as riprap along the coasts of Washington and Oregon.

I was visiting Cannon Beach, Oregon last weekend and will be hiking the North Cascades this weekend. Both locations are dear, and I ask of you, respectfully, please don't tear up the Skagit to shore up the coasts.

Thank you.

From Host Address: 73.42.138.228

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:26:58 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 5:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Eileen Porch
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Rock Quarry

Comments : I just returned from my daily walk to the Skagit River, along with my husband and 4 dogs. We have been walking here for over 40 years. We listened to 2owls talking to each other and actually were treated to spotting, and walking right under one of them. It sat and chatted for quiet a while. We walked home and continued to hear them talking. I am so concerned about the potential noise levels from the proposed quarry disrupting experiences like this. I know I am extremely fortunate to live in this incredible environment. I would like for it to continue for myself and our entire community. Please allow us more time to consider and review the entire proposal. Thank you.

From Host Address: 50.34.205.185

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 5:16:28 PM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:55 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Friday, March 22, 2019 9:15 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jim & Eileen Porch

City : Marblemount

State : WA

PermitProposal : Permit Application Submittals PL19-0033

Comments : We live approximately one half mile from the proposed Marblemount Rock Quarry site. We have lived here for the past 40 years and are very familiar with the issues surrounding the area to be mined. We respectfully request an extension of the comment period. We were only made aware of the proposal a couple of days ago and need additional time to organize our extensive concerns about the appropriateness of the project.

From Host Address: 50.34.172.102

Date and time received: 3/22/2019 9:12:27 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jim &Eileen Porch
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Marblemount Quarry

Comments : We have lived on Rockport Cascade Road, approximately a half mile from the proposed project, for over 40 years. I'm a retired Paramedic and Eileen recently retired from being an elementary school teacher. As we commemorate the 5 year anniversary of the Oso landslide Eileen continues to feel the heartache of losing one of her kindergarten students in the slide. There are multiple families with small children who live at the base of the cliffs below the proposed project. Those children deserve the benefits of a complete and in depth seismic evaluation. This should be included in an thorough EIS.

From Host Address: 50.34.179.89

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:00:22 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 6:00 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kari Pulice

City : Concrete
State : Wa

PermitProposal : Kiewitt/Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Bad for the enviroment. Added co2 emissions, when climate change is already devastating other parts of the world. We need to be reducing co2 emissions not adding. Pollution and destruction of two salmon streams, such as the illabot creek. Also will affect the skagit river. Noise and air pollution, I have severe allergies which blasting will blow fine particles into the air for miles. Further destruction of animal habitats by taking more trees out and bulldozing land for roads. We already have wildlife coming into towns or closer to people's homes because of loss of their habitat, this project will add to the displacement of more animals. Loss of trees will also increase the risk of more wildfires. All for what profit! Find a more eco friendly sustainable option to restructure of jetties!

From Host Address: 66.235.37.121

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 5:57:40 AM

From: [Steffany](#)
To: [Commissioners](#)
Subject: A disastrous quarry project proposed for Marblemount
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 6:32:41 PM

March 20, 2019

Dear Lisa Janicki,

I am writing in regard to a proposed quarry enlargement upriver on Rockport Cascade Road (**Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount**). The scope of this project is **immense** (“*Kiewit infrastructure proposes to expand the existing 20 acre quarry to an approximately 79 acre operation. The proposal will remove approximately 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone, over a projected 100 year period. Quarry rocks and spalls will be removed from the site by truck and trailer, generating a maximum of 75 loads per day. The mining operation will require the removal of 2.7 million board feet of timber from approximately 90 acres of six parcels totaling 600 acres. Stumps will be removed and the area graded in preparation for quarry operations.*”) The comment period is now for a number of permits that need approval. I am writing to speak about the human impacts of such a project. There have been studies done (at significant expense) about the potential impacts on fish and wildlife, and regarding the possibility of cultural artifacts (ancient peoples) but there is no study being done about the impact on the land, the neighborhood, the people who live in that area of the upper Skagit.

I was a resident of that neighborhood, at [REDACTED], less than 1/2 mile from the quarry site, for more than twelve years. I am still a member of the Skagit Land Trust and a steward for the Land Trust at Hurn Field. My wife and I sold our beloved home and five acre parcel (that extends up that mountainside) to a young couple with a child and were very excited to pass it on knowing that a young human would grow up in a beautiful place and learn about protecting our earth. A small home day care resides on that land. Nearby are friends who have invested their entire life savings in the home and land they occupy (in Marblegate). At least one neighbor (whose property is very very close to this quarry site) is disabled, poor, and finds her comfort and solace in being outdoors on her property in a beautiful fern grotto against that hillside.

The impacts of an active quarry and the proposed enlargement of the site (including road construction) will be huge! While we lived on Rockport Cascade Road, the quarry was active for one season and it was a constant disruption. The sound from the rock work carried all the way through the valley. It was so bad that I gave up working outside in my garden during the day for several months. The project generated a great deal of noise and dust from the trucks being filled and then driving by. We complained but nothing much could be done; we were assured that the project would be completed and the problem would go away. Someone had decided that taking rock from one part of the County for the benefit of another part of the County was a perfectly acceptable thing to do, without weighing the impacts of that rock removal. I would liken it to mining, oil drilling, and fracking that is occurring in other parts of the country. There is a cost, to the earth, to the people living nearby, and to future generations.

A few years before we moved to Rockport Cascade Road there was a forest fire on that hillside (rumored to have started in that very rock quarry). It nearly claimed multiple houses (including the one we later inhabited). The burned remains were visible on that landscape for miles around. The removal of trees, the addition of a road, the removal of much more rock will be a similar scar on that landscape, one that will not heal.

If this project were proposed in Mount Vernon or Burlington (who knows maybe the right kind of rock is lurking in one of the city's beloved parks) there would be an outcry because there are many people living nearby. In fact it wouldn't even be considered. This land and the landscape around it is also loved, just not by as many people because it is rural. This proposed project is much much bigger and longer lasting, thus the impact will be larger; the people who live near this project will want to leave and will be unable to sell their homes. Marblemount will be degraded. Skagit County is a wonderful place to live because there is an ethic of stewardship that is not found in many other places. That ethic deserves to be applied to this project. It is time to stop destroying our landscapes for commercial gain. It is time to consider the impacts of our decisions for future generations. This project is a very bad idea.

I am requesting that you become educated about this project - quickly - the decisions about permits are happening soon. Oversight by the County for this kind of project development is essential. Your constituents are not being given enough time or information and they are not being consulted about the impacts on their community.

Sincerely,

Steffany Raynes

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 6:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Steffany Raynes
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Comments : I am writing in regard to a proposed quarry enlargement on Rockport Cascade Road (Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount). The scope of this project is immense ("Kiewit infrastructure proposes to expand the existing 20 acre quarry to an approximately 79 acre operation. The proposal will remove approximately 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone, over a projected 100 year period. Quarry rocks and spalls will be removed from the site by truck and trailer, generating a maximum of 75 loads per day. The mining operation will require the removal of 2.7 million board feet of timber from approximately 90 acres of six parcels totaling 600 acres. Stumps will be removed and the area graded in preparation for quarry operations.") The comment period is now for a number of permits that need approval. I am writing to speak about the human impacts of such a project. There have been studies done (at significant expense) about the potential impacts on fish and wildlife, and regarding the possibility of cultural artifacts (ancient peoples) but there is no study being done about the impact on the land, the neighborhood, the people who live in that area of the upper Skagit.

I was a resident of that neighborhood, at [REDACTED] less than 1/2 mile from the quarry site, for more than twelve years. I am still a member of the Skagit Land Trust and a steward for the Land Trust at Hurn Field. My wife and I sold our beloved home and five acre parcel (that extends up that mountainside) to a young couple with a child and were very excited to pass it on knowing that a young human would grow up in a beautiful place and learn about protecting our earth. A small home day care resides on that land. Nearby are friends who have invested their entire life savings in the home and land they occupy (in Marblegate). At least one neighbor (whose property is very very close to this quarry site) is disabled, poor, and finds her comfort and solace in being outdoors on her property in a beautiful fern grotto against that hillside.

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A few years before we moved to Rockport Cascade Road there was a forest fire on that hillside (rumored to

have started in that very rock quarry). It nearly claimed multiple houses (including the one we later inhabited). The burned remains were visible on that landscape for miles around. The removal of trees, the addition of a road, the removal of much more rock will be a similar scar on that landscape, one that will not heal.

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From Host Address: 73.239.117.34

Date and time received: 3/20/2019 6:23:11 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 11:25 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Rob Rex
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I am writing to express my concerns about the Marblemount Quarry proposal and its environmental, recreation conservation, and quality of live impacts.

This plan does not sufficiently address the ecological and environmental impact it will have on the area. It provides no quantitative definition, aside to say that it will be "moderate."

Protecting and conserving the environment and ecologically sensitive areas is in the community's best interest. Development of areas susceptible to natural hazards may lead to inefficient use of limited public resources, jeopardize environmental resource functions and values, subject persons and property to unsafe conditions, and affect the quality of life.

The project proposal and potential effects of the quarry project in this location is the direct opposite of RCO mission and the organizations it supports: i.e., Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB); Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB); Invasive Species Council Governor's Salmon Recovery Office; Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group.

Recreation and quality of life in a rural non-industrial setting with abundant fish, wildlife and native plant ecoregions is one of the biggest draws to this area for tourists and landowners. Proximity to a national park and national forest lands, wilderness areas, climbing destinations, a wild and scenic river, one of the biggest eagle annual migration areas and the slow quiet pace of rural life in a low population density area are some of the main reasons people live, work and visit this area. The proposed quarry is in diametric opposition to these values and would destroy the foundation of what makes this place so special.

Should the project as outlined be allowed to proceed, it would be a great loss to the local residents, visiting tourists, and natural inhabitants of the land.

From Host Address: 98.247.190.151

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 11:21:28 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 8:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Samantha Richert
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, PL19-0033

Comments : I am writing to state my opposition to the proposed enlargement of the Marblemount quarry by Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry. The activities described in the proposed special use mining permit would be very disruptive to the Marblemount area community and would destroy the quality of life in the area.

When I moved here three years ago, Marblemount had the reputation of being a community plagued by unemployment and drug addiction. As I've become more familiar with the community here, I've discovered that it is actually full of young families who are homesteading or working for local agencies (National Park Service, Seattle City Light, North Cascades Institute) or a mix of both. These are families who have chosen to live in a more remote area because of the peace and quiet afforded to them and the opportunity to raise their children in a wholesome way. These families are building on existing traditions of self-reliance and respect for the landscape, and helping the overall community become more stable and productive. The industrial disruption that would be caused by the proposed expansion of the quarry would threaten this way of life and probably cause many of these young families to move. I have seen similar trends while I lived in Alaska. It was heartbreaking and certainly not worth any temporary gain by an outside company.

The Skagit County Comprehensive Plan finalized in 2016 has a laudable emphasis on rural growth and development. The rural character of Skagit County is so precious, and becoming increasingly rare in the coastal Pacific Northwest. I believe the proposed quarry expansion would threaten the rural qualities of upper Skagit Valley and I ask that you deny this permit.

From Host Address: 50.34.191.121

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 8:45:47 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jon Riedel
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Marblemount Quarry
Comments : March 29 2019

Mr. John Cooper
Skagit County Planning & Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mt Vernon, WA 98273

Re: Kiewit quarry in Marblemount

Mr. Cooper,

Thanks for this opportunity to comment on the proposed Marblemount rock quarry expansion by Kiewit. I have lived in Marblemount for more than 30 years. My wife and I raised our family there, and chose this place largely because of the quiet, peaceful setting. Countless friends and neighbors I have met over the years moved here for the same reasons. While I appreciate the need for jobs in eastern Skagit County, I am deeply concerned about the proposed land use because of significant negative impacts it will have on our community and the environment.

On the community side, the incredible scope of this industrial project will have many negative impacts on the quality of life in Marblemount for 100 years (or more), for the remainder of my life, and my children's lives. Direct and significant negative impacts we will realize for 12 months a year, 6 days a week for 12 hours a day with this project include noise, dust, traffic/safety, the recreation economy, and property value. Having lived about a half-mile from a small quarry for many years I can tell you that the blasting, drilling, crushing, sorting, rock handling and loading, and truck engines will be heard from one side of the valley to the other, and for some distance off site up and down the valley. For those people on Rockport Cascade Road and Highway 530 this noise will be extremely disruptive. Up to 500 semi-tractor (250 trucks leaving and 250 coming) trips a day braking at the junction of Rockport Cascade Road and Highway 530, and at Highway 20, daily will be particularly disturbing to people living near these intersections.

I understand that the proposal includes dust mitigation. Where will the water come from for this? Another major concern is having 500 large trucks on a rural road. This narrow road has no shoulder, and is currently used by joggers, bicyclists, anglers, hunters, bird-watchers and locals going to work and school.

I've observed the transition of the local economy of the upper valley from one dominated by logging to one more focused on recreation and visitor services. This quarry has the potential to compromise that transition, and the modest job gains (~35) would not offset the damage to the recreation-based economy, community, and land values. Who wants to rent a cabin, camp, or fish with all of this noise?

We all know how property values in rural Skagit County have declined recently due to restrictions on new wells. I believe this project will further diminish the property values of dozens of people who will not see any economic benefit from this project. If this is approved, is Skagit County prepared to lower taxes?

The proposal offers to supply rock for local needs. How will this impact current quarry operations in Skagit County? It seems the potential is there to put them out of business.

Cliffs cut by glacial erosion continue to the east of the site, and are sources for occasional rock falls that reach the valley floor. The geology reports I reviewed acknowledged the rock-fall threat and noted some of the cliffs were over-hanging, but limited their investigation to the quarry and access road, and did not evaluate adjacent properties. Will the blasting, drilling or heavy equipment vibrations dislodge more rocks from adjacent cliffs? It is interesting that the Misch geology map of the Marblemount area indicates that the greenschist beds dip in opposite direction just east of the quarry, suggesting there is a fault nearby. The geology reports focused on the immediate site conditions, but did not appear to examine the larger picture. Is the prominent bedrock gully east of the site a structural (fault) and/or erosional feature? Will there be more detailed site geology reviews?

All of this truck traffic will degrade local air quality along the road and in the upper valley. During temperature inversions that are a common occurrence on clear nights, the diesel exhaust would be trapped on the surface, resulting in more severe air quality impacts.

In closing, I can't see how you could mitigate some of these impacts given the scope of this proposal. The impact to the community would be substantial and long-lasting. A rural community surrounded by national park and wilderness lands and a wild and scenic river, seems to be an inappropriate place to locate a massive quarry designed to serve the needs of the entire northwest coast of North America for three generations. As a geologist I know there are many other places where suitable rock could be found much closer to these shoreline projects. At the very least a project of this scope must be reviewed carefully with an Environmental Impact Statement.

Please keep me informed as this moves forward.

From Host Address: 50.35.62.55

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:26:37 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Rebecca Rising
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments with regard to the pressed quarry in Marblemount.

I believe it is paramount to protect the water quality of the Skagit River, which is one of the few rivers that supports relatively abundant populations of salmon. Due to its place in the landscape, the proposed quarry will likely negatively impact Skagit River water quality.

My second concern is that although the quarry could provide employment for some local people, it would negatively impact (noise, traffic, recreation) the quality of life for most residents and would drive property values down for those nearest the site. It also has the potential to drive tourist dollars away from the Marblemount area, even though visitation had been increasing over the last few years.

This project requires careful consideration and should not be treated as an urgent matter. The people of Skagit county must be informed and included in this life-changing decision. We need more time to understand the issues. We need more time to be sure we are doing all we can to protect our unique and beloved scenery, water, air, and fellow creatures.

From Host Address: 50.34.197.172

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 10:55:45 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 7:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Denae Sackmann
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham

State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : WAC197-11-330

Comments : We're asking for an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

We're asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed."

From Host Address: 107.77.205.181

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 7:20:33 PM

From: [Corina Sahlin](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: "Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033"
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 2:05:17 PM

To whom it may concern,

We have lived at our five acre homestead in Marblemount for 17 years, and in these years, we have built a thriving business leading classes, workshops and retreats here. People from all over the world attend and come here specifically because we teach them how to live more sustainably and healthfully.

The proposed quarry in Marblemount would have a terrible impact on our business and on our personal life.

The noise and blasting, the sound of which travels far and wide, would destroy our peaceful setting and teaching.

The traffic from the trucks hauling rocks would create even more noise, not to mention pollution. We are also concerned about increased accidents. Our roads here (namely Highway 20 and Highway 530, and also the Rockport Cascade Road) are classified as scenic. They are heavily traveled by tourists visiting our area and continuing on over to the East side of the mountains to the Methow Valley. Increased truck traffic would exponentially impact these roads and accidents


Mining operations would negatively impact our wildlife and environment. Salmon would be negatively impacted, since our rivers here are all salmon spawning.

Our low income region relies heavily on tourists. The quarry operations, noise, traffic and eye-sores from the operations would have a devastating effect on our area's economic situation.

We are also concerned that the deadline for comments is March 29th. We didn't hear about this until very recently, and this doesn't give us time to mobilize more people and educate them about the impact of this proposal. Please consider adding more time for comments.

Sincerely,

Corina Sahlin


Marblemount, WA 98267

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<http://www.marblemounthomestead.com>

[Check out my online courses on fermentation and cheesemaking](#)

[Download my FREE e-book "Three Essential Tutorials for Homesteaders and Urbanites"](#)

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Eva Sahlin
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : My name is Eva Sahlin, and I am 9 years old, and I live here in the Skagit. Me and my family and the whole community do not want you to put the Quarry in because it will effect the fish and many animals. It will scare all of the pets because of all the noise. And the traffic will be terrible. So I'm asking you please not to do it!

Sincerely,
Eva Sahlin

From Host Address: 172.58.40.141

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:21:23 PM

From: [Steve Sahlin](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure proposal
Date: Thursday, March 28, 2019 5:47:43 PM

Skagit Count Planning Department,

I am writing in response to the Kiewit Infrastructure proposed expansion of the quarry in Marblemount. I have been a land owner and resident of Marblemount for 17 years. I am very concerned about this proposal for many reasons:

Traffic: Increased traffic density and danger - especially at Hwy 530/Hwy 20 intersection. The proposed plan includes up to 75 trips a day! That's one every 10 minutes!

Noise pollution: a lot of us choose to live up here for the quiet. The noise from blasting and trucks would seriously affect quality of life.

Water pollution: what about the very real possibility of fuel leaks and blasting chemical leaks into the water table near residents wells not to mention into the nearby Skagit River. Do we really need a quarry like this right next to one of the most wild and scenic rivers left in the contiguous US?

Property rights and values: this project does not respect individual and community rights as outlined in the Counties own Comprehensive Plan. Local residents property values could seriously be compromised.

Lastly, imagine if you lived next door to this? Would you be in favor of it or opposed? In the least, would you want the impacts mitigated?

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and many people's very real concerns.

Steve Sahlin

[REDACTED]

Marblemount, WA 98267

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 12:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Steve and Corina Sahlin
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry Project by Kiewit Infrastructure Company

Comments : We are long-time residents of Marblemount and are extremely concerned about the Marblemount quarry project proposal.

We have a business attracting people from all over the world to come to our homestead for retreats. We teach self-sufficiency skills to adults and also lead summer camps for children.

This proposed project would negatively affect our personal and professional lives. The dramatically increased traffic is very worrisome. The noise, explosions and mining activities would be terrible. Pollution to the Skagit River and salmon habitat is very concerning.

Our region attracts tourists and outdoor enthusiasts from all over the world, and the impacts from this Quarry would be disastrous. There are many of us residents who believe it is a terrible idea, and we don't want it here! Please allow for comments to be submitted for a longer period of time, since we are just now getting the word out about this proposal.

Thank you,

Corina Sahlin

From Host Address: 172.58.40.227

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 12:54:55 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Christine Sanderson

[REDACTED]
City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : I am deeply concerned about the potential impacts of the proposed Kiewet Quarry. Noise, air, and water pollution, and significant increases in traffic would be a detriment to this community and to the surrounding natural environment. Two weeks is also not enough time for community members to read, analyze, and respond to the multitude of permits and application materials submitted by Kiewet Infrastructure to Skagit County. First, I echo the requests of other that the comment period be extended so that all community voices can be heard on this issue. Second, I strongly urge Skagit County to refuse the application for an expanded quarry so as to protect both community members and the beautiful landscape and natural habitat that surrounds us in Marblemount. Thank you for your consideration.

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:37:45 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 9:35 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Anna Santo
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : Please do not approve the proposed expansion of the Kiewet quarry near Marblemount. The risks it poses to the nearby Wild and Scenic Skagit River and the community of Marblemount and others downstream far outweigh the benefits of this project.

The communities along the Skagit River are already stressed, and the noise, pollution, and deforestation that this project will cause will further cripple these communities.

The Skagit River is a treasure for Washington. I frequently recreate there and enjoy the pristine waters. In addition, it is among the most important rivers in the northwest for protecting salmon populations that are already in sharp decline. This is impacting our marine and riverine ecosystems in terrible ways. We should not approve projects that risk damaging the river that supports most of Washington's chinook salmon population. We are in a crisis to protect these salmon, as demonstrated by the fact that our resident orca population is nearing extinction. How incredibly short-sighted it would be to approve this project.

I urge you to not approve this permit expansion.

Respectfully,
Anna Santo

From Host Address: 190.238.103.142

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 9:31:11 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jake Sarrantonio
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : As a resident of the upper Skagit Valley I am asking the county to reject the existing proposal for the development of this quarry. Mitigation plans related to the impact of the operation are insufficient and the impact to the local residential population will be high.

The traffic, blasting, construction and operation of the site will be very disruptive the whole upper river valley in the marblemount area. People, wildlife, families, as well as people who come to recreate here. The site is located in the upper reaches of the wild and scenic Skagit river system. To allow this sort of quarry to develop right along the upper river seems inconsistent an out of step with recent multi million dollar salmon restoration projects in the immediate area, as well as I-502.

I am very concerned with the noise residents will have to endure for the foreseeable future due to this project. This is a quiet part of the world, a gateway to a majestic national park.

The stated dust abatement plan seems inadequate. Remediation plans lack detail, as do plans related to addressing erosion and run-off at the site.

Please take a closer look at this proposal, demand a more detailed environmental impact statement and consider the health and well-being of your east-county residents. This project adds nothing to our economic status and threatens our quality of life and health.

Thank you,
Jake Sarrantonio

From Host Address: 50.34.196.248

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:35:34 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Sharon Sarrantonio
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : As a resident of the upper Skagit Valley I strongly urge the county to take a closer look at this proposal and reject it as is on several grounds. Mitigation plans related to the impact of the operation are insufficient and the impact to the local residential population will be high.

The traffic, blasting, construction and operation of the site will be very disruptive to local wildlife and residents. So many restoration projects are located close to the site, with many native species (wolf, fisher, peregrine falcons) making use of the land; this project interrupts and jeopardizes this ecosystem. Since the project must truck in water as well, that will be added to the impact to the roadway where I envision many idling trucks on unimproved gravel pull-outs. Safety-wise, the intersection of Highway 530 with the Rockport Cascade Road is problematic for these large trucks when logging trucks already move through at high speeds. Numerous elk collisions occur in this zone, likely more will with this project since heavy loads will result in reduced braking distances.

I am very concerned with the noise residents will have to endure for the foreseeable future due to this project. This is a quiet part of the world, a gateway to a majestic national park. As folks from the world over line up for permits at the local ranger station, they will be seeing and hearing this project.

I find the dust abatement plan in the project also lacking since this quarry would be located exactly where the winds slam down from the Skagit Gorge, it is very windy and air quality for the residents would be impacted. Plans for remediation of site also lack detail, as do plans related to addressing erosion and run-off at the site.

Please take a closer look at this proposal, demand a more detailed environmental impact statement and consider the health and well-being of your east-county residents. This project adds nothing to our economic status and threatens our quality of life and health.

Thank you,
Sharon Sarrantonio

From Host Address: 50.34.196.248

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:15:27 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:05 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : jim saunders
[REDACTED]

City : marblemount
State : wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : marblemount quarry
Comments : polute Jordan creek

From Host Address: 50.35.90.3

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 3:02:34 PM

John Cooper

From: PDS comments
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:13 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: Marblemount Quarry/Kiewit Application

FYI

Sincerely,

Kathy Jewell
Administrative Coordinator
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
direct: 360-416-1338
www.skagitcounty.net/planning

-----Original Message-----

From: Kate Stram [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2019 10:52 AM
To: PDS comments <pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: Marblemount Quarry/Kiewit Application

My name is Kate Schellie-Stram,
[REDACTED]
Marblemount WA 98267
[REDACTED]

Re: Notice of Development Application for Quarry
File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047 & PL19-0032
By Kiewit Infrastructure Co., LLC

My husband Lawrence Stram and I have owned 5.6 acres in the Marblegate community since 2009 and it is our full time residence. We just learned about this permit application and proposed Development on March 13, 2019. The application materials were not available on the internet until 3/21/19. We have slow internet in our area and due to the size of the application we do not have sufficient time to review and make appropriate comments prior to the 3/28/19 deadline for comments.

