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4 April 2017

Mr. Karl Hildebrand
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
2045 Morse Road, Building H-3
Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693

Dear Mr. Hildebrand,

I am writing on the behalf of the Tecumseh Land Trust to oppose the Industrial Minerals Permit Application Number A-340-1. This permit which will allow extraction of sand, gravel, and limestone on property located near Fairfield Pike and Tecumseh Road in Mad River Township, Clark County will likely have negative impacts on the Mud Run Creek, a tributary of the Mad River.

As a conservation organization we work to preserve the natural resources that are critical to our area including prime agricultural soils and safe drinking water. Our organization holds conservation easements on over 400 acres of prime farmland with the Mud Run flowing through it downstream of the proposed mining operation. We have serious concerns about the proposed operation contaminating the creek and jeopardizing the very conservation values we are bound to protect in perpetuity.

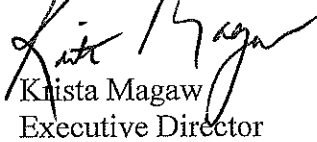
In the area of the proposed mining operation, the Mud Run Creek has a ground water pollution potential ranging from 120-179 according to ODNR's pollution potential maps. So, depending on the exact location along the creek there is a mid to high potential for pollution in Mud Run. Enon Sand and Gravel's comment to simply dump the waste water from the mining operation into the creek poses a serious threat to the creek and the organisms living in the creek. As of the last study by EPA, Mud Run is designated as Warmwater Habitat (WWH) suggesting a balanced biological community. There is concern that such a large increase in waste water will disrupt this balance and the creek will lose its WWH designation.

Protecting our water resources is another component of our mission. The Mad River has a buried valley aquifer which is part of larger buried valley system, the Great Miami/Little Miami Buried Valley Aquifer System. According to a report prepared by John Ritter of Wittenberg University, "this network of buried valleys was designated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) as a sole source aquifer in 1988. The Sole Source Aquifer Program was authorized by Section 1424(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974. According to the USEPA, a sole source aquifer is defined as "a sole or principal source aquifer as one which supplies at least 50 percent of the drinking water consumed in the area overlying the aquifer. These areas can have no alternative drinking water source(s) which could physically, legally, and economically supply all those who depend upon the aquifer for drinking water." (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2012)." No other water source – certainly a compelling argument to protect all tributaries of the Mad River. The community is well aware of some 200+ wells that will be impacted by the mining operation and that only represents those that are registered. The community is just

becoming more aware of the number of residential wells that are not registered with the County Health Department and therefore not counted in the potential impact. This is an unknown that is unacceptable to ignore.

There seems no gain to this community and to our watershed by permitting such expansive and deep mining right next to the creek. Our organization respectfully requests that ODNR deny this permit.

Sincerely,



Krista Magaw
Executive Director