

DUMP THE PEMBROKE MINE!

There's a Canadian mining company that seems to think that Pembroke would be a good place for a tailings facility that would cover at least *50.5 acres* and hold at least *3.6 million tons* of mine waste from their Pickett Mountain project. Yes, you read that right. In order to avoid some of the obstacles they have had getting their Pickett Mountain rezoning application approved they are looking at Pembroke as a possible place to store their waste. According to their own application that would mean 1 – 1.5 truckloads of waste per hour coming into town.

My name is Jason Barrett and my family has been in Pembroke since just after the Revolutionary War. I spent much of my youth in Pembroke and my brother and I are fortunate to own the family land there, which is located right next to what is known as the "Big Hill" property. For years I have looked forward to returning to the area when I retire from the Army. After one deployment to Afghanistan, three to Iraq, and all the other places I have been I just want to come back home and enjoy the sound of a loon on the water at night and sit in a lawn chair and watch the Pembroke Fourth of July parade or a Pembroke Mets game. About a year ago though I learned that a mining company had Pembroke in its sights for a silver mine in the Big Hill area and that makes me wonder if there will be anything to come back to. This is the same mining company that had to withdraw their rezoning application from the LUPC because of the 59 inconsistencies, errors and failures to provide information that they STILL hadn't corrected after submitting several different versions over 18 months.

During their meeting with the LUPC on October 13, 2021, when the mining company chose to withdraw their application to rezone the Pickett Mountain property rather than get denied because of all the mistakes and omissions, the company's attorney stated that they would look at putting their concentrator and tailings facility somewhere else, like the "location in Pembroke". Then during a Howestreet.com investment Podcast about the withdrawal of the application the suggestion was again made that the company would move their ore processing and tailings management facility (mine waste) to Pembroke in order to improve its chances of getting a new application for rezoning their Pickett Mountain project through the LUPC review process. This is IN ADDITION TO the actual mining for silver they want to do in Pembroke. If they put the waste operations in Pembroke it would be in a prime trout habitat area, adjacent to a large Pembroke aquifer, a wildlife management area and habitat for inland wading birds, and near a resource protection district wetland. This tailings management facility would have to exist and be maintained indefinitely. Who's going to pay for that?

On page 2-20 of their rezoning application for Pickett, the company cites three examples of what they consider successful tailings management facilities, 1.) Myra Falls, BC, Canada, 2.) Minto Mine, Yukon, Canada, and 3.) Greens Creek, Alaska, USA. A simple google search will show you that Myra Falls paid a \$185K fine and was shut down for a time in 2015 due to a tailings facility leak and was fined another \$350K in 2020 for spilling 500 liters of toxic substances into a river. A search of the U.S. EPA Environmental Compliance History Online (ECHO) Website shows that the Greens Creek Mine has been cited for 4 violations of the Clean Air Act, 12 Violations of the Clean Water Act, and 9 violations of the Resource Recovery Act in the three years from 2019 to 2021 alone. Personally, if I was going to use something as an example of what success looked like I would make sure it was successful first.

Is this what we want Pembroke to be, though? A mine waste dump site? People may not know about these plans to make Pembroke a dump. This is why I wrote this letter, and why I am on the Friends of Cobscook Bay board. I urge anyone interested in this issue to get in touch via friendsofcobscookbay@gmail.com

Respectfully,

Jason Barrett

Pembroke Land Owner