We are requesting an extension of the time for comments for 90 days so we can make an informed response.

I have many questions and concerns about the environmental impact, specifically the impacts on water, air quality, noise, wildlife, vibration and other effects on the stability of the mountain, impact on Rockport Cascade Road (traffic and surface of road) and potential wildfire dangers. I did not see any mention of any requirement for Kiewit to provide an Environmental Impact Study which would seem like an obvious requirement.

I look forward to reviewing the application materials and again request a 90 day extension for comments so that the community may have sufficient time to respond to this potential environmental disaster and severe effect on our quality of life.

Thank you,
Sincerely,
Kate Schellie-Stram

Sent from my iPad

From: [Kate Stram](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Marblemount Quarry/Kiewit Application
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 10:51:37 AM

My name is Kate Schellie-Stram,

[REDACTED]
Marblemount WA 98267
[REDACTED]

Re: Notice of Development Application for Quarry
File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047 & PL19-0032
By Kiewit Infrastructure Co., LLC

My husband Lawrence Stram and I have owned 5.6 acres in the Marblegate community since 2009 and it is our full time residence. We just learned about this permit application and proposed Development on March 13, 2019. The application materials were not available on the internet until 3/21/19. We have slow internet in our area and due to the size of the application we do not have sufficient time to review and make appropriate comments prior to the 3/28/19 deadline for comments.

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I look forward to reviewing the application materials and again request a 90 day extension for comments so that the community may have sufficient time to respond to this potential environmental disaster and severe effect on our quality of life.

Thank you,
Sincerely,
Kate Schellie-Stram

Sent from my iPad

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Mari Schramm
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Dear John Cooper & Planning Commission,

I am writing to express my concerns with the proposed development of the Marblemount Quarry. I have lived in the upper Skagit valley for 2 years, and have recently moved to a new place in Marblemount. I love where I live due to the beautiful, peaceful mountains that form the basis of my personal, professional, spiritual, and recreational life. I am very concerned with the brevity and incomprehensive nature of their environmental assessment. Most personally, I am very concerned with the amount of noise involved in the operation - with all the 75 trucks plus service vehicles, blasting, and logging equipment. The moose will significantly impact the tourism of this National Park gateway community. I am concerned that it will impact hiking, biking, and eagle watching, not to mention the impact on wildlife. These parcels and the surrounding forest are sensitive environment for many animals including Paragrin Falcons, fishers, and wolves. Beyond the noise, I am concerned the impact on water, air quality, and fire danger. We do not have the water, emergency services, or roads to accommodate a project of this nature.

Mostly, I am VERY frustrated by the lack of public outreach and secretive, insidious nature of Kiewit's development. For all of these reasons - impact to tourism, locals, wildlife, environment, and local services - I hope you delay and ultimately deny this permit.

Thank you,

Mari Schramm

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 8:11:59 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Thom Schroeder
[REDACTED]

City : Puyallup
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : I am writing in opposition to the proposed Kiewit quarry in Marblemount. Marblemount represents the western (and significantly more traveled) gateway to North Cascades National Park. Expanding the quarry to 80 acres will leave visitors to the park with a negative impression. Additionally, the risk of damage by sediment and runoff that finds its way to the Skagit River and Puget Sound is too significant to offset the projected yields the quarry may produce. Have no lessons been learned from the town of Holden?

From Host Address: 66.172.113.153

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 2:23:44 PM



Upper Skagit Indian Tribe
25944 Community Plaza Way,
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284
Phone (360) 854-7090 Fax (360) 854-7042

RECEIVED
MAR 29 2019
SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

March 25, 2019

John Cooper, Planner/Geologist
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 336-9410

RE: Kiewit Infrastructure Co., LLC, File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070 & PL19-0032

Dear Mr. Cooper:

The federally recognized Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, signatory to the 1855 Treaty of Point Elliot with the United States, submits the following comments in opposition to the proposed expansion of the Kiewit Infrastructure Co., LLC quarry near Marblemount, on the Skagit River.

The proposed project in its entirety is located within the historical use and occupation area of the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe (hereafter "Tribe") and in fact is within visual distance of recorded archaeological and cultural sites connected to the Tribe. This area of the Skagit was home to a major historical fishing village for our people for thousands of years, which is supported by decades of documented anthropological and archeological research. The Tribe wishes that our remaining ancestor's burial sites in the area are not subject to this type of disturbance. The proposed project would have direct and broader indirect negative impacts to important cultural and natural resources that are highly valued by the Tribe. This culturally sensitive locale is not appropriate for this type and scale of project.

Currently, the Tribe's treaty rights are severely diminished through land use practices like logging, road building and mining. The extent of the diminishment that would be caused by the proposed quarry expansion is unknown. The filed Biological Assessment and Cultural Resource review documents are not adequate to address the scope and potential of the project to directly and cumulatively impact treaty rights, and does not address cultural impacts to the Tribe. The Tribe believes that the only way to gain a comprehensive understanding of the scope of impacts to natural resources and treaty rights is to require an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) and a more thorough cultural resources study.

For instance, the proposed 100-year permit would allow an exceedingly long duration over which visual and ecosystem impacts could occur. At minimum, the permit should require in-

kind mitigation measures to be implemented on specific disturbed areas as quickly as possible after mining operation ceases. The feasibility for a detailed schedule that indicates the timing each specific area would be reclaimed should be explored. This is true across the entire project area, but particularly where large trees will be removed, as it will take decades after replanting for trees to reach maturity and begin to provide a fuller suite of ecosystem and landscape functions. As such, it may be most appropriate to prioritize those areas capable of supporting mature forest stands for early reclamation. It is important to recognize that regardless of current conditions (e.g. tree maturity), the great duration of the proposed permit would result in a perpetual impact against natural plant community succession. The project should more fully describe the current condition of on-site vegetation, the potential for mature forest and other successional plant communities as assessed from local condition (e.g. soil depth, slope, etc), and a plan that thoroughly avoids or mitigates long-term perpetual disturbances.

Another example of the need for more thorough assessment is the proposal to mitigate buffer impacts at a 1:1 ratio. As described in the previous paragraph, there is a temporal loss associated with disturbance to mature trees and plant communities. A mitigation ratio greater than 1:1 should be required if large trees (e.g. greater than 6" diameter-at-breast-height) are removed. The proposal does not adequately describe the current condition of plant communities on site, thus proposed impacts are difficult to assess. Moreover, it is not clear that the proposed mitigation would adequately achieve a 1:1 ratio. Mitigation could be inadequate if the habitat enhancement area already provides a level of ecosystem function (e.g. established native plants, shade, productivity, etc.), thus limiting potential gain from enhancement. Mitigation shortcoming would be particularly likely if the level of impact from vegetation removal along access road buffers is severe (e.g. loss of large trees, completely de-vegetated surfaces, altered local drainage patterns, etc.). Thus, more information is required to assess the specific level of disturbance and the potential benefit of the proposed mitigation. The long period over which the project seeks approval further heightens the importance of conducting a complete assessment that considers the true temporal impacts.

Apart from specific concerns over proposed actions, the Tribe believes the great magnitude and duration of impact caused by the quarry expansion would result in irreparable harm to our culture and treaty reserved rights, which could not be mitigated. The Tribe urges that the expansion request be denied.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Schuyler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Scott Schuyler, Natural Resources Policy
Upper Skagit Indian Tribe

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 7:55 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Anne Schwartz
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, PL 19-0032, PL 19-0033,0046, 0046

Comments : Attention: Skagit County Planning Department March 28, 2019

We are writing to express our concerns and request additional information regarding the impacts from the proposed mining operation.

My husband, Michael Brondi, and I have lived and operated a commercial farm in Rockport for 40 years. We live, along with 9 other adjacent households, on the corner of State Route 530 and the Rockport Cascade Road. My husband and I have served as Emergency Medical Technicians and volunteer firefighters for the Rockport Fire Department for these same 40 years. Since I am one of the few self-employed volunteers in our district, I have had dozens of opportunities to respond to medical emergencies and motor vehicle accidents during the workday, often by myself. We are acutely aware of the risks to people, wildlife and pets from increased traffic, which we see regularly as many travelers avoid SR 20 when coming from the south, using SR 530 to access the Upper Skagit and points east.

I appreciate the extensive studies prepared in the planning of this project. I have reviewed the traffic impact analysis and I have difficulty understanding all of the details, as well as questioning the accuracy of reported collisions with wildlife, particularly the elk that regularly move across SR 530 (east-west) between the Rockport Cascade Road and SR 20. It would be very helpful to have the opportunity to address our questions in the report with a traffic specialist in a public forum. We could offer the Rockport Fire Hall as a meeting place. Our meeting room is wheel chair accessible.

We have concerns about the scope of this project and the impact from the noise. The blasting and explosions will be heard for many miles across the valley. The truck traffic at our corner will have a major impact on the quality of our lives. We want to ensure that drivers do not use their compression brakes. In winter, with short daylight hours, visibility is greatly reduced on these roads, snow and ice regularly make our roads among the most treacherous in Skagit County. Because of our remote eastern location, we are often the last roads to be plowed and the Rockport Cascade Road especially had very little snow removal this past winter and was snow and ice covered far longer than any other roads in the county, including SR 20 and 530. This road is largely in the shade from forest, and especially during winter. The lower Skagit may be blooming flowers, but we may still have snow and ice on the ground or fresh snow well into spring. Vehicles attempting to turn left from SR 530 to SR 20 regularly lose traction, slip out of control, and can't make that left turn. Many drivers will back down the hill, turn right instead, and then make a U-turn to successfully head west on SR 20. That is a common occurrence that drivers see and do by necessity.

We will be subjected to all the noise of every truck slowing down to turn the corner, and then accelerating to travel speed. After the Oso slide, we experienced a huge uptick in large truck traffic coming out of Darrington to access I-5 through Rockport. We appreciated that emergency situation, but this proposal will have a much

higher use rate, with much higher frequency, year-round, day after day.
We also have issues with weekend operations creating much higher use with so much seasonal weekend and holiday traffic for travelers using SR 530 to access the North Cascades Mountain Pass. We are concerned that the amount of proposed truck traffic will greatly impact our own ability to walk or run with our dogs, ride our horses or simply enjoy a late afternoon walk in what had been a rural, quiet neighborhood with very little traffic. This section of the Rockport Cascade Road offers immediate access to local trails which we use almost daily. We live in a beautiful place and we get out and use this road regularly. Those quality of life benefits of choosing to live in a rural place will be eliminated 6 days a week. That is hugely discouraging. We believe this to a recognized value as stated in our County's Comprehensive plan. We would like to have the opportunity to discuss this and there for request an extension to this permitting process.

We're asking for an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

We're asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment.

We would like to see the operational hours reduced to 5 days per week, 10 hours/day during long daylight hours and 8 hours per day during reduced daylight hours in winter, and reduced additionally during hazardous road conditions.

We have concerns that the road bed of the Rockport Cascade Road may not be suitable for that level of heavy truck traffic and will disintegrate more quickly. We did not see any mention of mitigation to roadbeds and premature road degradation mentioned in the Traffic Analysis report.

We have additional concerns about the impact to water quality, and management capacity, especially in the long run and especially under unusual weather events. Will there be ongoing observations, evaluations and mitigation during extreme weather events? Access is very limited or cut off entirely during floods, high snowfall and rapid melting during "pineapple express" or "Atmospheric River" events.

It also seems unreasonable to grant a permit for 100 years with no process to monitor and remediate unforeseen consequences to these actions. We recommend some kind of updated evaluation process based on a rock removal schedule.

We do appreciate the comprehensive planning and preparation that goes into filing these land use permits. And though it is useful to review these documents, the technical nature of these reports does make it challenging as a lay person to fully understand whether preparation and prevention measures will adequately address all current and future scenarios.

We would appreciate the opportunity to ask questions and clarify our concerns in a public meeting.
Respectfully submitted,

Anne Schwartz
Blue Heron Farm and Nursery

[REDACTED]

Rockport, WA 98283

[REDACTED]

From Host Address: 50.34.215.204

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 7:53:21 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 12:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Janis D. Schweitzer
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL 19-0032 and PL 19-0033, 0046, BP 19-0070

Comments : RE: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

How would the mining (6 am to 6 pm, Mon - Sat) and in particular the hauling of this rock (260 mining trips in & out of the quarry each day) affect the Illabot Creek Conservation Area? Its 262 acres was labeled "Wild & Scenic" & was acquired by The Nature Conservancy in 2014. In 2017 it was one of nine properties belonging to TNC (totaling 1,024 acres), which they gave to the Skagit Land Trust in 2017. It has no public access, neither does its easement. The proposed hauling is likely to go down Hwy 20, but whether it does or is routed down the south side of the river along the Rockport-Cascade Rd, wouldn't the noise & vibration disturb the wildlife living in this 262.02 acres? According to the SVH, "the vibrations & traffic are not expected to impact residences along the Rockport Cascade Road", but I do not see wildlife mentioned, particularly wildlife living within the Conservation Area.

Thank you for the attention I believe you will give my question.

From Host Address: 104.235.161.227

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 12:20:50 PM

John Cooper

From: Janis Schweitzer [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 12:30 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Proposed Rock Quarry in Marblemount

I have submitted my question to the Skagit County Dept. for Planning & Permits but was advised to send you a copy also, which I have pasted below:
(Thank you for any time you may invest to help answer my question, ~Janis

RE: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

How would the mining (6 am to 6 pm, Mon - Sat) and in particular the hauling of this rock (260 mining trips in & out of the quarry each day) affect the Illabot Creek Conservation Area? Its 262 acres was labeled "Wild & Scenic" & was acquired by The Nature Conservancy in 2014. In 2017 it was one of nine properties belonging to TNC (totaling 1,024 acres), which they gave to the Skagit Land Trust in 2017. It has no public access, neither does its easement. The proposed hauling is likely to go down Hwy 20, but whether it does or is routed down the south side of the river along the Rockport-Cascade Rd, wouldn't the noise & vibration disturb the wildlife living in this 262.02 acres? According the the SVH, "the vibrations & traffic are not expected to impact residences along the Rockport Cascade Road", but I do not see wildlife mentioned, particularly wildlife living within the Conservation Area.

Thank you for the attention I believe you will give my question.

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 11:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Betty Seguin
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I oppose this operation. The Skagit is a designated Wild & Scenic River, in a relatively pristine part of our county and state adjacent to North Cascades National Park. A large rock quarry operation would adversely affect the river, the vegetation, the wildlife, the air quality of this area. Traffic from many large trucks would degrade the roads (primarily SR 20). Current high value of the area for recreation and tourism would thus be reduced. This area is also the home to a number of families and individuals who moved there seeking a simple, quiet lifestyle in a place of natural beauty. Their lives would be negatively impacted and property values would decrease if this proposed project became reality. Please address the concerns of the many citizens affected by this operation, and do not allow it to take place. Thank you.

From Host Address: 66.235.38.107

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 11:39:22 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Linda Seifried
[REDACTED]

City : Sidney Center
State : NY
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount quarry

Comments : It has just come to my attention that the County is proposing to expand the quarry on Rockport Cascade Road.

I am writing as a 20-year visitor to Marblemount. We come every summer to visit our daughter who worked until recently as a Park Ranger for NOCA. We stay for 8-19 days in the Marblemount area and enjoy the beauty of the valley and the National Park. We bike the highway the present quarry is on - a peaceful road along the river. We canoe down the Skagit, loving the crystal-clear water. We care about the salmon runs and the ecological health of the river.

First of all - why is this comment period SO SHORT? There is not adequate time for the public to be informed and to respond. PLEASE CONSIDER EXTENDING THE COMMENT PERIOD.

I'm sure the County is well aware of the huge amount of tourism associated with this area. Traffic on weekends is non-stop on Rte 20, some heading for the Marblemount office of NOCA and some going on to the Methow. Have you considered the way this will be negatively affected by the huge amount of truck traffic, should a quarry expansion of this size ever go forward?

I can assure you, [being familiar with how truck traffic from fracking has impacted traffic here in my area] that it is a headache. At a certain point, it's just not worth the hassle - and the actual DANGER OF MANY BIG TRUCKS on highways the size of 20 cannot be over-emphasized.

Are you prepared for the degradation of your highways and strain on the bridges over the Skagit? Do some research on how PA counties had to seek compensation from the frackers to rebuild their highways.

Dust from this operation is inevitable, and is likely to have a very negative, ongoing effect on life - all life - human, animal, vegetation, and especially the salmon who spawn in the river. Who will recompense residents for all this? Is there something in the contract with the quarry that will assure this?

I understand that fuel and blasting material will be onsite. considering the ongoing dryness, this seems like a dangerous idea.

Forest fires now occur on the west side of the Cascades - in fact, the very ridge where the quarry is burned. Forest fires are a new menace that the County needs to address. Tragic loss of live occurs when there is fire and only a few roads to escape on, as we just witnessed in CA.

There is more to be concerned about, but for now, I have two requests:

- Provide an extension to this comment period, and publicize this better for the community
- Consider the degradation to your valuable natural resource - the incredibly beautiful, rural and idyllic Upper Skagit Valley, and don't ruin a good thing.

Respectfully,
Linda Seifried

From Host Address: 172.76.227.123

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 8:16:27 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 9:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Gustav Seixas
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure quarry operations near Marblemount

Comments : Dear Skagit County Planning and Development department,

I live in Mount Vernon and spend many weekends in Marblemount with my extended family, who live on the north side of town. The quarry proposal has the potential to greatly negatively affect our quality of life and our local economy, which is primarily built on tourism. Therefore I have grave concerns about the quarry project as it has been presented in the proposal.

1. The proposal calls for a modification of the mineral overlay. I am concerned about the precedent this sets with regard to the county's comprehensive plan. The mineral overlay should be based on a zoning plan that accounts for the various priorities set by the residents of the county, not adjusted for the convenience of individual landowners. This sets a dangerous precedent.
2. The proposal mentions the area is sparsely populated. This may be technically true when compared to towns farther down valley; however, this statement diminishes the real effects the quarry proposal will have on the very real residents of the Rockport-Cascade Road.
3. Storage of explosives---I have concerns about this given the increasing reality of wildfires and dangerously dry conditions on the west side of the Cascades. The proponent did not adequately mitigate for this hazard.
4. While I am not aware of fish streams in the site of the proposed operations, the proximity of Illabot Creek and the Cascade River bring up some questions that were not adequately addressed. For example, would there be deleterious effects on fish from the noise of blasting of such a large quarry? Would blasting be limited to certain seasons so as to not disturb spawning fish? What about important rearing times. What does the science on this topic say? Illabot Creek and the Cascade River are critical habitat areas.
5. Perhaps most importantly, I do not feel like I have had enough time to go over the proposal in sufficient detail. I urge you to extend the comment period.

Thank you for your time.

Gus Seixas

From Host Address: 73.221.165.36

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 9:22:31 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:50 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jacqueline Sibi
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Kewitt infrastructure Quarry Marblemount

Comments : I need more time to review and comment. Comments should be extended to 90 days. This is 100 year permit?!? I've just become aware of the massive project taking place on the range behind my home! I object to the project on many levels. We need more time to review the plans and application. The county should take more time to consider the massive, negative human, environmental, and economic impacts. This project does not align with protecting the Skagit as a wild and scenic river, have u really considered the threat to our delicate eco system here? Salmon? The many at risk species in the area? From what I see so far this company has had inaccurate, biased, assessment done and has no care for the pristine area they are proposing to destroy.

From Host Address: 72.107.184.137

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 8:47:36 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 9:00 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jacqueline Sibi
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Kewitt Quarry MarbleMount

Comments : I demand a thorough independent Environmental Impact Study be done for the area including water, air, animals, plants, and the river! I am very concerned about potential ground water contamination and therefore river contamination. Also are u aware of how much rain falls in Marblemount? Everything washes downstream to river one way or another. I am concerned about dust, chemicals, the proposed way to manage water and waste, the fact they do not acknowledge the sensitive and endangered species in the area!

From Host Address: 72.107.184.137

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 8:55:03 AM

From: [Jacqueline Sibi](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: PL19-0033 Marblemont Quarry
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 11:05:49 PM

Jacqueline Sibi March 25, 2019

[REDACTED]
Marblemont, WA 98267
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

RE: Kewitt Infrastructure Marblemont Quarry #PL19-0033

My name is Jacqueline Sibi, I am writing on behalf of me and my four young children. I am writing to express my deep concern and objection about the Hewitt Infrastructure Marblemont Quarry, permit # PL19-0033. We live with our four children at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in Marblemont. We moved here two years ago after my parents purchased the home to do a rent to own agreement with us. This project proposes to do mining of the mountain range behind my home and many of my neighbors homes.

First of all the comment period needs to be extended, I would like to request 90 days.

The fact that this project is an extreme expansion on the previous quarry and a totally new business only became apparent to me on March 17th. The details of the project and permit application was only posted to the county site it seems at the end of last week around March 22nd. It seems our neighborhood has only been given less than a week to go through over 200 pages of plans for a permit that is for 100 years. 100 years!?!

Second I demand an Environmental Impact Study be done and that assessments be done by contractors not employed by Heiwit.

Zoning

Why is **this land is zoned for mining when it is literally backing up to the banks of the Skagit River, a wild and scenic river. It is also in between Illabot which was a recent investment to restore Salmon and Jordan creek equally important.**

Human Impact

This area is also right in the middle of a large settlement of people including many houses on Rockport Cascade, across the road from Marblegate community and close to Willow lane, powerlane road, Pandora circle communities(taxpayers). Most of Marblemont's residents live within 2 miles of the site. This project proposes to use explosives and does not have proper safety security plans laid out for such work. It also doesn't make sense to allow zoning and permitting of this type of mining so close to homes.

Myself and many of my neighbors homes are right at the base of the mountain they propose to blast away. How will you guarantee the safety of or homes and lives? This area is more vulnerable to fire every year this project increases the fire hazard/risk on many levels.

This will decrease property values for the Marblemount area and all areas along the trucking routes. This will also decrease the amount of property tax that is paid to the county.

This projects goes against almost every point in the section titled Respect Property Rights of the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan.

I babysit at my home for two different families. There is another nanny working closer to the site who also provides care for a couple families. (Can I mention babies, sleep, farm animals and loud explosions don't mix well) There has been about two years of work to start a daycare up here and both potential sites were on this road with this site in their backyard.

This is work we were doing for the community to try to make this area more sustainable for the families that live and work up here at places like the Parks, Seattle City Light, and local businesses.

This plan prioritizes the profits of a 9 billion dollar company over the taxpayers who really invest in this area, at the detriment of one of the greatest resources the county has, the Skagit River and surrounding recreation/living areas. This is not a local company they have no plans to invest in our infrastructure despite the project name and I believe the economic consequences from lost tourism will be felt through the valley.

Noise Pollution

This type of mining will be extremely intrusive and destructive to the nature of the quiet environment up here. Sounds echo across the valley and can be heard from far away.

I am concerned about the constant noise from not only blasting but the proposed generator use, traffic, truck exhaust, and jake breaks.

They propose 12 hour working days and 24 hours for maintenance. They propose working 6 days a week? Including Fridays and Saturdays during heavy

tourist traffic times? This is not acceptable. Maintenance of heavy machinery is not a quiet process, this project is very invasive and destructive.

Skagit upriver is an area people come to have peace and quiet, sensitive and vulnerable populations make their home and find refuge here. **In the immediate area of the site there are families, farms, vets, and a wounded warriors refuge. This is a population that is particularly sensitive to exposures and loud noises.**

Water

The population out here rely on wells, there is no city water to rely on should anything happen to the ground water. **Any pollution, accidental spills, chemicals will leach its way into the aquifer and then our wells and then the river. The containment and waste practices laid out are not sufficient to protect these important waters.** The plan for handling their waste water is not sufficient. Will the catchment ponds be lined? What about rains washing chemicals down to streams do you know how much it rains here?

What about contaminated water evaporation? There is almost always a constant mist in the air.

