

Kathy Trombly-Ferrin
23290 Quentin Ave N
Scandia, MN 55073

May 16, 2012

Dear Honorable Mayor and Scandia City Council Members:

I am writing this letter to implore you to recall why you are in your respective positions for the city of Scandia. We the people, the residents of this fair city, have elected you based on your credentials and our belief that you hold the ability to make unbiased decisions on behalf of this city. Our expectation is that you will maintain fairness and uphold the best interests of this city and its residents, while listening to what we care about. After all, isn't this why we voted for you? Over the past 3 years, you have heard from many of your constituents with regard to their opinion of the proposed gravel mine at the intersection of MN State highways 95 and 97. Opposition to this site as a gravel mine has been repeated over and over, notwithstanding any considerations for the technical standards and requirements needed to meet the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The overwhelming majority of people who have commented so far have stated by one reason or another that they do not want another gravel pit in Scandia, especially in such a sensitive area within a National Scenic Riverway and State Scenic Byway.

Several years ago, my husband and I settled in Scandia, mainly because we were attracted to its rural character and country-like setting. We both enjoy paddling the St. Croix River, hiking, biking and skiing along the local paths, parks and lakes. We expect Scandia to retain these rural qualities and provide a safe and peaceful environment for many years to come. We have found that our neighbors and fellow residents value these same attributes, and they share our belief that we should be able to raise our families in an area without excessive noise, pollution or traffic safety issues, as is present in larger urban areas. I believe that you will find (and have already heard) that the majority of our residents put a significant value on the quality of life in the St. Croix valley.

During the April 3, 2012 PAC meeting, the attorney representing the Tiller Corporation stated that this is the most studied mine project in this state. Imagine that! Is it any wonder, based on all of the questions and concerns from our residents, that we want what is best for our families and our beautiful city?

In summary, I ask that you remember that it is the votes of the citizens of this fair city that put you into office, and it is our voices that you should be hearing and acting upon. We have opposed this hazardous gravel mine from day one, numerous times. I'm curious, have any of you asked Dr. Zavoral if he truly intends for this particular piece of property to become a horrific gouge in Scandia's landscape, or would he consider the opportunity to turn this scenic section into a park-like setting for many generations to enjoy? Just imagine!

Which outcome would you be proud to represent?

Sincerely,

Kathy Trombly-Ferrin

Cc: Anne Hurlbert, City Administrator