Roads

School buses make routes 4 times a day and have multiple stops on Rockport Cascade during weekdays. Twice for the Elementary at around 6 am and again at 4pm. Twice for the preschool bus at 8:30 am and 1:30 pm. These are all within the proposed high volume trucking hours of huge slabs of rock which the school buses will have to share the road with. How easy is it to stop a truck carrying a ton or more of rock? **The intersection at Rockport cascade is a low visibility area where a 50 mph runs right up to the intersection and has a dangerous turn for big trucks.**

They propose 75 trucks per day. The traffic congestion on roads will be felt from here to sedro woolley neither highway 20 nor 530 built for that heavy traffic. The intersection at Rockport cascade and the 20/530 intersection are very dangerous.

Rockport Cascade Rd is an important path for commuters and human traffic.

Tourists on bikes, foot, and in collector car parades come in constant streams down the road during the summer. It is preferred because it is a safer, quieter route than 20 to get to the North Cascade National Park.

There is no shoulder on Rockport Cascade making it very dangerous to add such big trucks and heavy traffic load. The speed limit for traffic on Rockport Cascade not appropriate for large trucks, there is constant animal and human foot/bike traffic using the road causing regular unexpected stops and slow downs for cars. These big rigs cannot negotiate these sensitive areas safely.

Environmental Risk

There needs to be an Environmental Impact study done. The assessments submitted by the company and their contractors point to a conflict of interest and assessment reports written for the benefit of the company. Their biologist saw little signs of animal presence? How is that even possible? I would like a more neutral third party(not contracted by the company) to do the assessments.

This proposed plan does not align with keeping the Skagit wild and scenic. Their plan does not acknowledge the constant flow of water here from heavy rains and water evaporation. They need to have much stronger safeguards and procedures in place to prevent contamination of the very important river and surrounding creeks.

Concern for the large, diverse population of animals including at risk and endangered species. Eagles are recovering their population in this area of the skagit is hunting and nesting grounds for populations that tourists come from all over to see. Eagles do not like explosive sounds and it could completely eliminate the birds from this area. The big eddy of the skagit and all the waters that run to it are necessary for Salmon, this project puts both at risk.

There is a collard Wolf and Fisher that come to the area. I have seen a Pileated woodpecker pair and a lynx or bobcat on my property. I hear the hooting of owls nightly and calls of the coyotes often.

The CO2 emission from the trucks and dust from blasting and road building will be extreme. How will this affect our air quality? Our area is filled with plants and species sensitive to air quality such as Old Man's beard which grows on all the trees and only in areas with pristine, clean air.

This area has already been compromised by previous logging, mining, and wildfire. How does this company propose to work through the summer during the hours proposed without putting our area at risk for fires? **There needs to be better fire hazard control and safe gaurd procedures in place as this ecosystem on the banks of the Skagit is very sensitive and vulnerable.**

There needs to be a more detailed comprehensive emergency response plan and procedures in place.

The reclamation plan is not sufficient it is lacking in useful detail and what they do propose will do nothing for reclaiming the land and allowing native species to thrive.

Waiting 100 years for the company to start the process of reclamation of the land is too long.

Economic

The taxpayers will be left to foot the bill for the extra wear and tear to our roads throughout the valley.

Much of our area and local economy through the valley relies on tourism. There is a lot of farm and eco tourism that takes place in the area. Property owners rent out air bnb, camp sites, and profit in other ways from the flow of tourists. I have met bicyclists from around the world riding down my road. The noise, traffic, and environmental pollution puts all of this at risk.

I have heard the argument that this project will provide jobs and income. However the company only lays out 23 employees for this large plan. It seems they underestimate the trucks and employees required. However if there current plan for employment is true I would guess the loss of tourist income would far outweigh the benefits of any jobs the company temporarily employs. From what I see they are not guaranteeing permanent positions for anyone. Despite a need for economic stimulus upriver this is not the solution it will only make it worse for people who are trying to live out their lives here.

General Opposition

This is a complete diversion from the previous use. From what I understand Hewitt just purchased this land and is a new business proposing to operate. Why are they not subject to the strict restriction put on new development and businesses?

There are other places this rock can be sourced, we believe Kewitt is only interested in this property so they can have higher profits not having to purchase from a contractor or other company.

Kiewit is a wealthy company with an unimpressive environmental record. Their history demonstrates only a care for profit not the communities or environments they work in. Safe guards need to be put in place to prevent them from destroying our area. Giving a company like this a 100 year permit is not wise given our current environmental and climate change crisis taking place.

This plan does NOT align with the Skagit Valley Comprehensive Plan. From Looking at page 16 and 17 alone . Please refer to this section for guidance.

“Protect and conserve the environment and ecologically sensitive areas, and preclude development and land uses which are incompatible with critical areas”

The Skagit river is a National wild and scenic river which is described on rivers.gov as “the largest and most biologically important river draining to the Puget Sound. This property stretches between to vital fish bearing streams that lead to the Skagit Illabot and

Jordan.

The sections addressing Respect Property Rights has this key guidance with my comments in ():

“Planning, land use regulations and zoning protect individual and community rights in the following ways:

- By avoiding nuisances through ensuring against incompatible neighboring land uses; *(This situation is an incompatible land use. A 100 year blast mining permit alongside protected, important waters, species, and farming/rural communities that rely on tourism is not compatible.)*
- By balancing public and private responsibilities that may have conflicting interests; *(Keiwi and the taxpaying public that lives in the area have conflicting interests. They intend to literally blow apart a mountain, hauling tons of rocks down our roads, ruin a sensitive eco system gain their profits and leave. The individuals that own these homes intend to invest in this area for generations.)*
- By providing predictability that enhances the value of private property; *(This would drastically decrease property values of homes like ours that have been invested in substantially)*
- By incorporating trends of populations growth and resource availability to provide necessary public facilities; *(We do not have the proper road maintenance, road design, shoulders, basic infrastructure, emergency services to support this project.)*
- By providing codes, ordinances and regulations that organize a community's physical layout; *(The layout of this zoning doesn't work with the layout of the residential homes and the vicinity to important natural resources of the Rivers and creeks. It puts the homes at the base of this mountain at risk.)*
- By protecting and conserving the natural resources that provide us with clean air and water; *(Introducing all the emissions from diesel trucks, removing the trees, introducing chemical contaminants to the environment close to key waterways for the entire Puget Sound region is not in alignment with this)*

Marblemount does not have the emergency response infrastructure to support a project of this size and the potential accidents that could result. The company should be willing to invest in our emergency response infrastructure if they propose to do business up here. We are lucky to even get a delayed response from the sheriff or volunteer departments. People up here have accepted we are on our own and have to be self sufficient up here but with such a big, high risk operation this will not be acceptable.

Effects on my Family and Home

Moving here was a fulfillment of a life dream. It is our first and last home that we hope to pass to our children. We have done what we can to preserve the forest and be good stewards of the land and believe opposing this permit is part of our responsibility to the land we love. We moved to this area to have a peaceful, quiet, self sufficient life in the mountains most everyone who chooses to live or visit here is seeking that same peace and quiet. We have invested almost \$70,000 making improvements to our home and property since its purchase only to see its value be put at risk by this project.

My four year old son has Down Syndrome and multiple health issues that would be negatively affected by this project. He is stimulus/noise sensitive, has airway/breathing issues, and a heart condition.

This project will make daily life more difficult for us on many levels. The county needs to weigh heavily the risks and benefits of this project. It does not seem to fit with any of the vision or plan for Skagit valley, the river, and its natural resources. It is not wanted by anyone in our neighbourhood and most of the population of Marblemount. It definitely won't be welcomed by the tourists who come to this area for a taste of the wild. We ask that you please value the land, river, and taxpayers over this proposed project that only benefits a corporation.

Thank you for your careful consideration of my comments and the negative impacts this project will have on our beloved North Cascades!

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Sibi

Please consider supporting my favorite non-profit
Ivory Coast Medical Relief Team
www.icmrt.org

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 11:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jacqueline Sibiq
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Keiwit Infrastructure Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again, I am writing to express my deep concern and objection about the Hewit Infrastructure Marblemount Quarry, permit # PL19-0033. We live with our four children at [REDACTED] in Marblemount. We moved here two years ago after my parents purchased the home to do a rent to own agreement with us. This project proposes to do mining of the mountain range behind my home and many of my neighbors homes.

First of all the comment period needs to be extended, I would like to request 90 days. The fact that this project is an extreme expansion on the previous quarry and a totally new business only became apparent to me on March 17th. The details of the project and permit application was only posted to the county site it seems at the end of last week around March 22nd. It seems our neighborhood has only been given less than a week to go through over 200 pages of plans for a permit that is for 100 years. 100 years!?!

Second I demand an Environmental Impact Study be done and that assessments be done by contractors not employed by Heiwit.

Zoning

Why is this land is zoned for mining when it is literally backing up to the banks of the Skagit River, a wild and scenic river. It is also in between Illabot which was a recent investment to restore Salmon and Jordan creek equally important.

Human Impact

This area is also right in the middle of a large settlement of people including many houses on Rockport Cascade, across the road from Marblegate community and close to Willow lane, powerlane road, Pandora circle communities(taxpayers). Most of Marblemount's residents live within 2 miles of the site. This project proposes to use explosives and does not have proper safety security plans laid out for such work. It also doesn't make sense to allow zoning and permitting of this type of mining so close to homes. Myself and many of my neighbors homes are right at the base of the mountain they propose to blast away. How will you guarantee the safety of or homes and lives? This area is more vulnerable to fire every year this project increases the fire hazard/risk on many levels.

This will decrease property values for the Marblemount area and all areas along the trucking routes. This will also decrease the amount of property tax that is paid to the county.

This projects goes against almost every point in the section titled Respect Property Rights of the Skagit County

Comprehensive Plan.

I babysit at my home for two different families. There is another nanny working closer to the site who also provides care for a couple families. (Can I mention babies, sleep, farm animals and loud explosions don't mix well) There has been about two years of work to start a daycare up here and both potential sites were on this road with this site in their backyard.

This is work we were doing for the community to try to make this area more sustainable for the families that live and work up here at places like the Parks, Seattle City Light, and local businesses.

This plan prioritizes the profits of a 9 billion dollar company over the taxpayers who really invest in this area, at the detriment of one of the greatest resources the county has, the Skagit River and surrounding recreation/living areas. This is not a local company they have no plans to invest in our infrastructure despite the project name and I believe the economic consequences from lost tourism will be felt through the valley.

Noise Pollution

This type of mining will be extremely intrusive and destructive to the nature of the quiet environment up here. Sounds echo across the valley and can be heard from far away.

I am concerned about the constant noise from not only blasting but the proposed generator use, traffic, truck exhaust, and jake breaks.

They propose 12 hour working days and 24 hours for maintenance. They propose working 6 days a week? Including Fridays and Saturdays during heavy tourist traffic times? This is not acceptable. Maintenance of heavy machinery is not a quiet process, this project is very invasive and destructive.

Skagit upriver is an area people come to have peace and quiet, sensitive and vulnerable populations make their home and find refuge here. In the immediate area of the site there are families, farms, vets, and a wounded warriors refuge. This is a population that is particularly sensitive to explosives and loud noises.

Water

The population out here rely on wells, there is no city water to rely on should anything happen to the ground water. Any pollution, accidental spills, chemicals will leach its way into the aquifer and then our wells and then the river. The containment and waste practices laid out are not sufficient to protect these important waters. The plan for handling their waste water is not sufficient. Will the catchment ponds be lined? What about rains washing chemicals down to streams do you know how much it rains here? What about contaminated water evaporation? There is almost always a constant mist in the air.

Roads

School buses make routes 4 times a day and have multiple stops on Rockport Cascade during weekdays. Twice for the Elementary at around 6 am and again at 4pm. Twice for the preschool bus at 8:30 am and 1:30 pm. These are all within the proposed high volume trucking hours of huge slabs of rock which the school buses will have to share the road with. How easy is it to stop a truck carrying a ton or more of rock? The intersection at Rockport cascade is a low visibility area where a 50 mph runs right up to the intersection and has a dangerous turn for big trucks.

They propose 75 trucks per day. The traffic congestion on roads will be felt from here to Sedro Woolley neither highway 20 nor 530 built for that heavy traffic. The intersection at Rockport cascade and the 20/530 intersection are very dangerous.

Rockport Cascade Rd is an important path for commuters and human traffic. Tourists on bikes, foot, and in collector car parades come in constant streams down the road during the summer. It is preferred because it is a safer, quieter route than 20 to get to the North Cascade National Park.

There is no shoulder on Rockport Cascade making it very dangerous to add such big trucks and heavy traffic load. The speed limit for traffic on Rockport Cascade not appropriate for large trucks, there is constant animal and human foot/bike traffic using the road causing regular unexpected stops and slow downs for cars. These big rigs cannot negotiate these sensitive areas safely.

From Host Address: 72.106.54.232

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 11:09:14 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 11:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jacqueline Sibiq
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Keiwi Infrastructure Marblemount Quarry
Comments : General Opposition

This is a complete diversion from the previous use. From what I understand Hewitt just purchased this land and is a new business proposing to operate. Why are they not subject to the strict restriction put on new development and businesses?

There are other places this rock can be sourced, we believe Kewitt is only interested in this property so they can have higher profits not having to purchase from a contractor or other company.

Kiewit is a wealthy company with an unimpressive environmental record. Their history demonstrates only a care for profit not the communities or environments they work in. Safe guards need to be put in place to prevent them from destroying our area. Giving a company like this a 100 year permit is not wise given our current environmental and climate change crisis taking place.

This plan does NOT align with the Skagit Valley Comprehensive Plan. From Looking at page 16 and 17 alone . Please refer to this section for guidance.

“Protect and conserve the environment and ecologically sensitive areas, and preclude development and land uses which are incompatible with critical areas” The Skagit river is a National wild and scenic river which is described on rivers.gov as “the largest and most biologically important river draining to the Puget Sound. This property stretches between to vital fish bearing streams that lead to the Skagit Illabot and Jordan.

The sections addressing Respect Property Rights has this key guidance with my comments in ():

“Planning, land use regulations and zoning protect individual and community rights in the following ways:

By avoiding nuisances through ensuring against incompatible neighboring land uses;

(This situation is an incompatible land use. A 100 year blast mining permit alongside protected, important waters, species, and farming/rural communities that rely on tourism is not compatible.)

By balancing public and private responsibilities that may have conflicting interests;

(Keiwi and the taxpaying public that lives in the area have conflicting interests. They intend to literally blow apart a mountain, hauling tons of rocks down our roads, ruin a sensitive eco system gain their profits and leave.

The individuals that own these homes intend to invest in this area for generations.)

By providing predictability that enhances the value of private property;

(This would drastically decrease property values of homes like ours that have been invested in substantially)

By incorporating trends of populations growth and resource availability to provide necessary public facilities;

(We do not have the proper road maintenance, road design, shoulders, basic infrastructure, emergency services to support this project.)

By providing codes, ordinances and regulations that organize a community's physical layout; (The layout of this zoning doesn't work with the layout of the residential homes and the vicinity to important natural resources of the Rivers and creeks. It puts the homes at the base of this mountain at risk.)

By protecting and conserving the natural resources that provide us with clean air and water; (Introducing all the emissions from diesel trucks, removing the trees, introducing chemical contaminants to the environment close to key waterways for the entire puget sound region is not in alignment with this)

Marblemount does not have the emergency response infrastructure to support a project of this size and the potential accidents that could result. The company should be willing to invest in our emergency response infrastructure if they propose to do business up here. We are lucky to even get a delayed response from the sheriff or volunteer departments. People up here have accepted we are on our own and have to be self sufficient up here but with such a big, high risk operation this will not be acceptable.

Effects on my Family and Home

Moving here was a fulfillment of a life dream. It is our first and last home that we hope to pass to our children. We have done what we can to preserve the forest and be good stewards of the land and believe opposing this permit is part of our responsibility to the land we love. We moved to this area to have a peaceful, quiet, self sufficient life in the mountains most everyone who chooses to live or visit here is seeking that same peace and quiet. We have invested almost \$70,000 making improvements to our home and property since its purchase only to see its value be put at risk by this project.

My four year old son has Down Syndrome and multiple health issues that would be negatively affected by this project. He is stimulus/noise sensitive, has airway/breathing issues, and a heart condition.

This project will make daily life more difficult for us on many levels. The county needs to weigh heavily the risks and benefits of this project. It does not seem to fit with any of the vision or plan for Skagit valley, the river, and its natural resources. It is not wanted by anyone in our neighborhood and most of the population of Marblemount. It definitely won't be welcomed by the tourists who come to this area for a taste of the wild. We ask that you please value the land, river, and taxpayers over this proposed project that only benefits a corporation.

Thank you for your careful consideration of my comments and the negative impacts this project will have on our beloved North Cascades!

From Host Address: 72.106.54.232

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 11:11:39 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 11:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jacqueline Sibiq
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Keiwit Infrastructure Marblemount Quarry

Comments : Again I am writing to Oppose the Marblemount Quarry for the following reasons:

Environmental Risk

There needs to be an Environmental Impact study done. The assessments submitted by the company and their contractors point to a conflict of interest and assessment reports written for the benefit of the company. Their biologist saw little signs of animal presence? How is that even possible? I would like a more neutral third party(not contracted by the company) to do the assessments.

This proposed plan does not align with keeping the Skagit wild and scenic. Their plan does not acknowledge the constant flow of water here from heavy rains and water evaporation. They need to have much stronger safeguards and procedures in place to prevent contamination of the very important river and surrounding creeks.

Concern for the large, diverse population of animals including at risk and endangered species. Eagles are recovering their population in this area of the skagit is hunting and nesting grounds for populations that tourists come from all over to see. Eagles do not like explosive sounds and it could completely eliminate the birds from this area. The big eddy of the skagit and all the waters that run to it are necessary for Salmon, this project puts both at risk.

There is a collard Wolf and Fisher that come to the area. I have seen a Pileated woodpecker pair and a lynx or bobcat on my property. I hear the hooting of owls nightly and calls of the coyotes often.

The CO2 emission from the trucks and dust from blasting and road building will be extreme. How will this affect our air quality? Our area is filled with plants and species sensitive to air quality such as Old Man's beard which grows on all the trees and only in areas with pristine, clean air.

This area has already been compromised by previous logging, mining, and wildfire. How does this company propose to work through the summer during the hours proposed without putting our area at risk for fires? There needs to be better fire hazard control and safe gaurd procedures in place as this ecosystem on the banks of the Skagit is very sensitive and vulnerable.

There needs to be a more detailed comprehensive emergency response plan and procedures in place.

The reclamation plan is not sufficient it is lacking in useful detail and what they do propose will do nothing for reclaiming the land and allowing native species to thrive. Waiting 100 years for the company to start the process of reclamation of the land is too long.

Economic

The taxpayers will be left to foot the bill for the extra wear and tear to our roads throughout the valley.

Much of our area and local economy through the valley relies on tourism. There is a lot of farm and eco tourism that takes place in the area. Property owners rent out air bnb, camp sites, and profit in other ways from the flow of tourists. I have met bicyclists from around the world riding down my road. The noise, traffic, and environmental pollution puts all of this at risk.

I have heard the argument that this project will provide jobs and income. However the company only lays out 23 employees for this large plan. It seems they underestimate the trucks and employees required. However if there current plan for employment is true I would guess the loss of tourist income would far outweigh the benefits of any jobs the company temporarily employs. From what I see they are not guaranteeing permanent positions for anyone. Despite a need for economic stimulus upriver this is not the solution it will only make it worse for people who are trying to live out their lives here.

From Host Address: 72.106.54.232

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 11:11:09 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 5:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Sourakata Sibi
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Keiwi Infrastructure Marblemount Quarry

Comments : This plan prioritizes the profits of a 9 billion dollar company over the taxpayers who really invest in this area, at the detriment of one of the greatest resources the county has, the Skagit River and surrounding recreation/living areas. This is not a local company they have no plans to invest in our infrastructure despite the project name and I believe the economic consequences from lost tourism will be felt through the valley. This is a complete diversion from the previous use. From what I understand Hewitt just purchased this land and this is a new business proposing to operate under a special permit. Why are they not subject to the strict restriction put on new development and businesses?

There are other places this rock can be sourced, we believe Keiwi is only interested in this property so they can have higher profits not having to purchase from a contractor or other company.

Keiwi is a wealthy company with an unimpressive environmental record. Their history demonstrates only a care for profit not the communities or environments they work in. Safe guards need to be put in place to prevent them from destroying our area. Giving a company like this a 100 year permit is not wise given our current environmental and climate change crisis taking place.

There needs to be an Environmental Impact study done. The assessments submitted by the company and their contractors point to a conflict of interest and assessment reports written for the benefit of the company. Their biologist saw little signs of animal presence? How is that even possible? I would like a more neutral third party(not contracted by the company) to do the assessments.

This proposed plan does not align with keeping the Skagit wild and scenic. Their plan does not acknowledge the constant flow of water here from heavy rains and water evaporation. They need to have much stronger safeguards and procedures in place to prevent contamination of the very important river and surrounding creeks.

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There is a collard Wolf and Fisher that come to the area. I have seen a Pileated woodpecker pair and a lynx or bobcat on my property. I hear the hooting of owls nightly and calls of the coyotes often.

The CO2 emission from the trucks and dust from blasting and road building will be extreme. How will this affect our air quality? Our area is filled with plants and species sensitive to air quality such as Old Man's beard

which grows on all the trees and only in areas with pristine, clean air.

This area has already been compromised by previous logging, mining, and wildfire. How does this company propose to work through the summer during the hours proposed without putting our area at risk for fires? There needs to be better fire hazard control and safe guard procedures in place as this ecosystem on the banks of the Skagit is very sensitive and vulnerable.

There needs to be a more detailed comprehensive emergency response plan and procedures in place.

The reclamation plan is not sufficient it is lacking in useful detail and what they do propose will do nothing for reclaiming the land and allowing native species to thrive. Waiting 100 years for the company to start the process of reclamation of the land is too long.

From Host Address: 72.107.188.12

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 5:11:05 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 8:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Margaret Amy Silverman

[REDACTED]
City : Concrete
State : WA

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing today in opposition to the Kiewit Infrastructure's proposed quarry mining and expansion site to be called the Marblemount Quarry.

The reasons for my oppositions are as follows. The Highway 20 infrastructure is weak throughout the winter and very crowded with tourists in the summer at which time, Concrete depends on those dollars for our local economy. The proposed 75 loaded trucks plus the 250 maintenance and logistic trucks arriving and leaving the site each day would add significant congestion and wear and tear to the roads and highway. This is a major gateway to the North Cascades National Park that is already extensively used.

Per the SEPA checklist, Kiewit Infrastructure will store toxic and hazardous chemicals such as those used for fugitive dust control, diesel, petroleum and explosives. It is also noted that geologically hazardous and critical conservation areas occur within the property boundaries.

There is no stated emergency contingent plan and Kiewit Infrastructure will be relying on our already meager resources with Med7 and our volunteer fire department, of which are in short supply. The potential for serious environmental damage should not be understated. For an operation that is projected to last 100 years, accidents will happen. Spills and leaks into these sensitive areas will occur and cause environmental damage.

In solidarity with the adjacent property owners, I also oppose the blasting, destruction of the mountain and the associated noise that these neighborhoods will be forced to endure.

Threatened and endangered species and other wildlife occupying the site and adjacent land will be adversely affected by this development.

In conclusion, I adamantly oppose Kiewit Infrastructure's proposal due to the largest effects to adjacent area(s) that are noise, vibration, aesthetics, transportation, fugitive dust, wildlife disruption and storage of dangerous substances.

This will culminate in adverse effects on the community, environment and ultimately our economy through tourism.

Thank you for your consideration into these matters.

Sincerely,
Margaret A. Silverman

From Host Address: 66.235.39.112

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 8:13:16 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 12:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Lin Skavdahl
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : I lived at 59604 Rockport Cascade Road for twelve and a half years. My former home is located less than a half mile from the land proposed by Kiewet Infrastructure for a large rock mining operation. As a former resident with intimate knowledge about the surrounding lands and roads, I have a few comments.

First, I call to your attention to the smaller mining operation that took place a few years ago. It was a short term project, but nevertheless wreaked havoc on our neighborhood. I imagine when casual observers drive down Rockport Cascade Road, they may not notice our neighborhood. There are over twenty occupied homes along that route and all of us were impacted by the noise, vibration, dust and traffic of the project. During hours of operation, which was only eight hours a day during the Monday through Friday workweek, during daylight hours, not twelve hours, six days a week proposed by Keiwet Infrastructure. Residents of the neighborhood include children, people with serious chronic illnesses, people with critical hearing and visual problems, along with a host of pets and wildlife. All are negatively impacted by the noise, dust and traffic of such a project.

Secondly, the Skagit River, which is federally protected as a Wild and Scenic River, is less than a mile from the mining site. I can't imagine mining would be helpful to the health of the river or protection of the already endangered salmon. I realize Keiwet has looked into the impact on wildlife, but I do not believe an Environmental Impact Study by an independent third party has been completed. This is a critical flaw in the proposal.

Third, Rockport Cascade Road is a popular bicycling route. I frequently waved to numerous local and visiting cyclists as they peddled past my place or as I rode to and from my work place. Recently while visiting a Bellingham bicycling shop, I listened to a retailer describe and point to a map handout, the "Rockport Cascade-HWY 20 Loop". Allowing seventy-five large trucks a day to rumble down a county road dodging bicyclists, neighbors, deer and the occasional black bear, cougar and bobcat, all of which I have seen regularly on the road, is a ridiculous risk to all including the truck drivers.

Lastly, for all the talk I hear from Skagit County officials and their constituents about keeping the upper Skagit River and valley pristine for wildlife including endangered salmon, visitors and residents, I am shocked this proposal process has come this far. We know our climate is changing. We know plant and animal species are dying out. We know the river is in trouble. We know we must stop our unsustainable assaults on the earth and transition to sustainable solutions in order to save human life. Nothing about the Keiwet mining proposal in Marblemount is sustainable.

I urge you to deny this project or at least give it the scientific consideration it deserves.

From Host Address: 73.239.117.34

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 12:15:15 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 1:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : steve skrinde
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro Woolley
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : We're asking for an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided. We're asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

From Host Address: 76.191.116.166

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 1:16:39 PM

John Cooper

From: terri slanetz [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 4:03 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: comment on Marblemount Quarry

I sent this today in on the online form. I hope the comment period is extended and people will have more of a chance to educate and communicate. It seems much too rushed with many of us just hearing of this days ago.

Also is there going to be an EIR on this project?

Thank you. Terri

Skagit County
Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

RE: permits
PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046
BP 19-0070

Dear Skagit County Planners,

I am very concerned with the proposal for the very big rock quarry in Marblemount. I believe the dangers, the pollution, and the wear on county roads and services make this project a very bad idea for Skagit County. As you well know, the eastern part of the county relies heavily on eco tourism with campers, fishermen, birders, bikers and bicyclists, hikers and folks just needing to get away to the natural world. There is no possibility that there will not be ill or fatal effects if there are 75 large rock carrying trucks a day transiting up and down highways 530 and SR20. Not to mention the noise, the trembling and dust from extraction.

I am also gravely concerned about pollution, especially toxins that may end up in the Skagit River and peoples' shallow wells. First there may be air pollution from the dust and after blast fumes (that may include carbon monoxide, nitrogen monoxide and nitrogen dioxide*) and all the vehicles. The permit refers to buildings full of ANFO (ammonium nitrate/fuel oil) and Emulsion, Lubrication, High Explosive Magazine Storage**, and 3 tanks of fuel; off road diesel, highway diesel and gas. Between that and up to 250 vehicles a day traveling our roads so close to the Skagit River, I fear it likely that there will be a significant increase of pollution that makes it to the Skagit River. We are highly invested in helping salmon populations recover here and this is a real threat. I am interested if there has been an Environmental Impact Statement for this project and if not, why not?

Also, what has been considered about the strain on local resources that this project will cause? Most obviously is the damage that large trucks, especially heavy large trucks, will do to our county roads. It would be very expensive to keep these roads safe through 100 years of these trucks running them, with pollution, safety and blockage concerns involved in the constant road repair that will be needed. And where will funds come from to monitor the project for legal compliance? Emergency response in Marblemount is through a volunteer fire department. It is not fair or feasible to expect volunteers to be responsible for accidents at the site or from vehicle accidents from all the added dangerous traffic. Water will allegedly be "trucked in" but from what source? And how will the economy of Eastern Skagit be affected? Property values will drop, people will leave, and tourists will be less interested in visiting. The fish and wildlife and beauty will be affected. There is so little to gain (a handful of local jobs at the most?) and SO much to lose!

Please consider this proposal carefully with these concerns in mind.

Thank you so much for your attention,
Terri

Rolcport, WA 98283

*A recent paper by Santis reviewed US accident statistics since 1992 for incidents relating to the use of explosives. The incidents detailed 11 occasions where after-blast fumes had seriously affected a member of the public, three occasions where a worker had been affected, and one work-place fatality

****Unmixed ammonium nitrate can decompose explosively and has been responsible for several industrial disasters, including the 1922 Oppau explosion in Germany, the 1947 Texas City disaster in Texas City, Texas, the 2004 Ryongchon disaster in North Korea, and the 2013 West Fertilizer Company explosion in West, Texas. Environmental hazards include eutrophication in confined waters and nitrate/gas oil contamination of ground or surface water.**

sincerely

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 10:35 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Terri Slanez
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : RE: permits

PL19-0032 and PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046

BP 19-0070

Dear Skagit County Planners,

I am very concerned with the proposal for the very big rock quarry in Marblemount. I believe the dangers, the pollution, and the wear on county roads and services make this project a very bad idea for Skagit County. As you well know, the eastern part of the county relies heavily on eco tourism with campers, fishermen, birders, bikers and bicyclists, hikers and folks just needing to get away to the natural world. There is no possibility that there will not be ill or fatal effects if there are 75 large rock carrying trucks a day transiting up and down highways 530 and SR20. Not to mention the noise, the trembling and dust from extraction.

I am also gravely concerned about pollution, especially toxins that may end up in the Skagit River and peoples' shallow wells. First there may be air pollution from the dust and after blast fumes that may include carbon monoxide, nitrogen monoxide and nitrogen dioxide* and all the vehicles. The permit refers to buildings full of ANFO (ammonium nitrate/fuel oil) and Emulsion, Lubrication, High Explosive Magazine Storage**, and 3 tanks of fuel; off road diesel, highway diesel and gas. Between that and up to 250 vehicles a day traveling our roads so close to the Skagit River, I fear it likely that there will be a significant increase of pollution that makes it to the Skagit River. We are highly invested in helping salmon populations recover here and this is a real threat. I am interested if there has been an Environmental Impact Statement for this project and if not, why not?

Also, what has been considered about the strain on local resources that this project will cause? Most obviously is the damage that large trucks, especially heavy large trucks, will do to our county roads. It would be very expensive to keep these roads safe through 100 years of these trucks running them, with pollution, safety and blockage concerns involved in the constant road repair that will be needed. And where will funds come from to monitor the project for legal compliance? Emergency response in Marblemount is through a volunteer fire department. It is not fair or feasible to expect volunteers to be responsible for accidents at the site or from vehicle accidents from all the added dangerous traffic. Water will allegedly be "trucked in" but from what source? And how will the economy of Eastern Skagit be affected? Property values will drop, people will leave, and tourists will be less interested in visiting. The fish and wildlife and beauty will be affected. There is so little to gain (a handful of local jobs at the most?) and SO much to lose!

Terri

From Host Address: 50.34.211.187

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 10:30:51 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 11:25 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Rachel Smith
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : Hello, and thank you for your time. First, please extend the comment period. As a resident of Marblemount, I just learned about this project less than a week before the comment period is to close. This is not enough time to consider the project and articulate concerns. Furthermore, no perceptible efforts have been made by the local government to notify those of us who will be impacted by this project. This concerns me.

My preliminary concerns and questions:

The project proposal states that "residential density is low" in the area. This may be true, but there is a small, thriving community that includes new, younger residents like my family. We have jobs outside of the area, which we do remotely, bringing new income to the community. Our community, which is situated adjacent to the proposed project area, supports the national treasure of the North Cascade National Forest. We are new owners of property here, and we help sustain year-round the local economy that then supports a tremendous influx of tourism in the summers. With the rise of remote work and the overcrowding of cities, Marblemount—with its spectacular peacefulness and natural beauty—is already moving toward a gentle revitalization, through individual families like my own. I'm concerned that a 100-year quarry project of the proposed scale will damage the character of the area, deter more new, young residents like ourselves, and dampen tourism. Who wants to drive past the bucolic, pale blue Sauk toward the mossy glen of the North Cascades National Forest stuck behind three oversized rock haulers, with the sound of rock blasting and a deforested, dusty, moonscape vista? We wouldn't have bought our home under those conditions. Part of the beauty of living or visiting is the pristine "entrance to the North American Alps." How will this project mitigate its effects on our local residential population—and can it do so? (There is no reference to this in the mitigation report.) It may be true that the community here is small at this time, but it is a community that has value in supporting and sustaining the area's most precious resources, and one that has potential to grow responsibly, sustainably, and healthily, in the coming 100 years, so long as the character of the area is not ruined by a project such as this. I would ask whether the long-term effects of this project are consistent with the values of the North Cascade region and its most important assets.

Sincerely,
Rachel Smith

From Host Address: 216.129.144.254

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 11:22:24 AM

From: [Rachel Smith](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 3:28:24 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in regard to the proposed expanded quarry on Rockport Cascade Road. I am a property owner in Marblemount [REDACTED]

First, I would like additional time to review this complex project in our valley. I did not hear about it until Saturday March 23 from someone on Facebook, and comments are due on Friday March 29. This is not enough time to review the extensive documentation available on the County website supporting the application, and further, the County should have been promoting this information as it came available so that members of the community would not be so surprised by the application and the impacts of the project--and so that we would have adequate time to respond with our comments.

From what I have been able to glean from the documents available (again, not enough time to read in depth), I am concerned about the storage of blasting explosives and fuel (10,000 + 3,000 + 1,500 gallons) in a rural and forested environment in the Upper Skagit. Should an accident happen, it would fall on the Rockport Volunteer Fire Department and Marblemount Volunteer Fire Department to respond. The level of training and equipment required for such a response is above and beyond what is currently available in the community. Furthermore, the siting of the explosive storage is near a forested property line. Forest fire is a real and increasing risk to the valley, and this location has actually recently burned in 1998! In the event of a forest fire, the storage of explosives and fuel will put wildland fire fighters at undue risk, as well as distract from their true task of protecting life and property. An accident of this nature would also put property and lives at risk. The residential community in and around Marblemount is rural and road access is limited. For example, there is only one accessible road in and out of Cascade River Park, a few short miles from the proposed site of explosive materials. Cascade River Park is a 720-acre gated community of full-time residents and regular vacationers, comprised of 423 individual lots. Careful preparation must be done around accident prevention, viable escape routes, and emergency notification planning if we are to introduce explosive materials of this volume to the area. We know from the recent tragic fires in Paradise, CA that limited escape routes can be a decisive, fatal factor--and we must take mitigating action if we accept the increased forest fire risk that this project poses.

I am concerned about the haul route for this quarry. The turn from Hwy 530 to westbound Hwy 20 is a difficult intersection. To be able to sufficiently see traffic coming from the east, one must steer slightly eastbound when approaching the stop sign (something a large truck cannot do), then turn left/westbound when the opportunity arises. Sight lines are difficult. Add to that the endless caravan of tourists and RVs heading over the pass to the Methow Valley during a peak summer weekend, and there will be long delays at the intersection, or worse, a traffic accident at a high-speed highway. Please pursue safety improvements to this intersection to allow such massive (heavy, slow to accelerate) and long trucks to make this dangerous turn. How are the sight lines from eastbound Hwy 20 onto Hwy 530? We know that the intersection of Farm to Market and Josh Wilson has dangerous and fatal issues due to the turn lane and large trucks obstructing the view of traffic traveling through, resulting in car accidents with casualties. Will turning trucks create a similar blind spot?

Should the trucks use an alternate route to avoid the difficult 530/20 intersection, they would be traveling over the Cascade River Bridge and Marblemount Skagit River Bridge. The Marblemount Bridge seems narrow, old, and frail. This is supported by the Traffic Report for this project which calls the bridge functionally obsolete. Is this bridge wide enough for 2 passing quarry trucks? Is this bridge strong enough for 2 passing quarry trucks (one loaded one not)? It seems that regular and repeated traffic by such massive (tons and tons, day after day) loaded trucks would put undue and perhaps unsafe strain on the old Marblemount Bridge. Should the bridge be rendered a one-lane bridge, where one quarry truck would wait for the second the pass, I have concerns about the tail-end of a truck sticking out into Highway 20. The proximity of the Hwy 20 intersection to the end of the Marblemount Bridge (about 100 feet) doesn't seem to leave enough space for a truck to wait for an oncoming truck. Please study these scenarios to avoid any unsafe traffic on the bridge or complications to safe traffic patterns in the area. Please also consider the wear and tear on our bridges and roads. Who will bear the cost of that and how will it be calculated?

I am concerned about the effects of blasting on fish in the Skagit River. We know that noise in the Puget Sound and ocean have a strong negative effect on whales and fish. What does the impact of blasting do to fish in the Skagit River and associated wetlands, Illabot Creek, or the Cascade River? These water bodies are important spawning and rearing areas to our endangered fish. Does blasting and resulting sound waves affect their ability to home into their spawning grounds? Encourage them to travel elsewhere to spawn and/or rear? These are a precious and endangered resource, and we must be sure that mining rock does not come at the expense of our Skagit runs of fish. We must especially consider the long duration of this project. Are there contingencies in place if, several years down the road, environmental impacts are suspected? Who bears the burden of proof under such circumstances? Or will the project simply carry on, damaging our irreplaceable wildlife, on the strength of existing permitting?

I am concerned about the deposition of dust on spawning grounds. Fine sediment reduces the quality and quantity of desirable spawning gravels. The proximity to spawning grounds in Illabot Creek (downwind of project area during the typical Oct-March spawning season), and to the Cascade River and its critically endangered run of summer Chinook during the May-September months when the prevailing winds switch direction.

With regard to visual impacts, I am most concerned about the visual impacts on the valley and the resulting impact to tourism in the valley. For one, picture this, that iconic stretch of Hwy 20 just east of Rockport, as one heads east passing the little chapel with the view of the mountains, Johnson's cattle pasture on your left and the turquoise Skagit River on your right and you are coming up on the gorgeous rows of Cascadian Farms blueberries with Eldorado and all the glory of the snowy North Cascades spread out before you. Yes, it is time for an ice cream cone, lets get out of the car.....and what is that? That quarry is going to be staring down at this iconic vista, one so special it graces cereal boxes and bags of granola nationwide, in its unspoiled beauty. But it will be spoiled. Will this affect tourism? Maybe not such a special place for an ice cream cone? Not such a nice reach to raft to view bald eagles with the background blasting of the quarry operations. Will the eagles tolerate the noise, or will they travel on, too? The draw of the Marblemount area is its pristine wildness. That is why tourists come from all over the world each summer to visit, and what has earned it the nickname, "Gateway to the American Alps." One does not come to the Alps-like wilderness to view bald patches of rock, or to breath the exhaust fumes of 240 rock haul truck transits per day on these beautiful roads.

The SEPA Recreation analysis is significantly lacking in depth and scope as it limits the description of recreation to fly fishing. That is it, fly fishing? There is also a good deal of visitation and recreation on the river for spin fishing, not to mention bird and eagle watching, river rafting during the winter eagle watching festival, summer canoeing and kayaking, fall foliage scenic drives, and scenic drives in general. The SEPA states that no recreational uses will be displaced. Do we know this to be true? How? If the quarry affects eagles in the region, won't it affect recreational bird watching? I don't know how else to describe a scenic drive other than as recreation, but quite a lot of people do that. They go out of their way to drive Highway 20 instead of Highway 2, and stop for ice cream and picnics. If the drive isn't so scenic, will they still recreate in the upper Skagit Valley? Please expand the SEPA analysis of recreation to better represent the actual opportunities (and resulting economic impacts and employment opportunities) in the upper Skagit Valley.

I am also concerned about the potential expansion of this project in the future beyond what is currently proposed, the so-called 'Future Phase' described in the Project Description. The report states that this would require an expansion of the Mineral Resource Overlay and Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. I am concerned about this process and the outcomes it might bring. I am especially concerned that I and my neighbors would not be aware of this amendment process and be able to participate and comment. Given the rushed nature of this initial permitting process and the narrow window for submitting concerns, this prospect is especially troubling. How will the public be informed of this proposed amendment? Is it already proposed and underway? It is not fair to expect the general public to be able to track all things regarding Comprehensive Planning, when it might affect us directly. Can the County send notifications to those within proximity regarding this proposed change?

Now, if this project is to go forward *in* our community, and if our community is to accept the numerous detrimental effects I've expressed concern over above, what benefit will it have to our community? The rocks to be mined are not being put to use toward local projects. How many living wage jobs will this create? Will this SW Washington company bring SW Washington employees? Will the construction workers come from the greater Seattle area? Or will local residents in the depressed upriver economy be employed and fairly compensated? This part of the County has needed quality, dependable, year-round employment options for decades. We might also consider what economic opportunities we may forgo in committing to this project over such a long stretch of time. My husband and I are both in our early 30s. We bought our property in Marblemount for the sole reason that it was the most pristine, peaceful and wild area within two hours of Seattle. We work remotely and all the money we spend locally in our town is new wealth to the community. We are not the only young couple who's recently bought property in the area in similar circumstances. Rural areas like Marblemount that promise affordable living and a high quality of life are attractive to young people who are now able to work remotely and who are being priced out of cities. But an eyesore of a quarry and a deluge of truck traffic makes the area far less appealing for this kind of healthy, promising long-term development. Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan (2013-2036) states as its goal for the upper Skagit Valley (11B-8) to "strive to stimulate the economy of the upper Skagit Valley through protection of resource-based industry, compatible tourism, and community development strategies." While this aligns with the objective of protecting resource-based industry, I'm concerned that it does so in a way that fails to benefit the upper Skagit community, while actively acting in opposition to the other two stated goals: compatible tourism and community development strategies.

All in all, this is a very large project. There will be complicated outcomes. Because of this, I am left wondering, why not an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)? Compiling all the impacts, both good and bad, would help the community and the County better understand what

is planned and be more precise and measured in any conditions or mitigation required. Please consider requiring an EIS to study this project to ensure the character of the upper valley is not sacrificed in the interest of one privately owned venture.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my letter and consider my concerns.

Regards,

Rachel Smith

From: [Rachel Smith](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Resubmitting: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 3:58:01 PM

Resubmitting to include my mailing address:

Rachel Smith

[REDACTED]

Marblemount, WA 98267

On Tue, Mar 26, 2019 at 6:27 PM Rachel Smith <rschariot@gmail.com> wrote:

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in regard to the proposed expanded quarry on Rockport Cascade Road. I am a property owner in Marblemount [REDACTED]

First, I would like additional time to review this complex project in our valley. I did not hear about it until Saturday March 23 from someone on Facebook, and comments are due on Friday March 29. This is not enough time to review the extensive documentation available on the County website supporting the application, and further, the County should have been promoting this information as it came available so that members of the community would not be so surprised by the application and the impacts of the project--and so that we would have adequate time to respond with our comments.

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Furthermore, the siting of the explosive storage is near a forested property line. Forest fire is a real and increasing risk to the valley, and this location has actually recently burned in 1998! In the event of a forest fire, the storage of explosives and fuel will put wildland fire fighters at undue risk, as well as distract from their true task of protecting life and property. An accident of this nature would also put property and lives at risk. The residential community in and around Marblemount is rural and road access is limited. For example, there is only one accessible road in and out of Cascade River Park, a few short miles from the proposed site of explosive materials. Cascade River Park is a 720-acre gated community of full-time residents and regular vacationers, comprised of 423 individual lots. Careful preparation must be done around accident prevention, viable escape routes, and emergency notification planning if we are to introduce explosive materials of this volume to the area. We know from the recent tragic fires in Paradise, CA that limited escape routes can be a decisive, fatal factor--and we must take mitigating action if we accept the increased forest fire risk that this project poses.

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I am also concerned about the potential expansion of this project in the future beyond what is currently proposed, the so-called 'Future Phase' described in the Project Description. The report states that this would require an expansion of the Mineral Resource Overlay and Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. I am concerned about this process and the outcomes it might bring. I am especially concerned that I and my neighbors would not be aware of this amendment process and be able to participate and comment. Given the rushed nature of this initial permitting process and the narrow window for submitting concerns, this prospect is especially troubling. How will the public be informed of this proposed amendment? Is it already proposed and underway? It is not fair to expect the general public to be able to track all things regarding Comprehensive Planning, when it might affect us directly. Can the County send notifications to those within proximity regarding this proposed change?

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All in all, this is a very large project. There will be complicated outcomes. Because of this, I am left wondering, why not an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)? Compiling all the impacts, both good and bad, would help the community and the County better understand what is planned and be more precise and measured in any conditions or mitigation required. Please consider requiring an EIS to study this project to ensure the character of the upper valley is not sacrificed in the interest of one privately owned venture.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my letter and consider my concerns.

Regards,

Rachel Smith

From: [Rachel Smith](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Re: Automated Reply: Your comment was received!
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 7:53:14 AM

Addendum to letter:

Note that my letter was adapted and added to from a neighbor's eloquent letter (with permission). I submit my own words along with hers in order to reinforce and emphasize the necessity of these particular points. Thank you for hearing all of our comments, and giving further deep consideration to the significant risks and detriments to the community posed by this project. .

On Tue, Mar 26, 2019 at 6:58 PM PDS comments <pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us> wrote:

Thank you for submitting a comment to Skagit County Planning & Development Services. This message is an automated confirmation that we have received your email. Please do not reply to this email.

If you did not include the name of the project you are commenting on in your subject line, or if you did not include your name and complete mailing address, please resubmit your comment with that information included.

For more information about commenting on Skagit County planning and permitting projects, please visit

www.skagitcounty.net/pdscomments<<http://www.skagitcounty.net/pdscomments>>.

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Becky & Gregg Snyder
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry/ operation near Marblemount

Comments : Hello, I'm writing with concerns over the mining that is planned to remove Big Bear Mt. In Marblemount directly across the road from us.

Besides all the environmental and wildlife issues that come into question, I'm also concerned about my husband. He has brain cancer. I don't work in order to take care for him. We live on a very tight fixed income. We can't afford to move and we definitely don't want our property values to be ruined, this is all we have. Most of our neighbors are retired as well, that's why we're here, to enjoy what time we have left and maybe leave a little piece of this Heavenly place to our kids.

I hope and pray you will hear our voices and reconsider allowing a big corporate business into this fragile scenic area of our county.

Thank you for your time,
Gregg & Becky Snyder

From Host Address: 174.216.25.93

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:05:19 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Becky & Gregg Snyder
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry/ operation near Marblemount

Comments : Hello, I'm writing with concerns over the mining that is planned to remove Big Bear Mt. directly across the road from us.

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I hope and pray you will hear our voices and reconsider allowing a big corporate business into this fragile scenic area of our county.

Thank you for your time,
Gregg & Becky Snyder

From Host Address: 174.216.25.93

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:07:09 PM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 4:17 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 8:45 AM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Mary M Sodawasser

[REDACTED]
City : Rockport
State : WA

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : PL19-0033 PL19-0047 BP19-0070 PL19-0032

Comments : I have huge concerns about this project. My request is the county at least require a SEPA EIS to adequately analyze potential impacts. My concerns are the effect the kind of traffic this project spend all my free time in the area for peace and quiet. This project will not allow for that. The noise alone will have an impact on me. My concerns on how the roads will be impacted are of concern. This area doesn't have the budget to re-pave the roads after this. There are many creeks, streams, and rivers that will have debris pushed into them and have effect on the salmon spawning.

From Host Address: 174.237.137.4

Date and time received: 3/20/2019 8:41:16 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 7:20 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Melody A Sortor
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I am highly opposed to this venture as a resident of this area. This will greatly impact our wildlife (including the grey wolf!), our economy(which is mostly tourism), traffic/roads, and destroy the beauty and peace that many MANY of us live out here to enjoy.

From Host Address: 104.235.189.41

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 7:16:49 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 3:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kate Stewart
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0047

Comments : We are quite concerned about the environmental impact of the proposed Marblemount Quarry which includes logging, as well as blasting, moving and crushing rock from a hillside near the Wild and Scenic Skagit River. Please demand a complete, credible and thorough environmental impact statement from the Kiewit Infrastructure Co., LLC, and other involved parties.

Thank you,
Kate Stewart

From Host Address: 72.168.145.70

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 3:41:49 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kate Stewart
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19 -0033

Comments : We are concerned about the impact of noise, vibration, aesthetics, and transportation increases in the area around the Marblemount Quarry project site. Increased vehicles (up to 260/day) on a road currently used by local residents and many cycling tours will negatively impact the local economy by discouraging or stopping this level of tourism. Additionally, because the mining area is located within an earthquake zone, vibration caused by blasting is a concern. The noise of heavy machinery, compressors (there will be no electricity), rock crushers and other machines will be a source of constant stress for the surrounding property owners. We ask that you seriously consider not approving this proposal in its current form.

Thank you,
Kate Stewart

From Host Address: 72.168.145.70

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 4:28:27 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Cara Stoddard
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I grew up in Rockford, MI home of Wolverine Worldwide, a shoe manufacturer. I had ovarian cancer in 1993 when I was seven. Recent news has come out that a rock quarry near my neighborhood accepted waste from the tannery for years, which contaminated the drinking water for my home. I lost my dad in 2010 to a brain tumor, when I was 22. Of the 6 runners in my graduating class on my cross country team, 3 of us have had cancer, of which I am the only one still alive (I am 32). I am left with a lot of questions about why the rock quarry was designated a legitimate place to dump the waste from the tannery, and whether or not this contaminated drinking water led to my childhood cancer, my father's cancer, or my team-mates cancers.

I live in Marblemount and I worry about this scale of development and would like more time to read and understand the environmental impact, not only on the above ground ecosystem, but on the aquifers and where our drinking wells are drilled.

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:25:25 PM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:06 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Julie Stone

[REDACTED]

City : Concrete

State : WA

[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry Operation PL19-0033

Comments : The proposal for the Kiewet Quarry expansion if implemented would have a negative impact on the environment, on residents and on the tourism industry upriver. The quarry expansion is close to the wild and scenic Skagit River, which is one of the last holdouts for threatened Chinook salmon, as well as the 4 other anadromous salmonids. These fish are vital to our region and threatening them is a threat to our livelihoods upriver, the livelihoods of a multitude of other species and a threat the health of the river ecosystem overall. The noise generated by blasts would disturb other species in an otherwise quiet area of the valley, as well as disturb local residents. The amount of traffic to and from the quarry will continue to disturb the peace of the valley, all well as increase traffic on our roads. The clearing of timber will impact the viewshed from the highway, becoming a lasting sore on the skyline for generations. Furthermore, the proposal comes with very few jobs, none of which are guaranteed to the local community. Overall, the local community does not support approval of this proposal as there are no benefits to local residents. The county has the opportunity to listen to people who live and recreate in these areas and deny the permit. I know that my future vote will be closely tied to this issue, as will the votes of other people living in eastern Skagit county.

From Host Address: 66.235.39.30

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 11:56:01 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:55 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Lawrence Stram
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I strongly oppose this project. My property is less than one mile from the proposed site. The area known as Marblemount and Rockport are not part of a wasteland that nobody cares much about. At first blush it might look like a great place to dig a huge quarry generating, a lot of undesirable, noise, vibration, dust, pollution, etc. From down valley it may appear to many as an unattractive place in the middle of nowhere that very few people care about or home to only a few strange people living in the woods. This is actually a very significant part of this state. The area where the site is located is in the heart of the interface between what we call civilization and one of the greatest wilderness treasures on planet earth. This is the very doorstep of National Forest Land, and the magnificent North Cascade Mountain Range. The National Park itself contains more biomass than any other place on earth. This is the buffer between the cities, industries, freeways, houses and all things different than the big trees, clear water, and pristine mountain views and endless quiet in this place I call home.

I am amazed that this plan could ever reach this stage. What is wrong here? What are the people of Skagit county getting for this?

What is the benefit to us the people? I have been to the jetties at the mouth of the Columbia and walked on the big rocks there. There are many to be sure and they are valuable for their size and density but they are not rare. This rock exists in many places better suited, for mining and near to the end use. Why would anyone think that it is a good idea to blow up this mountainside to dig out the giant boulders then truck them 70 miles to Bellingham, load them on barges and ship all the way to the Columbia river. This type of rock exists much closer to the end project and should be extracted there IMHO. All this transporting just adds to the cost of the product and the landowners along with the people of the county, state and country suffer the noise, pollution and traffic. How could you put your name and stamp of approval on this bad idea? What is the pay off, how is the quality of life enhanced and who is getting compensated for the damage done?

From Host Address: 174.216.11.37

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 8:53:24 AM

From: [Sharon Stroble](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Proposed quarry near Marblemount
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 8:21:41 AM

This is a totally bad idea with multiple downsides including fowling of salmon streams with sediment. NO TO THIS WHOLE PROPOSITION.

SHARON STROBLE
Seattle

Sent from my iPad

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 8:35 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Sharon Stroble

[REDACTED]
City : Seattle
State : Wa

[REDACTED]
PermitProposal : Kiewit Quarry

Comments : This expansion of the existing quarry is a bad idea for multiple reasons - resulting sediment ending up in salmon streams, extreme traffic and noise, not to mention the destruction of such a large piece of land.

I urge rejection of this inappropriate expansion.

From Host Address: 67.183.13.164

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 8:32:19 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jonathan Stumpf
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Construction Proposal
Comments : March 29, 2019

Mr. John Cooper
Skagit County Planning & Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mt Vernon, WA 98273

Re: Kiewit Company's proposed Marblemount Quarry

Dear Mr. Cooper:

As conservation and recreation organizations with supporters who live, work, recreate, and care deeply about the Skagit River valley, we wanted to briefly share our concerns with the proposed project submitted by Kiewit Infrastructure Co. on March 14 to Skagit County to expand an existing quarry near Marblemount from 20 acres to 80 acres.

This proposal sits in the heart of the Wild & Scenic Skagit River System, with the Skagit River, Cascade River, and Illabot Creek, all within the immediate surrounding area. This region is an important natural resource for both residents of the valley and those who visit the area to enjoy the fishing, boating, wildlife viewing, hiking, and foraging. Additionally, this site and the surrounding lands have been identified by both the Swinomish Tribe and Upper Skagit Tribe as an important area with cultural significance to the tribal community's way of life, including usual and accustomed hunting and gathering and traditional practices.

We have concerns with the short 15-day comment period for a proposal of this size, which is an inadequate timeframe to complete a thorough review of a proposal this size. Therefore, we formally request an extension of the public comment period under the State Environmental Policy Act, chapter 43.21C RCW.

Additionally, we believe that a project of this scope warrants a Determination of Significance under WAC 197-11-330 and that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be required, as this project and the cumulative effects to the local environment for up to 100 years, will have a significant adverse impact, including blasting, traffic, noise, infrastructure, and visual impacts to the landscape, wildlife, and ESA-listed Chinook salmon and steelhead.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our initial input to this proposed project and we, the undersigned,

appreciate Skagit County's consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Stumpf
Associate Director, Puget Sound & Columbia Basin
American Rivers

Thomas O'Keefe
Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director
American Whitewater

Mitch Friedman
Executive Director
Conservation Northwest

Margie van Cleve
Conservation Chair
Sierra Club, WA State

Rich Simms
Founder/Board Member
Wild Steelhead Coalition

From Host Address: 73.109.46.194

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:39:52 PM

RECEIVED
MAR 29 2019
SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

March 29, 2019

Mr. John Cooper
Skagit County Planning & Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mt Vernon, WA 98273

Re: Kiewit Company's proposed Marblemount Quarry

Dear Mr. Cooper:

As conservation and recreation organizations with supporters who live, work, recreate, and care deeply about the Skagit River valley, we wanted to briefly share our concerns with the proposed project submitted by Kiewit Infrastructure Co. on March 14 to Skagit County to expand an existing quarry near Marblemount from 20 acres to 80 acres.

This proposal sits in the heart of the Wild & Scenic Skagit River System, with the Skagit River, Cascade River, and Illabot Creek, all within the immediate surrounding area. This region is an important natural resource for both residents of the valley and those who visit the area to enjoy the fishing, boating, wildlife viewing, hiking, and foraging. Additionally, this site and the surrounding lands have been identified by both the Swinomish Tribe and Upper Skagit Tribe as an important area with cultural significance to the tribal community's way of life, including usual and accustomed hunting and gathering and traditional practices.

We have concerns with the short 15-day comment period for a proposal of this size, which is an inadequate timeframe to complete a thorough review of a proposal this size. Therefore, we formally request an extension of the public comment period under the State Environmental Policy Act, chapter 43.21C RCW.

Additionally, we believe that a project of this scope warrants a Determination of Significance under WAC 197-11-330 and that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be required, as this project and the cumulative effects to the local environment for up to 100 years, will have a significant adverse impact, including blasting, traffic, noise, infrastructure, and visual impacts to the landscape, wildlife, and ESA-listed Chinook salmon and steelhead.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our initial input to this proposed project and we, the undersigned, appreciate Skagit County's consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Stumpf
Associate Director, Puget Sound & Columbia Basin

American Rivers

Thomas O'Keefe
Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director
American Whitewater

Mitch Friedman
Executive Director
Conservation Northwest

Margie van Cleve
Conservation Chair
Sierra Club, WA State

Rich Simms
Founder/Board Member
Wild Steelhead Coalition

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 10:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Fatima Sumareh-Sibi
[REDACTED]

City : Kent
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Keiwi Infrastructure Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I oppose the Quarry in Marblemount for many reasons personally and for environmental concern reasons. I love the North Cascades. My brother and his family live on Rockport Cascade rd. He has four young children. I send my children to their house every school break. This was a home to provide self sufficiency, healing through nature, peace and quiet for them and the rest of our family. I live in the city and frequently vacation there because all of skagit valley is beautiful. I love the drive. It is so scenic. I can't imagine trying to share either 530 or highway 20 with any more big trucks then are already on those roads. The speed limits, intersection, and curvy roads are not safe for such traffic. After I learned of the news of this project I was devastated. I trip to visit up there sounds stressful if something like this goes through. I do not think it is safe to send my daughters to go stay with their uncle at the base of a mountain range they are doing blast mining? And what about my nephews and niece that have to live with this every day?

I thought Marblemount was a beautiful place for tourists and people who wanted to get out of the city! What exactly is the benefit of this mine to your community? This permit is for 100 years? Is this company really going to invest in the infrastructure of marblemount or skagit valley? The intersections at highway 530 and hwy 20 along with the Rockport Cascade rd intersection is not safe, let alone with big trucks hauling tons of rocks?

I also protest based on the fact that Skagit River has a national designation as wild and scenic. I also understand that the health of the skagit is essential for the health of salmon and therefore orca whales. What are the priorities? Heiwi does not have a good track record. They will not go under if some disaster or contamination happens. There has to be protection for one of our states greatest natural resources. Water moves from air to ground to aquifers to rivers to oceans. What about my families well if something like that happens?

This is such a big, consequential project I believe you should give the community more time to have a say. You should extend the comment period. I also think an environmental impact study should be done if for some confusing reason this process moves forward.

From Host Address: 72.106.54.232

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 9:58:14 PM

From: [Angela Swanson](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: My name is Angela,
Date: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:01:32 PM

I'm not a scientist, but I am a concerned citizen, and I am a resident of the Up River Community. As a former city dweller, I was drawn to this area 18 year's ago, and I purchased a home because of the river, and the peace and quiet, and because of the lack of road congestion. There are literally two main road's. Hwy 20, and the So Skagit Hwy. These are the only two roads that I use to explore my surroundings. The clean air, and the natural beauty that surrounds me is why I am here. My home is off the Skagit river, and I have a well to supply all of my water needs. It's my only water source. I am very concerned about the silt from this quarry, getting into my water supply, and my air supply.

I pay a lot of taxes to enjoy my quality of life, and I am against anything that could, and most likely would, compromise the quality of mine, and my fellow upriver community's lives.

I am opposed to this quarry using our road's and polluting our air and water. I stand with my community that opposes this action.

Thank you for hearing me.
Angela Swanson

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Angela Swanson
[REDACTED]

City : Concrete Wa
State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Xyz

Comments : My name is Angela and I am a concerned citizen, and I am a resident of the Up River Community. As a former city dweller, I was drawn to the area where I purchased a home, because of the peace and quiet, and the lack of road congestion I use to explore my surroundings. The clean air quality and the natural beauty of the mountains and the valley is what drew me here.

My home is along the Skagit rivers edge, and I drink from my well water, as it is my only water source. I am very concerned about the silt from the quarry getting into my water and air supply. I pay a lot of money in taxes to enjoy my quality of life. I am against anything that might, and most likely will, compromise the quality of mine, and my fellow community members lives. I am opposed to this quarry using our road's, and polluting our air and water. I stand with my community that opposes this quarry.

Thank you for hearing me.

Angela Swanson

From Host Address: 174.216.27.182

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 4:18:34 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 8:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Mary Taylor
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Co. PL 19-0033, PL 19-0047, PL 19-0032

Comments : Forty-five years ago, I bought property at [REDACTED] along with some friends. I no longer live on this property full time (I live in Mt. Vernon), but I spend as much time there as possible. We bought this property, because of it's beautiful, quiet, and peaceful setting. We take walks to the Skagit River (The Wild and Scenic Skagit River). We follow the local and migratory birds with great interest and reverence. We feel so lucky to get to see the bald eagles which spend 9-10 months of the year in our area. There are many other raptor birds that live in this special place.

Now I am to understand that all of the above is jeopardized, because a mining company wishes to exploit the natural resources of the area for purely economic gain.

Frankly, I firmly believe that it is too late for that. If the mining company had been operational before the myriad of people who live along Rockport Cascade Rd. and Marblemount and Rockport had moved in, then of course we the people would not have any justifiable complaints. We would simply have to decide if we wanted to live with all the noise, road congestion, and degradation of the environment. But to be told that after putting down roots, building homes, and becoming good stewards of this environment, that we must simply adapt to such devastating impacts and change, is really unconscionable.

The mine would operate six days a week. The company has submitted reports that say no one should be bothered by the noise of "occasional" dynamite blasting and rock crushing and the 260 vehicle trips on the roads between the site and I-5 (Is Skagit County going to keep the roads repaired?). People coming to the North Cascade N.P., the forest lands, and local parks to enjoy the peace of nature would not be bothered, the company adds. The eagles, hawks, and other wildlife, will not be bothered. And I'm sure the cliffy hillside where the rock is quarried will never suffer from erosion or mudslides. Afterall, the reports say no. The locals living right underneath the site have nothing to fear.

Seriously?

I implore the Skagit County Planning Dept. to do the right thing--deny this permit.

From Host Address: 172.92.196.179

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 8:32:59 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 10:10 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Robert Taylor
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon
State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I am concerned about this proposal. There are many questions about this project, and it bothers me that it is being planned without an EIS. I know several people in the neighborhood, and feel their quiet rural life is about to get a big kick in the teeth. This project needs to be placed in an industrial area far from residences.
Thank you. Robert Taylor

From Host Address: 172.92.196.179

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 10:07:11 AM



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
North Cascades National Park
Lake Chelan National Recreation Area
Ross Lake National Recreation Area
810 State Route 20
Sedro-Woolley, Washington 98284-9394

RECEIVED
MAR 28 2019
SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 27, 2019

Mr. John Cooper
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Dear Mr. Cooper,

This letter serves as official comment on behalf of North Cascades National Park Service Complex (NOCA).

The proposed expansion of the existing quarry, while not directly adjacent to National Park Service facilities and infrastructure located in Marblemount, Washington, nevertheless has the potential to impact park resources and staff, as well as visitors to the NOCA Wilderness Information Center. At this time, park staff needs to continue reviewing the sizable application package provided by Kiewit Infrastructure Company, LLC, to better understand any potential impacts to park resources. Thus, NOCA respectfully requests an additional 60 days to review and comment on the materials provided with mining special use permit (PL19-0033), forest practice conversion application (PL19-0047), grading application (BP19-0070, and SEPA application (19-0032).

It is anticipated that further comment will be provided upon reviewing the application materials in their entirety.

Thank you,

Karen F. Taylor-Goodrich
Superintendent

From: [Laurie Thomas](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Objections to Kiewit Quarry in Marblemount
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 2:20:25 PM

Please do NOT do this.

1. There has been no public input - the decision has been made without notification and time for public hearing.
2. This is bad for the environment. The Blasting noise and constant truck traffic. Run off pollution into the river. Diesel and gasoline storage. Danger of Fires in our forests.
3. This area is a paradise and this quarry will ruin that.
4. Hours of operation leave no quiet time. Sounds echo this is not good us, gunshots alone are so loud - blasting is dangerous for the people and the animals.
5. Lease is 100 years, this is way too long.
6. There will be a decrease in tourism, which is the only way to make a living here locally and this will ruin that.

Please do not move forward with this plan.

Thank You,
Laurie Thomas

[REDACTED]
Marblemount, WA 98267
[REDACTED]

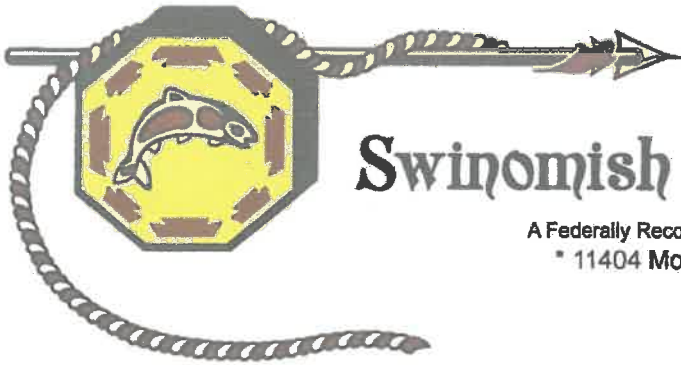
From: [Annemarie Todd](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Marblemount Quarry
Date: Thursday, March 28, 2019 6:06:31 PM

NO on Marblemount Quarry!! Will ruin quality of life, significant negative impact on roads, no significant job creation for east Skagit County. no, no, no!!!!

Annemarie Todd
[REDACTED]
Concrete, WA. 98237

Mailing address:
[REDACTED]
Sedro Woolley, WA 98237

Sent from my iPhone



Main Office: 360.466.3163
Facsimile: 360.466.5309

Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

A Federally Recognized Indian Tribe Organized Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 476
* 11404 Moorage Way * La Conner, Washington 98257 *

RECEIVED

APR 02 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

March 28, 2019

Mr. John Cooper
Skagit County Planning & Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mt Vernon, WA 98273

Re: Kiewit Company's proposed Marblemount Quarry

Dear Mr. Cooper:

The Swinomish Indian Tribal Community (Swinomish Tribe) appreciates the opportunity to comment on, and share with you, our concerns with the project proposed by the Kiewit Company to substantially expand an existing small quarry near Marblemount. The natural habitats surrounding the Kiewit quarry site are important resources that deserve protection, and are part of the Wild & Scenic River designated area of the Skagit River. We believe that the proposed quarry project would have unnecessary and unmitigated adverse impacts to the natural resources in this area, which we seek to avoid and minimize. The Swinomish Tribe's offers the following comments, that largely reflect those already submitted by the Skagit River System Cooperative, and include additional concerns regarding impacts to wildlife and cultural resources.

First, we request an extension of the public comment period under the State Environmental Policy Act, chapter 43.21C RCW. The proposed project includes a large number of detailed project documents to review, many of which are lengthy and complex. The Swinomish Tribe has not been able to complete more than an initial review of the project application since the documents were only posted online recently, and the 15-day review period is an insufficient timeframe in which to complete an adequate review.

Second, the Swinomish Tribe believes that a Determination of Significance is warranted under WAC 197-11-330 and that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be required. This project proposal will likely have a significant adverse impact on the local environment, particularly due to the local context. The absolute quantitative effects (the amount of rock

removed, the number of truck trips, blasting impacts, etc.) would be large regardless of context. But, whereas a similar development in an industrialized region might be considered less disruptive, the introduction of such immense changes in activity, noise, and the landscape itself will be highly significant in what is now a tranquil corner of a remote part of the County. Additionally, this change in activity may last for decades, and the cumulative impacts have not been identified or addressed. Several aspects of this project, including noise, traffic, visual impacts, blasting, clearing, etc., may not individually trigger an EIS, but combined they constitute a significant environmental impact that should be examined individually and cumulatively in an EIS.

Third, although the Swinomish Tribe understand that the streams that traverse the site are not currently fish bearing, there is a possibility that changes in drainage patterns resulting from re-sculpting through the quarry activities could concentrate and direct flow in the future. In anticipation of that potential outcome we believe that to avoid or minimize potential environmental impacts, the road proposed for the site should avoid two unnecessary stream crossings (on “Watercourse B” in the critical areas assessment, Figure 4). If the “switchback” in the proposed road were moved farther north then the two stream crossings and associated riparian impacts could be completely avoided. Culvert crossings on steep forest roads concentrate flow, provide potential blockages, require regular maintenance, and are disproportionately responsible for debris flows. Debris flows are catastrophic for stream ecosystems, whether those streams are fish bearing or not. We strongly urge the requirement that the quarry logging and access road be re-aligned to avoid the mapped streams entirely, instead of putting the switchback on the south side of the stream.

Fourth, hunting and gathering have always been essential parts of the Swinomish Tribe’s culture as a way to provide nourishment to our bodies and spirits. The right to hunt and gather on open and unclaimed lands throughout the Washington Territory was reserved by our ancestors as a signatory to the Treaty of Elliott. Some of the Swinomish Tribe’s hunting grounds for deer and elk are in the vicinity of the project proposal. However, we have not had sufficient time to review the detailed biological assessment submitted by the applicant. We therefore reserve the right to comment on any and all potential adverse impacts to our Treaty reserved hunting and gathering rights in future comment letters.

Fifth, the cultural resources and traditional practices of the Swinomish Tribe are an important, essential component of the tribal community’s way of life. We are aware of the cultural resources report submitted by the project applicant. However, the Swinomish Tribe has held two funerals in the past week, one this week for the tragic hit-and-run incident that caused the death of a beloved tribal community member. Thus, we have not had an opportunity to review the cultural resources report, but intend to do so, and therefore reserve the right to comment on any and all potential adverse impacts to the Tribe’s cultural resources and traditional practices in future comment letters.

In summary, we believe that the proposed significant expansion of the Kiewit Company's Marblemount quarry would have several impacts that necessitate an extension of the SEPA comment period so that we and others can more thoroughly examine the potential adverse project impacts. We believe that those impacts should be examined together, as well as cumulatively, in an EIS.

The Swinomish Tribe appreciates your consideration of our comments. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at (360) 399-5804 or atrain@swinomish.nsn.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Trainer". The signature is written in black ink and includes a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Amy Trainer, Environmental Policy Analyst
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 10:10 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Celia Eloise Unsell

[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA

[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : I am very concerned about this project that would in operation for a 100 years. It appears that the community that it would impact is only getting 2weeks to comment. I request that the comment period be extended. I am surprised that there is no planned public meetings. This project would effect Skagit citizens from Marblemount to the I-5 corridor. Many land owners are in a sort of "shell shock" and are not able to respond in a rational manner in this short period. I respectfully and urgently request an extension for the public to comment. Thank you for your consideration.

From Host Address: 50.34.221.62

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 10:08:26 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Celia Eloise Unsell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : I manage an Airbnb in Marblemount. I am very concerned that this project will adversely effect my livelihood. I am a 60 year old woman that has had two back injuries. This is a job I can do. I have been in operation since November 2016. People from all over the,world, as well as, folks from the US and Seattle come to enjoy our beautiful peaceful environment. Some come to hike,fish get married,get away,site see,have family reunions. Some just stay the night because they are driving over the North Cascades. Please feel free to see my listing on the Airbnb site-Marblemount home "Artistic Retreat ". You can read reviews that guests have left. Many of them come to enjoy the peace and quiet. Marblemount is about 300 feet above sea level and the last wide ground going east on hwy 20. The valley walls loom up 5000-7000 feet. The Jordan and Cascade River empties into the Skagit River there. The landscape creates a natural amphitheater. So all noise is a shared experience. Then the highway quiets down, we can hear Jordan falls, which is miles away. 600 acres being clear cut, road building, 100 years of blasting and 75 big trucks a day will, in my honesty opinion will destroy our tourist economy. I ask that this proposed project be rejected

From Host Address: 50.34.200.73

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:00:09 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Celia Eloise Unsell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : Skagit County Environmental Responsibility

I understand the need for jetty rock. I don't understand why it has to travel so far. The farther it travels, the more CO2 goes into our atmosphere and the higher the risk of accidents and more cost to the company. The proposed project would need to use diesel generators rather than quieter, nonpolluting power. Any accidents on site would have very little emergency response with the nearest hospital an hour away. A site closer to the water would reduce these issues. We may have the "right" rock, but there is "right" rock closer to it's destination. The real issue maybe that the small community of Marblemount can't put up much of a fight against such a large company, especially with only knowing of this project for two weeks. I hope that our public servants will make a responsible decision for our quality of life now and for our children's future.

From Host Address: 50.34.223.171

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 2:12:25 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 7:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Celia Eloise Unsell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : A 100 YEARS!?! Most of us don't even live that long. I can't believe that our County government can foresee the effects of this project and the needs of its citizens that far into the future. Even Seattle City Light is limited to 50 years. Please don't approve something so far reaching.

From Host Address: 50.34.223.171

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 7:35:38 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:25 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Celia Eloise Unsell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : I insist, demand, beg, pray, request, strongly recommend that there be an Environmental Impact Statement. After reading the Assessment of Rock Blasting Impacts by Gordon F. Revey, it is clear to me he knows the science and can put it in layman's terms, but doesn't know our area or wildlife.

These are my reasons:

3.1 Impacts on water- Marblemount gets 90-100 inches of rain a year. Why doesn't it flood. The soil here is very well drained. Where does it go-into the water table. Revey states there is no open water there. There will be-retaining ponds. Where will the chemicals in the ponds end up.

3.2 Impacts to Air Quality-If Kiewit follows recommendations and never blasts when the wind is more than 15mph all is well. We get upriver winds pretty much every day here in the Summer months that are stronger than 15mph. Last winter the wind storms were so powerful,we are still cleaning up. Can you really believe operations would stop every time the wind is more than 15mph?

3.3 Impacts on Wildlife-this is the one then I knew who he is working for. How can you compare trapped zoo animals to wildlife? I was a cat 4H leader for years. You put a cat in a cage take it to County and State Fairs. Very stressful environment for the cats. In the cages they shut down-sleep all the time. During fit and show-many bite Judges and even their owners. Some get away and are lost.

Show me a study that radio collars wildlife before a blasting project starts and see what they do once the operation is under way. Most people have dogs, what happens on the 4th of July? You don't have to be a blasting expert to figure out, it will impact wildlife. Most will leave the area, abandon nest sites, move into other ecosystems disrupting them too.

Revey also seemed unaware that Marblemount is a natural amphitheater due to the landscape. I understand he lives in Colorado. I lived there. The valley floors are high and rain fall is much less.

A final note. In Revey's report, he says over and over,"if recommendations are closely followed" Kiewit doesn't have a great track record-68 violations in Canada alone. Even if they have all the integrity in the world, are there no errors? People aren't perfect, mistakes happen.If the Skagit River is contaminated, the whole Valley, not just upriver would be impacted.

Please, please, please get a EIS. Thank you for you time and consideration.

From Host Address: 50.34.223.171

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 10:20:14 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Celia Eloise Unsell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : Fire danger is a big concern of mine. I have lived in the upper Skagit 33years this month. Marblemount borders North Cascades Nation Park. The Park has had many fires. The Nehalem fire almost reached the point of evacuating all Marblemount and Rockport. There was a nasty fire on B&W, the foothills of Lookout Mt. And oh yes there that O' Brien fire. Smoked out all of Marblemount, hot embers falling on us. We had a shake roof. We set up a sprinkler on the roof that was 37feet high! That fire was where this project is being proposed. The very spot. It is terrifying to see the mountain on fire, when it is so close to your home. The smoke has serious health concerns as well. One element all three fires have in common-rocky and steep. This project offers,if I dare say it that way, many opportunities for a fire. Please inform me of any changes or hearing. Thank you

From Host Address: 50.34.223.171

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 11:37:55 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 12:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Celia Eloise Unsell
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : 75 trucks a days! Our property borders the Rockport-Cascade Road not far from 530. It is a 50 mph speed limit. It gets noisy when those big trucks have to slow down for the Stop sign. So I was doing the math.

75 trucks round trip is 150 trucks passing by. Let's say over a period of 10 hours, that 60 minutes times ten is 600 minutes divided by 150. That is a truck passing a given spot on the route every 4 minutes!

This project would clearly damage the quality of life for many Skagit folk. Not to mention the carbon emissions and loss of property values. Those poor folk living right under it. Their homes will lose almost all value.

I hope this helps with understanding the impacts.

From Host Address: 50.34.223.171

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 12:06:26 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 5:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : James Unsell
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry Operation near Marblemount

Comments : Sirs,

I am a 45 year resident of the Upper Skagit. I have seen many changes come to the area in this time. There has been considerable development and population growth; and by and large, I have been glad to see it.

However, some activities are no longer congruent with life here. The Kiewit project is one of these. While the area east of Concrete may seem remote to some, it is , in fact a largely residential zone now, outside of the Sierra Pacific Tree Farm.

Numerous local residents would be subjected to frequent blasting noise, shock and vibration; especially during the road construction phase. The noise and dust cloud from large rock drills will carry a considerable distance offsite. Big diesel engines running all day will affect air quality. 75 trucks a day going up and back on the Rockport-Cascade will be a burden for those living west of the project. Kiewit appears to be a bad actor in the compliance realm. They have been cited at least 68 times for violations so far.

I could go on, and in fact I will in future comments.

Let me end by asking you for an extension of the comment period on this project.

Thank You

From Host Address: 50.34.200.73

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 5:51:53 PM

John Cooper

From: Matt VanBoven <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 6:55 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Marblemount Quarry PL19-0033

For what it's worth, this is what I wrote. I tried to focus on a single issue:

I am writing because I OPPOSE the Marblemount quarry as it is being planned. I moved up here 25 years ago, and have lived in Rockport since 1999. I understand that resource extraction has been a key part in the livelihoods of many upriver folks as long as Europeans have lived in the area. I have quite a bit of nostalgia for the industrial history in this area. I am definitely not your standard environmentalist who knee jerks at every attempt to extract resources in rural areas.

That said, I DO NOT feel that the future of this area lies in large scale industrial extraction of resources. Its just not where the upper Skagit is at these days. As Puget Sound fills in with people, more and more seek a way to escape their busy lives and retreat to some place peaceful. This area is one of the few remaining, peaceful locations, west of the Cascades that these folks can come to. I run an AirBnB, and on the occasion that someone is even shooting guns in the area, I almost want to apologize to the my guests for the disruption of their experience. Guests often comment on how quiet it is here in Rockport, and that they did not realize how much noise they had become numb to in their daily lives until arriving here. Instead of the white noise of constant traffic, an individual vehicle driving on the highway becomes something one actually notices.

Based on the submitted plans, I believe that this proposal will negatively affect tourism in this area, in addition to the experience of each local resident. As someone who earns my income through such means and encourages others to do so as well, I would be very disappointed if this proposal was approved.

Signed,

Matthew Van Boven

[REDACTED]
Rockport, WA 98283

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 7:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Rachel Van Boven
[REDACTED]

City : RICHMOND

State : IN
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiawet Infrastructure Quarry Operation Near Marblemount

Comments : I'm writing to oppose the permit for this operation. I am from Bellingham and have many family and friends who live in Marblemount. Although I am currently in Seminary in Indiana, I plan to move back in June. I visit the upper Skagit, Marblemount, or the North Cascades at least once a month. It is a profoundly beautiful and peaceful place that restores my soul. Not to mention the fact that I always buy something when I'm in the area. The stress of additional heavy traffic and destruction of beautiful nature will shatter the peaceful and pristine nature of the Upper Skagit and add stress to the lives of the people living there and visiting. Tourism, NOT resource extraction, is the economic future of the Upper Skagit. I currently live in one of the most economically struggling parts of the country, which destroyed it's nature, extracted all its resources, and now has very little economic development. I am surrounded by abandoned factories and desperate people. This Rust Belt reality is the future of the Upper Skagit if you continue to prioritize resource extraction. Please do not allow this permit to go through.

From Host Address: 68.38.35.120

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 7:11:56 PM

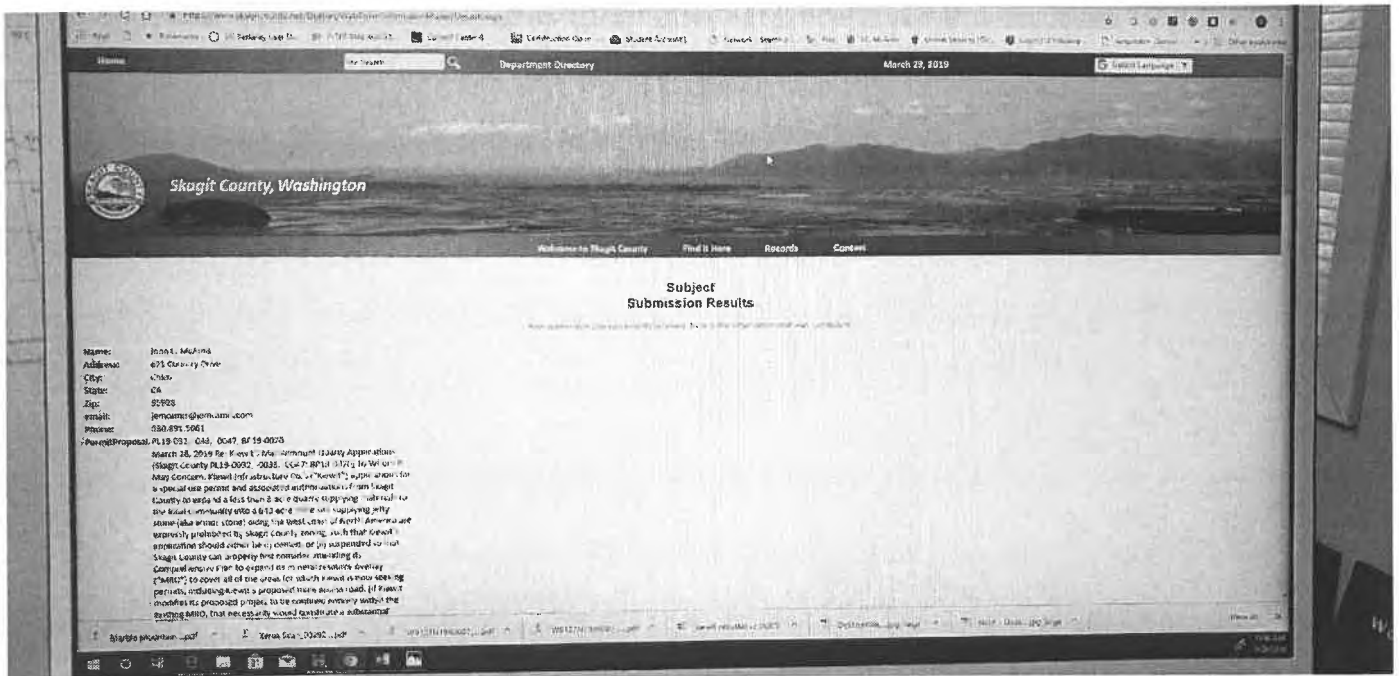
John Cooper

From: S.M. VANDEGRIFT [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 11:22 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Cc: Boone, David C NWP
Subject: Re: Kiewit's Marblemount Quarry Applications (Skagit County PL19-0032, -0033, -0047; BP19-0070)
Attachments: Marble Mountain Objection Letter.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from an external email address. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, you are expecting this email and attachments, and you know the content is safe.

This has been submitted through Skagit County's Web Portal with a duplicate copy attached here.

Please confirm receipt.



--
Best Regards,

Scott M. Vandegrift
Vice President
J.E. McAmis
[REDACTED]

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 12:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Vija Vezis
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewet quarry in Marblemount, PL19-0033

Comments : Hello, my name is Vija and I'm 9 years old. I took my time out of homework to do this because I don't want our home, our people, our water to be polluted because of a mining operation. This is not the place to do it. This is a retreat for people to get away from noise and sound of the city and traffic and pollution. If you do this some of the animals that live here will be terrorized and forced to move to a different location. So please don't just think about yourself, your job and small populations. Think about the animals and people who live here and don't want their homes to be destroyed and terrorized. There is a large force of people in our community who don't want this to happen because it will destroy the places we love and cherish. So please hear out all the people that live here and that would write a letter if they could have the time to. Please don't destroy our home! Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Vija

From Host Address: 50.34.202.45

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 12:35:16 PM

John Cooper

From: Jose Vila [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 7:57 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Marblemount quarry permit application comments

I posted to your site but then found a couple of little mistakes. Your site also doesn't seem to maintain paragraph structure. This is my tidied up version if you are printing out but it probably doesn't work that way. At any rate, as follows:

Six days a week high explosives blasting at the top of a mountain that overlooks our peaceful upriver valley, huge off-road diesel powered mining trucks climbing up and down the 700 foot rock mountain to transport the rock to the loading area, 125 round trips a day to deliver to barges in Bellingham or elsewhere, massive rock crushing operation at the base of the mountain, fugitive dust, diesel exhaust, lubricants, oils, chemicals seeping into the sand and gravel aquifer of an area with so many wild and scenic rivers and creeks, a company with a poor environmental record only looking for profit... what could possibly go wrong?

Government monitored threatened and endangered species on the property. Upper Skagit Indian Tribe cultural and historic concerns about the areas included in proposed expansion. Eagle watchers, sports fishermen, nature lovers, cabins and recreation areas, berry farms and wineries, all clustered in this wonderful stretch of river between Marblemount and Rockport. People heading through to North Cascades trailheads or Winthrop. Full-time and vacation homes all around the project site. Let's just apologize but ask them all to please go away or stay away while we blow up this mountain for the next hundred years. Sound crazy enough?

And except for constant road repair, the jobs that would use this product are not in Skagit County. If this permit application is approved say goodbye to the wild and scenic Upper Skagit River Valley and every reason we have to love it. If we have any sense at all, we will not let it happen.

John Cooper

From: Jose Vila [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 4:26 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Re: Historical information and permits

Interesting, based upon this it looks like any previously approved operations have either expired or been exhausted. Nothing left to mine without expanding the footprint and going up to the top, neither of which are permitted... not to mention new clearing, road building, operations structures, trucking, fugitive dust, pollution, noise, etc... I can't see anything in the former use which would could be used as permit precedent for approval of the current application.

On a separate note, are you still available for Wednesday?

Thanks for forwarding this and hope you can meet with us to help explain policy and procedures for our upriver community.

On Mar 25, 2019, at 2:30 PM, John Cooper <johnc@co.skagit.wa.us> wrote:

As per your request.

*John Cooper, LG, LHg
Geologist/Hydrogeologist/Natural Resource Planner
Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
johnc@co.skaqit.wa.us
(360) 416-1334*

<2384_001.pdf>

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 7:15 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jose M. Vila
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : Six days a week high explosives blasting at the top of a mountain that overlooks our peaceful upriver valley, huge off-road diesel powered mining trucks climbing up and down the 700 foot rock mountain to transport the rock to the loading area, 125 round trips a day to deliver to barges in Bellingham or elsewhere, massive rock crushing operation in the at the base of the mountain, fugitive dust, diesel exhaust, lubricants, oils, chemicals seeping into the sand and gravel aquifer of an area with so many wild and scenic rivers and creeks, a company with a poor environmental record only looking for profit... what could possibly go wrong?

Government monitored threatened and endangered species on the property. Upper Skagit Indian Tribe cultural and historic concerns about the areas included in proposed expansion. Eagle watchers, sports fishermen, nature lovers, cabins and recreation areas, berry farms, wineries, are all clustered in this wonderful stretch of river between Marblemount and Rockport. People heading through to North Cascades trailheads or Winthrop. Full-time and vacation homes all around the project site. Let's just apologize but ask them all to please go away or stay away while we blow up this mountain for the next hundred years. Sound crazy enough?

And except for constant road repair, the jobs that would use this product are not in Skagit County. If this permit application is approved say goodbye to the wild and scenic Upper Skagit River Valley and every reason we have to love it. If we have any sense at all, we will not let it happen.

From Host Address: 50.34.170.119

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 7:10:19 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 4:40 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Lydia Vila
[REDACTED]

City : Rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry proposal by Kiewit
Comments : Hello Skagit County Planning and Permits Department.

My name is Lydia Vila, I'm a home owner on Willow Lane, we have had our home since 2007 and live there to enjoy the Skagit River and surrounding area for it's pristine waters, lovely green forests and abundant wildlife. We have watched Peregrine Falcons nesting in the old Marblemount Quarry for years and I cannot for the life of me fathom any governmental agency thinking that the proposals by Kiewet would be for the good of anything in the county, let alone the state or our country. I would hope that preserving our natural area for now and future generations should be the top priority of our county government.

Please stop the Marblemount Quarry proposal, it won't help the economy in the area and will do lasting damage to the environment.

Thank you,
Lydia Vila

From Host Address: 174.203.15.4

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 4:36:53 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Deven Vilar
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I want to express my concern over the proposed Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount. I work in the Skagit Valley and in the North Cascades National Park. The North Cascades is a wild, scenic, and sensitive landscape and community. The risks associated with the project far outweigh the benefits and I do not believe it is in the best interest of the people, wildlife, or wild spaces of Marblemount, the North Cascades, and Skagit Valley.

From Host Address: 74.94.69.169

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 10:01:13 AM

From: [Lon-Marie Walton](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Kiewitt Infrastructure Quarry Operations Marblemount -59252 Rockport-Cascade Road
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:12:50 AM

I oppose this permit / project on the basis that it will cause grave environmental and economic damage to both the immediate area and the region in addition to threatening water quality and fish runs.

Any supposed benefits to the local area, if there are any, will be short lived at best. The region and immediate area are best served by working to preserve water quality and promote policies that prevent environmental degradation. Mining is well documented as causing irreparable damage by poisoning water supplies with chemicals and sediment.

In addition the loss of timber promotes landslides- think Oso, further sedimentary pollution of streams and is injurious to salmon runs; thereby depleting/ destroying the basis for commercial and recreational fishing.

I vehemently oppose this project.
Lon Walton

Sent from my iPhone

John Cooper

From: Dwight Washburn [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:09 PM
To: John Cooper
Cc: Dwight Washburn
Subject: File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070& PL19-0032

Dwight Washburn
[REDACTED]
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

re: File # PL19-0033, PL19-0047, BP19-0070& PL19-0032

Public Comments

I am concerned about the water being used for this project. As one of many Skagit County residents, I have lost my water rights on two build-able lots that was subdivided in the mid-1980. I lost over \$250,000 with the loss of water rights. No one should be able to get new water until the water rights are restored to all residents. Wealth and the ability to purchase water rights cannot be allowed over the rights of other property owners.

To mitigate this, all water used on these sites must be trucked in from outside the Skagit River Watershed.

Dwight Washburn

John Cooper

From: nancy weaver [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 4:32 PM
To: John Cooper; Lisa Janicki; Gary Hagland
Subject: Kiewit Quarry--Marblemount

Dear John Cooper,

First of all, I find it very disconcerting that such little notice is given to the public. (Standard operating procedure.) Thank goodness for KSVU Upriver Radio!

I am totally OPPOSED to this quarry expansion, for several reasons, but will limit this e mail to a few....

1.) 75 loads /day equals 150 trips on Hwy 20. Hwy. 20 already is a dangerous highway to drive on, any day, according to people who live along it, as well as my auto insurance co. We already have to deal with logging trucks, elk, speeding drivers, and in summer, thousands of tourists who don't know how to slow down or watch for people turning. Adding large, heavily loaded rock trucks, equipment trucks, and trucks carrying explosives is one of the MOST LUDICROUS ideas I've heard!!!! (How long would it take for one of those trucks to stop for a turning driver? Who would pay for the additional road wear?...tax payers????*(My taxes are already too high thanks to Skagit County and the Swinomish Tribe!!!) This is a scenic, residential area...that you guys are supposed to be protecting.

2.) I am sick and tired of hearing that "there isn't enough water for the fish AND the rural residents of this valley"....yet, suddenly, there's enough water for a massive project like this....for 'dust control'....won't some of that water evaporate and go into that 'black hole' (like the water that people exhale that doesn't recharge the river?)...and the water that is returned to the ground will be contaminated with chemicalswhat happened to your 'concern' about the poor fish!!!???? (Just like there's suddenly enough water for a 3,500 home housing development.) Funny, how the water magically appears when it's for something OTHER THAN RURAL LAND OWNERS.

3.) How will this quarry expansion help the economics of the people in the Skagit Valley?...IT WON'T. The people of this valley would only bear the consequences of this ludicrous idea.

4.) Consider the people who would live near by.

Please do your job and represent the people of this valley.

Thank you.

Nancy Weaver

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 9:10 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Julie Weir
[REDACTED]

City : Salmon
State : Idaho
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kewitt infrastructure Quarry Marblemount PL19-0033

Comments : I own a home I rent to my daughter and her 4 small children on Rockport Cascade that has this mountain range in the backyard. I object this proposal. I need more time to review and comment. Comments should be extended to minimum 30 days. This is 100 year permit and I've just become aware of the massive project! We need more time to review the plans and application. This will negatively affect our environment and property values! How does this project align with protecting the Skagit as a wild and scenic river? what about my grandchildren and their home? My 4 year old grandson has Down syndrome a heart defect and breathing issues. How will a project of this size not have impacts on water and air quality?

I demand a thorough independent Environmental Impact Study be done. I am very concerned about potential ground water contamination and river contamination. We purchased this home out here as a refuge for our family. That is why most people move or invest in the area. Is the county really willing to trade tourist income, the health of its citizens and our environment for this out of state companies profit???

From Host Address: 72.107.184.137

Date and time received: 3/24/2019 9:05:46 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 9:15 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Saul Weisberg
[REDACTED]

City : Bellingham
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation (Marblemount)

Comments : I am writing to express my concerns and opposition to the Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry proposal in its current form. I have worked in the Skagit Valley for the past 40 year, have lived in Marblemount and Rockport, and believe the impacts of the quarry would have long-lasting negative impacts on our upriver communities. Please provide an extension of the comment deadline and require a full EIS for this project. The impacts reach far beyond the immediate area. I have particular concerns for its impacts on local residents, transportation, fisheries and wildlife. as well as the main stem Skagit.

From Host Address: 73.53.8.86

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 9:11:31 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 1:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Andrea Weiser
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry
Comments : To: Skagit County Planning Office
Planning and Development Services?1800 Continental Place?Mount Vernon WA 98273

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I have reviewed the project proposal and supporting documents for expansion of the Kiewet infrastructure for rock quarrying and mining in Marblemount 59252 Rockport-Cascade Road, Skagit County, within a portion of Section 24, Township 35 North, Range 10 East, Skagit County, WA (Parcels P45543, P45541, P45548, P45552, P45550, P45548, P128574, & P120304). The associated permits are PL19-0032 and PL19-0033, PL19-0046, and BP 19-0070.

I am deeply concerned with this proposal because even without a fuller understanding of overall reach or longevity of impacts (i.e., through an EIS), this is clearly an inappropriate location for such dramatic direct and indirect impacts to the health of people, animals and fish, health of the natural environment, and the overall aesthetics and quality of life for all those who live in or travel to this project vicinity.

This proposal is in a location within close proximity to a wild and scenic river in one of the largest annual migration areas for bald eagles in the country in a river system where federal, state and tribal agencies, and non-profit groups work in coordination and have spent millions of dollars to enhance and protect and educate the public about salmon and wildlife habitats and environmental health. This project is located at the gateway to U.S. National Park and U.S. National Forest wild and wilderness areas where visitors from all over the world come to enjoy the scenery and recreation opportunities in a rural, remote, mountainous non-industrial setting. Several things about the proposed project are diametrically opposed to these values and would undermine the progress that has been made over the last several decades to promote recovery from resource exploitation and extraction and cooperation and collaboration between groups toward a common goal.

This quarry expansion project is counter to the mission of the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) which, is a small state agency that manages millions of dollars in grant programs each year to "create outdoor recreation opportunities, protect the best of the state's wildlife habitat and farmland, and help return salmon from near extinction." The habitat and recreation opportunities in the Skagit River system is a key part of their programs. They collaborate with partners and tribal communities annually with a focus toward restoration. The project proposal and potential effects of the quarry project in this location is the direct opposite of RCO mission and the organizations it supports: i.e., Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB); Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB); Invasive Species Council Governor's Salmon Recovery Office; Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group."

People visit and live in Marblemount because of the low population density, abundant fish and wildlife, clarity of the air and water and beauty of the landscape. Not only would the proposed project disturb the peaceful beauty of the landscape, it would leave a lasting visible scar on the geography and a series of invisible scars that may take decades to recognize or understand.

The studies that are submitted with the project proposal so far only serve to highlight the great gaps in understanding of the lasting and overall impacts of such a proposal. Yet comparison to other areas of and projects of similar scope and scale make it clear that the costs and risks to the surrounding community and environment would be far greater than the benefit.

Noise

Perhaps the most obvious immediate and lasting negative impact over the broadest reach would be sound. From my home in Marblemount, I can already hear a chainsaw from over a mile away and rocky ridges reflect that sound like a speaker to the rest of the community. It's difficult for me to fathom the noise and vibration impact of blasting for constructing over a mile-long stretch of road, chainsaw and heavy equipment noise for timber harvest of 2.7 million board feet over 90 acres and the truck traffic to transport all that timber. Removal of 3.8 cubic meters of quarry rock and transporting it could involve up to 250 truck trips per day, at three minute intervals, six days per week for 12-hour days. Add to this level of noise disturbance a rock crushing operation, oversized trucks carrying rock pieces large enough to use for jetties, and gas and diesel re-supply trucks large enough to fill and refill storage tanks for 13,000 gallons of diesel fuel and 1,500 gallons of gasoline. There is no way to adequately mitigate for this sustained level of sound and traffic for the people living directly downslope or across the road from these proposed operations such as the residential homes along Cascade River Road. And the noise would be projected by the rock faces being demolished and would carry across the valley, across the river and be heard by people specifically in Marblemount for the quiet camping and recreating experiences. Tourism is an important part of the economy and the National Park Service and Forest Service have built their programs to support it.

Environmental Health & Water Quality

Transport, storage, and resupply of diesel and gas leave the area at risk for spillage of toxic materials which can cause local soil contamination and far reaching contamination through water transport. The proposed work is on a rocky site in an area that receives an average rainfall of roughly 70-80 inches per year. This is a setup for slope runoff conditions compounded by the proposed timber harvest that would put fish-bearing streams and the Skagit River system at risk for contamination.

Traffic

Traffic increases from the transportation of timber, rock, gravel, and diesel and gas would cause a huge negative impact to the surrounding community(ies) for traffic safety and road maintenance due to the heavy loads. Currently the Cascade River Road is a favored route for bicyclists, motorcyclists, runners and fishermen in addition to the local commuter traffic you might expect in a rural community. It is a quiet road with not much traffic and a narrow shoulder. This dramatic shift in usage would cause a safety hazard for anyone wanting to run or ride a bike and the large and oversized trucks used to transport extracted materials would cause bottleneck areas for motorists and increase hazards such as flying gravel or debris from truck wheels.

Sincerely,
Andrea L. Weiser
[Redacted]
Marblemount, WA 98267

--
Andrea Weiser, M.A.
Earth Logic,

Archaeological Consulting

From Host Address: 104.235.166.156

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 1:21:48 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 1:30 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Andrea Weiser
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

Comments : PART 2. The online form is restrictive in number of characters. This is the second of two parts:

Environmental Considerations

Though the SEPA checklist and Biological Assessment touches on several of my other concerns, the scope of study so far has been either inadequate to address them or already made it clear to me that this proposed project is not suitable for the location it is proposed within.

Comprehensive Plan and State Constitution

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- by avoiding nuisances through ensuring against incompatible neighboring land uses;
- by balancing public and private responsibilities that may have conflicting interests;
- by providing predictability that enhances the value of private property;
- by protecting and conserving the natural resources that provide us with clean air and water;
- by protecting our heritage by preserving both natural and man-made resources, and scenic and cultural areas that generate civic pride;
- by assuring that each generation has responsibilities as a trustee of the environment for future generations;
- by attaining the widest range of land uses without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences; and
- by recognizing that each person has a fundamental and inalienable right to a healthful environment and that each person has a responsibility to contribute to the protection and enhancement of the environment;
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particular expertise relevant to reviewing the cultural resources investigation for the project as a professional archaeologist recognized by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) and the Secretary of Interior for my professional qualifications, which include a Masters degree in archaeology and over 25 years of experience, most of that in the surrounding area in Washington. I have reviewed dozens of such reports in Washington in recent years across several counties and conducted many archaeological investigations myself so I am well aware of the guidelines set forth by the DAHP as well as best management practices and common styles of investigation that are conducted in the region. For an area of medium to high probability for archaeological discovery such as this, a low level interval of investigation would be 5 shovel tests per acre which would equate to 600 shovel probes for this 150-acre project. Archaeological survey is typically tailored to the topography and conditions in a project area and the research design should show an appropriate coverage of the area to meet due diligence. In an area like this that includes a lot of rocky terrain, the number of shovel probes would be reduced but the amount of pedestrian survey transects would be increased due to the potential for rock art, rock shelters, toolstone outcrops, cairns and other features that may be related to hunting, ceremony or other activities.

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Again, I appreciate the opportunity to comment and thank you for considering the many additional ways that this proposal threatens quality of life and health of the community and environment now and in the very distant future.

Sincerely,
Andrea L. Weiser


Marblemount, WA 98267

--
Andrea Weiser, M.A.
Earth Logic,
Archaeological Consulting

From Host Address: 104.235.166.156

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 1:26:27 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 8:55 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Andrea Weiser
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0032, PL19-0033, PL19-0046 and BP 19-0070

Comments : I sent you a letter regarding these permit applications earlier this week but want to also ask for an extension on the comment period. I only learned of the proposed quarry in Marblemount and associated roads and infrastructure early last week and there are many other community members and concerned groups who are just learning about it and have not had any opportunity to review documents in any detail or submit comments. I have reviewed some but not all of the documents associated with and relevant to this proposal and would like the opportunity to review them more completely.

I would also like to make a correction from my previous letter submitted by electronic form on March 26 and by hard copy letter postmarked March 27. In that letter, I mention potential sound and traffic having a detrimental impact on people living in residential homes on "Cascade River Road." I meant to write Rockport-Cascade Road. Though I'm sure the noise would be heard from Cascade River Road as well as many other surrounding areas, I would prefer to hear coyotes, owls, wolves, and the sound of the clear running rivers and creeks so please consider how incongruous this project is with the locale in which it is proposed and the ripple effect not just to the people who have a voice but also on the plants, birds and animals, fish, amphibians, and the ecosystem in which they live down to the bottom of the food chain.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment.

From Host Address: 50.34.202.45

Date and time received: 3/28/2019 8:50:30 PM

Comments on PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2019

SKAGIT COUNTY
PDS

Full Name: Andrea Weiser

[REDACTED] Marblemount, WA 98267

Proposal Name or Permit Number: PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

To: Skagit County Planning Office pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us
Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon WA 98273

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I have reviewed the project proposal and supporting documents for expansion of the Kiewet infrastructure for rock quarrying and mining in Marblemount 59252 Rockport-Cascade Road, Skagit County, within a portion of Section 24, Township 35 North, Range 10 East, Skagit County, WA (Parcels P45543, P45541, P45548, P45552, P45550, P45548, P128574, & P120304). The associated permits are PL19-0032 and PL19-0033, PL19-0046, and BP 19-0070.

I am deeply concerned with this proposal because even without a fuller understanding of overall reach or longevity of impacts (i.e., through an EIS), this is clearly an inappropriate location for such dramatic direct and indirect impacts to the health of people, animals and fish, health of the natural environment, and the overall aesthetics and quality of life for all those who live in or travel to this project vicinity.

This proposal is in a location within close proximity to a wild and scenic river in one of the largest annual migration areas for bald eagles in the country in a river system where federal, state and tribal agencies, and non-profit groups work in coordination and have spent millions of dollars to enhance and protect and educate the public about salmon and wildlife habitats and environmental health. This project is located at the gateway to U.S. National Park and U.S. National Forest wild and wilderness areas where visitors from all over the world come to enjoy the scenery and recreation opportunities in a rural, remote, mountainous non-industrial setting. Several things about the proposed project are diametrically opposed to these values and would undermine the progress that has been made over the last several decades to promote recovery from resource exploitation and extraction and cooperation and collaboration between groups toward a common goal.

This quarry expansion project is counter to the mission of the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) which, is a small state agency that manages millions of dollars in grant programs each year to "create outdoor recreation opportunities, protect the best of the state's wildlife habitat and farmland, and help return salmon from near extinction(www.RCO.wa.gov)." The habitat and recreation opportunities in the Skagit River system is a key part of their programs. They collaborate with partners and tribal communities annually with a focus toward restoration. The project proposal and

March 26, 2019

Page 1 of 5

Comments on PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

potential effects of the quarry project in this location is the direct opposite of RCO mission and the organizations it supports: i.e., Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB); Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB); Invasive Species Council Governor's Salmon Recovery Office; Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group."

People visit and live in Marblemount because of the low population density, abundant fish and wildlife, clarity of the air and water and beauty of the landscape. Not only would the proposed project disturb the peaceful beauty of the landscape, it would leave a lasting visible scar on the geography and a series of invisible scars that may take decades to recognize or understand.

The studies that are submitted with the project proposal so far only serve to highlight the great gaps in understanding of the lasting and overall impacts of such a proposal. Yet comparison to other areas of and projects of similar scope and scale make it clear that the costs and risks to the surrounding community and environment would be far greater than the benefit.

Noise

Perhaps the most obvious immediate and lasting negative impact over the broadest reach would be sound. From my home in Marblemount, I can already hear a chainsaw from over a mile away and rocky ridges reflect that sound like a speaker to the rest of the community. It's difficult for me to fathom the noise and vibration impact of blasting for constructing over a mile-long stretch of road, chainsaw and heavy equipment noise for timber harvest of 2.7 million board feet over 90 acres and the truck traffic to transport all that timber. Removal of 3.8 cubic meters of quarry rock and transporting it could involve up to 250 truck trips per day, at three minute intervals, six days per week for 12-hour days. Add to this level of noise disturbance a rock crushing operation, oversized trucks carrying rock pieces large enough to use for jetties, and gas and diesel re-supply trucks large enough to fill and refill storage tanks for 13,000 gallons of diesel fuel and 1,500 gallons of gasoline. There is no way to adequately mitigate for this sustained level of sound and traffic for the people living directly downslope or across the road from these proposed operations such as the residential homes along Cascade River Road. And the noise would be projected by the rock faces being demolished and would carry across the valley, across the river and be heard by people specifically in Marblemount for the quiet camping and recreating experiences. Tourism is an important part of the economy and the National Park Service and Forest Service have built their programs to support it.

Environmental Health & Water Quality

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Comments on PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

Traffic

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Environmental Considerations

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Comments on PL19-0033, Marblemount Quarry

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Sincerely,



Andrea L. Weiser

Marblemount, WA 98267

--

Andrea Weiser, M.A.
Earth Logic,
Archaeological Consulting

From: [Andrea Weiser](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Comments on the Notice of Development for Marblemount Quarry (PL19-0032 and PL19-0033, PL19-0046, and BP 19-0070).
Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 7:45:20 PM

To: Skagit County Planning Office pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us
Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon WA 98273

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I have reviewed the project proposal and supporting documents for expansion of the Kiewet infrastructure for rock quarrying and mining in Marblemount 59252 Rockport-Cascade Road, Skagit County, within a portion of Section 24, Township 35 North, Range 10 East, Skagit County, WA (Parcels P45543, P45541, P45548, P45552, P45550, P45548, P128574, & P120304). The associated permits are PL19-0032 and PL19-0033, PL19-0046, and BP 19-0070.

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Sincerely,

Andrea L. Weiser

[REDACTED]

Marblemount, WA 98267

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 10:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Robert Weit
[REDACTED]

City : Salmon
State : ID
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Keiwi Infrastructure Marblemount Quarry

Comments : I oppose the Quarry in Marblemount. I own a home on Rockport Cascade road that I am renting to my Daughter and her family. This was a substantial investment we made in this home to purchase it and remodel it two years ago. If this mine goes in we will immediately ask for a reassessment of our home. If property values go down we will not be paying the same taxes we do now. The county is really ok decreasing the values of everyone who lives up there? I have several retired friends that live in Marblegate who have the same concerns as me. From what I understand they are proposing to build a driveway right across from this nice community? I hope the county and its representatives will listen to the voice of the people. The reason we chose to purchase a home in Marblemount was because we wanted a place we could go to enjoy our retirement and our grand children could be raised in the cradle of nature.

I love to fish on the big Edy of the skagit. It is a popular area for locals and people who drive from miles around to fish. Fish are very sensitive to sound, vibration, and pollution of their waters. You should consider the proximity of Illabot and Jordan to this proposed location.

Part of the beauty of this area is the majestic untouched mountains. At least the ones without scars from logging. This area can be seen from many areas. It will be an eye sore not to mention ruining any peace with the frequent blasting. This type of mining seems to be incompatible with the the many homes close by and the pristine nature of skagit river area.

Both 530 and highway 20 are not built for big trucks. The speed limits, intersection, and curvy roads are not safe. My grand children's school bus is supposed to share the road with these trucks? When I visit I love to bike up and down Rockport Cascade but there is no shoulder. Will I be forced to wait in the ditch while big trucks pass?

I also protest because Skagit River is a national designation as wild and scenic and should be protected. I tried to briefly look at the plan in the areas that were most alarming to me. I do not have enough time to go through the whole document. Please extend the comment period. I would like to comment on many of the specifics involving the safety of my grandchildren and my property. They will be storing and using explosives at the site. What type of security will they have? There is a lot of theft in the area. My friend with a vacation home says you have to have tight security on anything, locks are not enough. Additionally, the risk of wildfire in the area is great, and increasing every summer with prolonged droughts. What will happen in the event of a quick moving wildfire overcoming the explosives storage? Marblemount

operates a volunteer fire department, as does Rockport and Darrington. The closest ALS (Advanced Life Support) ambulance comes from Concrete, and is the one ambulance that serves the entire upriver community. I was a firefighter all my life and volunteered at my local small town fire department for many years on my days off. I can not imagine having this type of operation in a low resource area with simply a bare bones volunteer staff? I have been up there to hear the alarm sound several times over before a response it sent out.

The emergency response plan is not sufficient. This company has not put much thought into managing risks and any potential disasters.

I am concerned for the very sensitive eco system and demand an Environmental Impact Study be done. There is no way a project of this size in such a key biological are will not have devastating effects. The whole valley would suffer from tourism dollars lost if the upriver area becomes unattractive for recreation.

I hope that Skagit County can make the right decision on this one and value property and environmental rights over corporate insterests. My wife and I considered buying another home in Marblemount to move closer to my grandchildren but we will have to wait to see what happens in this proposal. We will not be investing in this area any more should this go though.

From Host Address: 72.106.54.232

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 10:45:53 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kathleen West, PhD
[REDACTED]

City : Seattle

State : Washington
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Permit PL19-0033 Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount
Comments : I am writing to strongly oppose the plan to greatly expand mining activity in the quarry on Rockport Cascade Rd in Marblemount, WA.

Individually, as a resident of Washington, I gain enjoyment from the natural environment in Skagit County, including the land, trees, birds, and other components of the ecosystem that would be at risk should these plans go forward. I value places of tranquility and nature within a short driving distance from the population center of Seattle, and having a place to teach my children about the ecological importance as well as health benefits derived from such preserved spaces. The proposed plans have far-reaching effects, not limited to those who live near the quarry site.

But more importantly, as a Public Health professional whose focus is on ethical community engagement around issues affecting the public's health, I worry about the impact of this operation on the surrounding community. The residents that I personally know and care about are deeply concerned about what this means for their small children's wellness—some of whom have serious existing health conditions that could be exacerbated by the increased activity—including exposure to air and noise pollution, disturbances to their peaceful environment that they sought when they chose to invest in the Marblemount community.

I urge those with the power to approve or deny this plan to 1) arrange for a thorough environmental impact study, and 2) take on a more involved community engagement process; to take seriously the residents' concerns, and work in partnership to come up with a plan that meets the community's needs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathleen West, PhD

From Host Address: 97.126.6.62

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:30:43 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 7:05 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Jeffrey Weyand
[REDACTED]

City : rockport
State : wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : In regards to the proposed Marblemount Quarry, I would like to be on record as deeply concerned about the impacts of such a massive operation on our community. It appears that, if initiated as proposed, this quarry will seriously impact our lives: noise, dust, traffic, 24 hour hauling, negative effects on our wildlife cohabitants, lack of monetary benefit to the local community, and questionable and ill defined mitigation proposals.

In light of such negative impacts on our community, I and my family strongly oppose this project as proposed.

From Host Address: 46.244.28.91

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 7:02:41 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Careisa whitford
[REDACTED]

City : rockport
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit infrastructure quarry operations near marblemount.
Comments : I oppose a quarry in marblemount

From Host Address: 174.216.1.199

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:18:22 PM

John Cooper

From: gwk <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 6:52 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Marblemount Quarry Opposition PL-19-0033

I am writing in opposition to the proposed Marblemount Quarry (PL-19-0033). I am a Mother, Therapist, Homesteader, Business Owner and Environmental Steward in the upper Skagit Valley.

There are many reasons why the Marblemount Quarry would be detrimental to the Upper Skagit River Community and Corridor. below, I have addressed some of my concerns with this proposal. The upper Skagit Valley is a quiet community that provides locals and visitors a place to retreat into nature and to get away from the chaos and sounds of the city. Home to many protected and endangered animals, military veterans, families, and homesteaders, the peace of the upper Skagit region is what draws people to this area. Those who live in this community and those who enjoy visiting here, choose to do so because of the beauty, calm, and connection that this pristine environment and delicate ecosystem offers. It connects us to a simpler time in our history, one where people worked together with their community, cherished time with their family, and connected to the natural environment around them. Sadly, with the proposal for the Marblemount Quarry, these precious assets will cease to exist.

With the constant sound of generators running around the clock, large trucks driving to/from the quarry, and the intense sound and vibrations caused by the blasting of the rock, our wildlife population would decrease, and our lifestyles would be greatly affected. Veterans and those in the community with PTSD, as well as sensitive pets, would be in constant distress due to the extreme increase in Noise Pollution; local businesses would be affected as well. Vacation rentals would see a decrease in visitors, affecting the already limited opportunities for locals to generate income, if the area's peaceful environment was no more. For instance, on Rockport Cascade Road, there is a retreat for wounded warriors, visitors will not be able to retreat to reduce their stress and trauma with sounds and vibrations caused by quarry blasting, and large trucks driving by all day.

It is well known that Quarries pose a high risk of contamination to groundwater resources. Pollution of the waterways would decrease the quality of the drinking water for residents, as most of this area is utilizing well water; with no hope for building new well systems, due to the already in place well moratorium by the Swinomish Tribe. In addition, the natural resources for wildlife, in this area and down river, would be affected; including the Salmon population. This river corridor is a wild and scenic area that has tribal communities overseeing the Salmon population, contaminated riverways and groundwater would severely affect their habitat.

Many people in this community have chosen to live here to be away from pollutants that affect their health and well-being. Even within permissible limits, the Air Quality would be greatly affected, due to the creation of airborne dust caused from the blasting. Each aspect of this quarry will diminish the quality of life for the residents, both human and wildlife of this area.

Families raising children upriver chose the upper Skagit, for the beauty, peace and as a safe haven for their loved ones. Our desire was to offer our children the opportunity to have a natural childhood. One where they can connect with nature, explore the beauty of the area, have clean air and water, and ride the bikes on quiet country roads. The quarry would take this away and more. The increase in traffic, on Rockport Cascade and Hwys 530 and 20, would create safety concerns for our children. Whether it be when they are out playing or when commuting to school, groceries, etc., the increased traffic of large trucks pose a safety concern. Side roads will see an increase in traffic posing harm to those riding their bikes, walking to neighbors and riding horses. Many cars will choose to detour through these quiet side roads in order to bypass the trucks hauling material, decreasing the safety and quality of life for those in the community. With commuting, the Hwys are winding and narrow and dangerous enough without the increase of large vehicles that are difficult to see

around, have debris falling off, and are moving a large degree of mass at high speeds. Many children in the area ride the bus to and from school for over an hour each way, the buses would have to navigate around the trucks and there is an immense amount of danger to the children who are crossing the highway in dark hours. Those who commute their children to school or when going to work will have to follow behind trucks causing limited visibility and the potential hazard of debris falling off which causes an increase in accidents. We do not need to create further safety concerns on these highways than is already present with logging trucks, buses, recreational vehicles, and cars driving up and down the valley.

Considering the health, well-being and safety of the residents and visitors of the Upper Skagit community, and the grave environmental impact this quarry proposal will have, I ask that you please consider the larger impact that is at stake. Please help keep the Upper Skagit corridor Wild, Scenic, Safe, and Healthy.

Thank you for your consideration,
GuruBani Whitney

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:25 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Patia Wiebe-Wright

[REDACTED]
City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : I oppose the creation of the quarry due to the disruption to wildlife near the North Cascades National Park. Wolves have recently been spotted on the west side of the Cascade Mountains near Marblemount, and additionally, fishers have just been reintroduced to the area. The quarry would disrupt their return to their traditional ecosystem and put stress on other animals in the area.

Furthermore, the quarry is a safety risk to humans, both in the immediate and the long term. In the immediate terms, due to its remote location, it would be difficult for emergency vehicles to reach anyone injured at the quarry in a timely manner. Additionally, the quarry would increase the risk of landslides and threaten the community nearby. Also, the quarry would increase air and water pollution.

Dues to these concerns and more, I believe the quarry should be halted.

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:21:44 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 5:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : robert wilson
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : pl19-0033

Comments : Hi, I live in Marblemount and this quarry will bring much more noise and traffic in an area that is already experiencing much more traffic in summer and off seasons.

Your hours of operation are too long and too early. Your special longer hours means even longer noise and traffic pollution.

I can not imagine all the oils and possibly pesticides and herbicides used to maintain the quarry will be good for the Skagit river system.

OVERALL A VERY BAD PLAN

From Host Address: 104.235.191.25

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 5:45:35 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:10 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Sharon Wilson
[REDACTED]

City : Mount Vernon
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Comments : Please NO! Do not allow this 100-year quarry in our beautiful Skagit Valley. There are so many reasons this is a bad idea. The three most important to me are listed below:

- 1) heavy truck traffic will damage our roads, increase the risk for accidents, and add unnecessary congestion.
- 2) noise pollution and marring of the beautiful hillside and scenery we love in our valley
- 3) environmental consequences -- water & air pollution, wildlife interference/disruption

Please do not allow this proposal to continue. Stop it, PLEASE!

Thank you,
Sharon Wilson

From Host Address: 50.34.131.74

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 8:06:10 AM

From: [Sharon Wilson](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:12:06 AM

Please NO! Do not allow this 100-year quarry in our beautiful Skagit Valley. There are so many reasons this is a bad idea. The three most important to me are listed below:

- 1) heavy truck traffic will damage our roads, increase the risk for accidents, and add unnecessary congestion.
- 2) noise pollution and marring of the beautiful hillside and scenery we love in our valley
- 3) environmental consequences -- water & air pollution, wildlife interference/disruption

Please do not allow this proposal to continue. Stop it, PLEASE!

Thank you,
Sharon Wilson

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Sharon Wilson](#)
To: [PDS comments](#)
Subject: Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 8:20:23 AM

RE: Kiewet Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, Permit PL19-0033

Please NO! Do not allow this 100-year quarry in our beautiful Skagit Valley. There are so many reasons this is a bad idea. The three most important to me are listed below:

1. Heavy truck traffic will damage our roads, increase the risk of accidents, and add unnecessary congestion
2. Noise pollution and visual marring of the beautiful hillside and scenery we love in our valley
3. Environmental consequences – water and air pollution, wildlife interference and disruption.

Please do not allow this proposal to continue. Stop it, PLEASE!

Thank you,
Sharon Wilson

[REDACTED]

Mount Vernon, WA 98273

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 11:29 AM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: Feedback Submission

From: feedback@co.skagit.wa.us <feedback@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 10:25 AM
To: website <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: Feedback Submission

Department : Planning and Development Services
Name : Suzanne and Gary Wilson

Other : Comments on the Marblemount Quarry, SEPA PL 19-0032, Grading BP 19-0070, Forest Practice PL 19-0047, Mining Special Use PL 19-0033. The dust control plan says nothing about watering down the trucks themselves. We live off of Highway 20 and those trucks spew dust for miles once on the highway. Also, your site says 75 loads per day but the Traffic Analysis says up to 260 daily trips. That will create an impact whether all the data corroborates it or not. In addition to reducing truck traffic during 4-5 p.m. it would be nice to increase it to between 4-6 p.m. and to also reduce truck traffic between 7-8 a.m. Thank you for your consideration of improvements to a thoughtful and thorough plan.

From Host Address: 174.127.207.2

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 10:22:00 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 12:35 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Anne Winkes
[REDACTED]

City : Conway
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Marblemount Quarry, SEPA application: PL19-0032, Grading application: BP19-0070, Forest practice conversion application: PL19-0047, Mining special use permit: PL19-0033

Comments : I am concerned about Kiewit Infrastructure's proposed expansion of its quarry near Marblemount.

I am concerned about the potentially adverse impacts of the quarry, during its expansion and throughout its lifetime, on the area's environment and ecosystems, including the impacts of the air, noise, and water pollution generated by all quarry related activities on

- the Skagit River, home to federally Threatened species under the Endangered Species Act including Chinook, Steelhead, and Bull Trout, as fuels and blasting chemicals will leak into the site's soil and eventually enter the Skagit River via drainage from the watershed.
- Peregrine falcon nesting habitat
- Marbled murrelet nesting habitat
- Gray Wolf habitat
- Fisher habitat

I am concerned about the potential adverse impacts of the quarry generated air, noise, and water pollution on the area's tourist economy. Marblemount is the gateway to the North Cascades National Park. Pressentin Park is a favorite camping spot for many Skagit County residents. Who wants to camp near a quarry where blasting activity occurs twice a day, where rock drilling and crushing are a daily occurrence, and dust fills the air? Who wants to visit a national park where dust obscures the vistas, and where traffic on the highway leading to and from the park is slowed by multiple haul trucks transporting stones and multiple support vehicles? Who wants to seek solitude and peace in a region where heavy equipment is heard in the background from 6 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday?

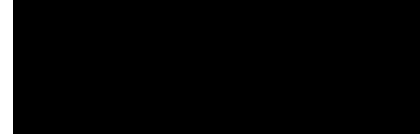
I understand that Kiewit Infrastructure has applied for a 100 year permit. Any proposal that will impact an area for a century requires careful and studied consideration. To require an EIS before granting a 100 years permit is only good common sense.

Please require that an EIS study in depth the adverse impacts of the proposed quarry's activities, during expansion and throughout its lifetime, on the region's land, water, air, wildlife (terrestrial, aquatic, and aerial), human population (both residential and transient), infrastructure, roads (including highway 20, highway 530, Rockport Cascade Rd., Cook Rd, I-5) and economy. Please require that the EIS analyze in detail any proposed mitigation for both short, intermediate and long term impacts. A hundred years is a very long time.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Anne Winkes


Conway, wa



From Host Address: 172.92.226.32

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 12:30:45 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 1:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Rebecca Winters
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, permit application PL19-0033
Comments : (section one)

I have recently become aware of an application to re-open and expand a rock quarry on Rockport Cascade Road in Marblemount. I live just over one half of a mile from where the mine would be operating. This would profoundly negatively affect myself and my family, not to mention the other people in my neighborhood, as well as all of the wildlife in the area. I have read much of the paperwork submitted to the county from Kiewit, and while there are a lot of figures, numbers and information in that paperwork, there is a lot that is not mentioned. I have many concerns and questions about the applications and plans by Kiewit. I would greatly appreciate you extending the comment period so I can further review the paperwork and plan that is proposed. First off, to understand some of the impact of this mine, one must know what the area is like currently. This a rural neighborhood with 30 plus homes less than a mile from the proposed quarry, plus over 200 people in the greater Marblemount area. My neighborhood consists of families, couples, retirees and a few vacation type residences. It is common to see people out on the road walking their dog, biking, jogging, or pushing their kids in strollers. In the summer, the road often has motorcyclists, car clubs bike groups and hikers who use Rockport Cascade road to avoid the traffic of route 20. Before starting this e-mail, I went for a walk down my road (Rockport Cascade Road). I walked about one and a half miles down and back, and was out for just about an hour. On my walk I used the road as there is no shoulder or sidewalk. The only sounds I heard were the running of the water down the mountain, the birds chirping and my footsteps as my boots hit the road. To say that this is a peaceful quiet area is an understatement. This is an area where people go to "get away from it all". They come here to go fishing, to watch eagles, to hike and camp. This is what people picture when they picture beautiful green Washington State. I moved to Washington over eighteen years ago, we bought our property here in Skagit County as a second (get away) home six and a half years ago, then we moved up here permanently just over three years ago. I have two kids whom I homeschool. One who is developmentally delayed. My kids have been thriving out here. They love how quiet it is, and how they can hear the birds chirping and the leaves rustling as an animal is walking through our forested yard. My kids love to see the many animals that come into our yard, the deer, elk, coyotes, snakes, humming birds, eagles, as well as the other animals that we have seen on our road such as bobcats and a wolverine. This is also a perfect place to see the stars, the meteor showers and the eclipses, as there is no light pollution. My kids absolutely love it out here and they know that yes, we have to drive to get groceries and to do other shopping, but they are fine with that since they know it means peace and quiet in their neighborhood. I am hoping that all of this information is nothing new to you and that you yourself have been to Marblemount, specifically Rockport Cascade Road, and have enjoyed the peace and quiet. This is why most of the people who live here have moved here.

Now I would like to express some concerns that I have with the Kiewit proposal, as well as ask some questions

that I have that I do not feel Kiewit has addressed in their paperwork.

The first point I would like to address is the issue of sound.

As I have stated earlier, one of the many benefits of living in this area is how quiet it is. What I haven't mentioned is that when there is some noise, it echoes throughout the neighborhood, and across the water. I know anytime someone in the neighborhood is using their chainsaw, generator, or tractor. Or when someone down the road is hunting. I can hear cars coming over a mile away.

In the Sound Analysis Kiewit has filed Table 5-1 lists the levels for equipment that will be used at this mine. There are versions of some of these machines that are specifically made to create less noise, will the lower noise versions of this equipment be used? if not, why? (Considering that in general this is a very quiet area)

In section 3.4 of the Project proposal Kiewit lists 4-6 blasts per day for road construction, and section 3.8 lists up to 2 blasts a day for actual mining. There is no chart for the sound levels of the blasts. What levels will the blasts be?

How will the fact that sound echos off of the mountains effect the noise levels? (When a jet airplane flies overhead it sounds like it's going to land on my house).

Several studies have shown the negative impact that sound has on learning, I have two kids that I homeschool. This noise will negatively impact my kids and how they learn.

I have a son who has Down syndrome, like most kids with Down syndrome he has noise sensitivity. Not only will this noise make it harder for him to focus on his studies and learn (which is already a challenge for him) the noise will also traumatize him.

What is Kiewit's responsibility should something go awry and the noise level would bust windows etc?

The second point I would like to address is the amount of traffic on our road.

Section 2.2 of the Project Description says that there will be up to 75 round trip truck loads of rocks per day, this is a huge increase in traffic and weight on the road.

The 75 truck loads per day are not the only amount of traffic this project will add, there will also be the traffic added due to the people working at the site (35 parking spaces are planned at the site), the maintenance vehicles, the vehicles bringing fuel and supplies to the quarry.

The traffic impact analysis says that it will add an extra 260 trips per day, but that it would not adversely affect the local area. How does adding that much traffic not affect the area?

Rockport Cascade Road is not a heavily traveled road and it is not set up to handle large trucks. There is no shoulder area, and no sidewalk area.

Often throughout the year cars will be parked on the side of the road due to people hunting and foraging in the area. The large trucks will have to be on alert for these cars which are sometimes not fully off of the road.

There is sometimes wildlife in the road, often early in the morning and at dusk, that the truck drivers will have to watch out for. The drivers will have a hard time stopping for these animals, due to limited sight distance sometimes, as well as the quickness of the animals sprinting in front of the trucks.

In the summer especially, hikers, bikers and motorcyclists use this road traveling in between SR530 and SR20. This will make driving more challenging for the truck drivers and the route less enjoyable for the hikers and bikers.

This large amount of traffic, especially trucks, will add to the noise pollution and the air pollution in the area, not to mention all the way to I-5 via SR 20.

(section one)

From Host Address: 174.216.29.22

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 1:37:57 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 1:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Rebecca Winters
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Infrastructure Quarry operation near Marblemount, permit application PL19-0033
Comments : (section two)

The third point I would like to address is the issue of pollution. There are too many ways that this mine can and will cause pollution that I will only list the biggest issues. The added amount of traffic on Rockport Cascade road will add a tremendous amount of Carbon monoxide put into the air. The vehicles and equipment being used at the quarry site will be adding carbon monoxide into the air. Water was cited to be used to help reduce the dust in the air. There will be explosive residue in the area that will be washed into the ground and surrounding water ways. The run off from the water used at the quarry will flow into our streams and water system, which will eventually flow into the Skagit River (a protected water source) and could effect the wells of the families around the quarry site. This will negatively affect the fish and the animals that drink from the streams, and rivers. The amount of small particle dust in the air will negatively affect the animals and people living around the quarry, especially the people who already have health issues. There will be 13,000 gallons of diesel and 1.500 gallons of gas in containers on site for fueling of vehicles. Inevitably some of this will spill onto the ground.

I would like to address the size of the existing quarry compared to the size of what is proposed. The original quarry size was 20 acres, the new proposed size is approximately 79 acres. That is almost four times the size of the original quarry. The original quarry consisted of crushing rock at the bottom of the hill, the proposed quarry will require up to two explosions per day and take down part of the mountain from the top down. The proposed quarry requires the removal of six-hundred acres of trees. The length of time for the proposed quarry is 100 years. That is longer than I will be around, longer than my children will be around, and possibly longer than my grandchildren will be around (should I have any). The project description lists the possibility of expansion beyond all of this.

The next point I would like to address is safety. What type of security will Kiewit have to protect the quarry? There will be 13,000 gallons of diesel fuel, 1,500 gallons of gas, and 5 buildings (320sf each) of explosives. Kiewit will be responsible for ensuring that none of that gets out into the surrounding area and into the wrong hands. With more people and more construction to any area brings more crime. We live in a relatively crime free neighborhood, as such, we have no local police force and we rely on the Skagit County Sheriff's department. Will they be adding more officers?

Marblemount has one small volunteer fire department, and last I heard, the one truck that they had had a leak in it. Who will be responding if there happens to be a fire at the quarry? With all of the fuel and explosives on site what is Kiewit's plan if a fire should occur? Our local fire department will not be able to handle that. As with the fire, what happens if there is some sort of injury accident? The backup fire department is Grassmere out of Concrete, they are responsible for an area that extends all the way to New Halem. Our EMT's and firefighters are already overextended, will Kiewit be taking these resources from local families?

There are some extra considerations that I would like to address.

Light pollution. One of the wonderful things about living out here as I had mentioned earlier, is being able to look at the stars at night. This is especially important as part of my kids' education. What type of lights and light pollution will this quarry be adding?

Hours. The hours listed for mining is 6AM to 6PM, the hours listed for maintenance is 6PM to 12AM, then the added section that they may need to do work sometimes additional hours. The amount of noise that this quarry is going to add will be a lot, but to have the noise starting as early as 6 am and possibly go on til midnight and beyond is totally unacceptable. In most neighborhoods and even at campgrounds there are quiet hours from 10 PM til 8AM. The running hours will make it nearly impossible for anyone living close to get an appropriate amount of sleep.

Water. Kiewit says that they will be using water to prevent some of the dust, yet they say that they will be getting rid of the one existing well. Where will they be getting their water from? Is it legal with our current water laws?

Power. There will be several buildings that will need power even if just for lighting. Where will this power come from? Will they be hooking into the power lines or will they be running off of generators? If they will be using generators that will be adding to the noise. Will the generators have down time or will they be running constantly?

Animals. This one I could have addressed in its own section, but I am assuming that we all know that this quarry is not good for any of the animals in the area, getting rid of 600 acres of trees will only deplete their homes and food, which will have a negative impact on the entire surrounding area.

Reclamation. In section 2.4 of the project description, Kiewit states that the length of the project will be 100 years or whenever the rock is depleted. After such time the land will be returned to forestry land use. What specific steps will they be taking? How will we know this will happen? (none of us will be around) In 100 years, we have no idea what the surrounding area will be. After having blasting for 100 years, I truly feel that the surrounding area will not be kept as forest area. I feel that this is the first step in losing the peace and beauty in this area.

EIS. I am asking that an Environmental Impact Study be done on this.

Landslides. As we just passed the fifth anniversary of the Oso Landslide, we are all more aware of how common and dangerous landslides can be. What assurance do we have that after taking all of the trees off of the mountain and then blasting that this will not cause landslides and lead to much loss of life?

Property value. I have never concerned myself with the value of my property here in Marblemount, because I have never considered selling my place. People move here and tend to stay here. I know quite a few families who have been here for 30 or 40 years. If this mine gets approved the property values will immediately go down and there may be some instances where people may have to sell their homes, and won't be able to. Please take this into consideration.

I thank you for taking the time to read my comments. As this will have an extreme impact on myself, my kids, my neighbors and the entire community of Marblemount. If this proposal gets approved and the quarry opens, my walks will become very different, according to the paperwork Kiewit has filed. Instead of listening to birds, and streams. I will be hearing heavy machinery, and possibly blasting as I am walking past. In addition to the two cars that passed me, there will be 12 large trucks as well as 4 additional service vehicles. I will not be able to walk on the road because there will be so much traffic, I will have to walk beside the road, but there is no real space to walk beside the road. In all honesty, I would not be going for a walk in those conditions anyway, who are we kidding.

Rebecca Winters

(Section two)

From Host Address: 174.216.29.22

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 1:40:41 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 7:00 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Bridget Wisniewski
[REDACTED]

City : Darrington

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0032,PL19 -0033, 0046, 0046 BP 19-0070 Kiewet Infrastruction Quarry operation near Marblemount

Comments : I understand the need for rock, but I have also been working with and around people who are trying to save the salmon here in the Skagit basin. Somehow inserting a large quarry with 75 large trucks carrying heavy loads strikes me as questionable given the amount of money and energy at trying to restore the fish runs. It is well documented that fish are effected by runoff from the roads such as oil, brake pad particles, rubber from tires and other automobile by products. Bringing a lot of heavy machinery into the area seems to be at odds with this work. Consider the future ramifications of such an operation on the work many have fought hard to establish, especially the work to restore the salmon.

From Host Address: 50.34.105.229

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 6:58:03 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:20 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Susan J Woods
[REDACTED]

City : Sedro Woolley
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Peter Kiewet quarry permit Moarblmount

Comments : Kiewet and/owner of the proposed quarry property have the right to log and mine their property. Concurrently, they have the responsibility to respect the property rights, lifeways and safety of other people affected by the project.

The projected methods of developing and running the quarry will amount to an unjust taking of property values, degradation of the rural lifestyle residents have lived for generations, possible damage to runoff into the Skagit River drainage and threatening traffic safety. Truck traffic on roads where children and school buses often are is extremely dangerous because a loaded rock can't stop easily. Residents use the rural roads for recreation and tourism. Jobs are scarce upriver and the tourism is important employment. The Skagit River is still hanging on to all 5 salmon species. The mineral content of the exposed quarry is unknown. As in Burlington hill, there could be arsenic or other toxic minerals. Clear cutting of 600 acres will increase sediment runoff. Water Wells could be contaminated. Elk are a problem in the upper Valley because they damage farm crops and residential gardens and yards. Elk will be displaced and then go elsewhere to do damage.

An EIS is greatly needed to understand what the risks are to the area around the quarry to come up with a respectful plan to mitigate risk to all the above mentioned responsibilities. The developers do not have the right to take away value of property, affect safety or jeopardize jobs.

The County also has the charge and responsibility to require the enforce its own standards and protect public safety.

Please require an EIS that includes a long term plan for this development that is fair and respectful of the rights of those who will be impacted.

From Host Address: 174.216.23.146

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:17:14 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:00 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Carson Yach
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : Kiewit Marblemount Rock quarry

Comments : This whole proposal is rediclious. With it's placement near the community of Marblemount, especially close to local homes and property, close to the national Park and reflection of potential large scale problem such as the Oso landslide this project is totally rediclious and troubling. Please respect this community and do not go forward with this project! We enjoy the Cascades with out massive logging and a giant quarry.

From Host Address: 50.197.76.57

Date and time received: 3/29/2019 3:00:05 PM

John Cooper

From: Marren Yarbrough [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 12:31 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: Marblemount quarry

Environmental hazards being reported by Kiewit says CBC.

Big quarry company mining Rockport Cascade road. Mining operation in cascade watershed area ... area residents of all types up in arms over this huge operation excavating large boulders near residences. Thumbs down on this project where residents life and property at risk. Please help.

Sent from my iPhone

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 2:25 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : marren Yarbrough
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Wa.
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : pl-19-0032 0046, 0046 BP 19 0070, pl 19-0033

Comments : to whom it may concern:

We don't need a huge mining operation in the vicinity of people living and driving.... highway 20 is very weak between Sedro Woolley and Newhalem

When the pass opens very unsafe to drive with critters crossing it mostly deer and elk. also parts around mile post 99 with Skagit river losing bank up to the road....Really.....

How can this even be leagel because of salmon runs Illabot creek and others mining waste run off interfering with salmon spawning..... Plenty of people live within this area and will have to share the roads with HUGE powerful trucks speeding along an already crowded Highway with plenty of accidents..and speed limits too high for the situations.....

Do you want to live in a situation like this?

From Host Address: 50.34.179.60

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 2:23:00 PM

John Cooper

From: Lori Anderson on behalf of Planning & Development Services
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 4:08 PM
To: John Cooper
Subject: FW: PDS Comments

From dept email

From: website@co.skagit.wa.us <website@co.skagit.wa.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2019 3:45 PM
To: Planning & Development Services <planning@co.skagit.wa.us>
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kathy Young
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : (PL19-0033),(PL19-0047),(BP19-0070),(PL19-0032).

Comments : Hello, I am a resident on Rockport Cascade Rd in Marblemount. The proposed Mining Operation slated to begin this summer will have an enormous impact on our lives. There is a vast amount of material to examine regarding the permits, etc of this project. We did not see the tiny sign posted at the site and do not receive the Skagit Valley Herald where it was posted last week.

I learned that there is a March 28th deadline to send in our written comments and concerns. That is in one week. We respectfully request that we be granted an extension of a minimum of 90 days past the existing deadline so we can adequately understand all of the complexities of the Proposal.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kathy Young
[REDACTED]

Marblemount, Wa 98267
[REDACTED]

From Host Address: 72.168.144.40

Date and time received: 3/21/2019 3:41:56 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 3:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kathy Young
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : (PL19-0033),(PL19-0047),(BP19-0070),(PL19-0032).

Comments : I am writing to add my concerns about the proposed Marblemount Mine but there is so much information to first find and then read and research that it is absolutely overwhelming. It has not been possible in the short time given before the March 29th deadline. Can we please have a little more time before the comment period is cut off? Thank you, Kathy Young

From Host Address: 72.168.144.40

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 3:47:53 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 7:10 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kathy Young
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : Wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : (PL19-0033),(PL19-0047),(BP19-0070),(PL19-0032).

Comments : I don't even know where to start but I have a feeling this will be the most important letter I will ever write. I have been reading the comments from local citizens who oppose the Marblemount Mine Proposal. About the large trucks on our roads (one every 3 minutes??) the CO2 emissions from them, noise from thunderous blasting, rock crushers, diesel machinery and many large trucks, the air pollution, the water pollution and danger to our Wild and Scenic designated Skagit River, the obliteration of our wildlife habitat, even the information about Kiewit Infrastructure Co and the many workplace violations and environmental infractions they committed in Canada and California.

We are not a town. Marblemount is more like a village. We have a small volunteer fire department. It would put a severe strain on this service and the local people who might need them if they were called to the mine.

And regarding the danger of fire, our area gets drier every year and I live every day in summer and early fall with a nagging fear of forest fire. We often spend a few days breathing smoke from fires somewhere in the mountains. Even now after a dry winter it is dry enough to be a high fire danger. Mining operations and large trucks can spark fires easily.

My husband and I live in a modest cabin that he built from scratch using the trees he had to cut down, milling them with his homemade chainsaw mill. We worked stressful jobs at Island Hospital and for 14 years traveled up to Marblemount and worked on the place every weekend. We sacrificed expensive vacations and entertainment and drove older cars. Every penny went into our Dream Home to live in once we retired. Well, we moved up here permanently 3 years ago and I have embraced our little piece of Heaven down to my soul.

One of the most wonderful things about living here is the peace and quiet. When city dwellers come to visit you can just see some invisible power bathe them with peacefulness. I joke that the Spirit of the Trees reaches down inside of you and grabs ahold. Who knows? We see many escapees from cities coming up here with their hiking boots and bicycles. Maybe they feel it too.

I hardly listen to music anymore because I want to listen to the music of the forest. You can actually hear the sound of the moving air when a crow flies by. There are many different birds that all try to outcall each other. And you haven't lived until you have heard the pounding of the Pileated Woodpecker that sounds like a guy with a jackhammer up in the trees. And the owls! We have the Barred Owl but also every once in a while I hear a Spotted Owl. And screaming cougars too. With so much development everywhere now, our area is like a precious jewel that should not be tarnished.

The proposed mine would be ½ mile from our home. It is obvious to me that the entire fabric of our lives here would be ripped to shreds. If we could bring ourselves to sell our Dream Home, the property value would be ridiculous.

We live a simple life. You have to when you live in the boonies. If I want thai food for dinner, I have to make it myself. If there's no ice cream in the freezer, my husband has to do without or drive 20 miles one way. But this is our palace, we have built our nest here, and it is our place of worship. It provides us with mental health and a sense of being rewarded for obeying the rules, paying our taxes and working hard.

Thank you for your consideration,
Kathy Young

From Host Address: 72.168.144.40

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 7:05:13 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 10:30 AM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Kathy Young
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount
State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033 Marblemount Mine

Comments : We're asking for an extension of the public comment period under SEPA due to the quantity of documents to review and the limited time provided.

We're asking for a Determination of Significance under WAC197-11-330 and to require an Environmental Impact Statement due to the significant effect on the local environment, especially considering the quiet, remote nature of the surrounding community and environment. This would require much more extensive review and public comment before the project could proceed.

From Host Address: 72.168.144.40

Date and time received: 3/27/2019 10:26:32 AM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 9:40 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : Michiel Young
[REDACTED]

City : Marblemount

State : WA
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : PL19-0033

Comments : My name is Mike Young, I'm 76 years old and live with my wife Kathy in the Marblegate community, just off the Rockport-Cascade road. Our homestead is located less than ½ mile from the proposed Quarry mine (pl19-0033). Over a period of 12 years on weekends and vacations I built my home and outbuildings and two years ago sold our home in Mount Vernon and retired.

I had hoped to live out my life here in this quiet, peaceful and pristine place but now we are faced with what I consider a disaster.

The noise pollution generated by this proposal would have a huge impact to this entire area, even with the very limited use of the existing quarry it is more than just unpleasant. I have a hard time believing the noise studies quoted in this proposal are realistic, the sounds bounce off these rock hills over a huge area. We see Peregrine Falcon nesting on the mountainside, and have numerous species of woodpeckers, owls and many other birds nesting on our place and the surrounding woods. We see Elk, Deer, Bear, Cougar, Coyote, Fox, Fisher and many other small animals. How many of these would remain with the constant blasting and other noise.

In many trips on these roads over the past 15 years we have had numerous close calls but have avoided hitting any animals with our small vehicles but these large trucks possibly one every 3 minutes would surely take a huge toll.

Another great concern is the impact on our roads and traffic. I have read the studies and all the statistics about distance, sight lines etc. but for example at the intersection of hwy 530 and SR 20 when turning west even in a passenger vehicle it is at times difficult when pulling out to avoid impeding traffic. I've seen loaded trucks pull out and actually stop traffic, so I don't believe that the traffic assessment is accurate.

I know the DOT and County have reviewed and apparently approved the plan and the loads that these trucks haul but these roads in my opinion will not hold up under this traffic, and realistically I think they know this. The cascade river road is breaking up now and its use is in the plan. The Rockport-Cascade road is heavily used by recreational bicyclists and it basically has no shoulder. This project would be a real hazard to them.

What kind of water demand is required and from what source? How is runoff from 600 acres with no vegetation controlled. I see the plans have been submitted but are they realistic. According to the Toronto Star, Kiewit companies have had 68 water quality violations in

Recent years in Ontario. They also have made a 5 million dollar settlement over water quality in northern California recently. This kind of operation doesn't seem at all compatible with this very sensitive area.

This rock is apparently very well suited for the use they propose but I'm sure there are other options available that would be less destructive to the environment here. Is the need so great that it has to be extracted and loaded by diesel burning equipment, hauled down our roads by diesel trucks, loaded by diesel burning equipment on barges towed by diesel or bunker fuel powered tugs. In this time of great concern for our climate is this reasonable. Are we going to keep doing the same things and expect different results. If we do we will certainly need more jetties as our oceans continue to rise.

The County comprehensive Plan states it is a way of ensuring a community's health, safety and general welfare are protected by striving to create a better healthier more efficient and aesthetically pleasing environment. I don't believe that this proposal in any way meets those Goals.

Sincerely,
Michiel Young

From Host Address: 72.168.144.40

Date and time received: 3/25/2019 9:37:18 PM

John Cooper

From: website
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 6:50 PM
To: Planning & Development Services
Subject: PDS Comments

Name : michiel young
[REDACTED]

City : marblemount

State : wa
[REDACTED]

PermitProposal : pl19-0033

Comments : I am requesting an extension of 30 days to the comment deadline, this is such a huge and complicated project I believe it is warranted.

From Host Address: 72.168.144.40

Date and time received: 3/26/2019 6:45:34 PM