

Resident Fact-Finding Committee Update

As part of our ongoing effort to ensure a transparent and thorough review of the Levy Burroughs Mining Application, I have organized a Resident Fact-Finding Group comprised of individuals with relevant knowledge, experience, and a shared commitment to the well-being of Springfield Township.

This group has been assembled to assist in evaluating the proposed mining activity from a community-based perspective, guided by science, local insight, and a strong sense of stewardship. I'd like to introduce two residents who have graciously volunteered their time and expertise:

Kara Okonewski, Oko Environmental, LLC

Kara brings more than 14 years of experience in environmental education, scientific research, and public outreach. Her professional background includes wildlife surveys, habitat restoration, native species assessments, and project work in ecologically sensitive environments.

Kara has chosen to participate on a volunteer basis and will not accept any township funds. Her decision to remain fully independent ensures her contributions are based solely on scientific integrity and free from outside influence. We appreciate her dedication to supporting this process in a transparent and impartial manner.

Chris Todd, Springfield Township Resident

Chris has lived in Springfield Township for over a decade and currently resides on Ormond Road near the entrance to the proposed mining site. His family has owned the property since 1971, and it holds significant generational value as his grandparents previously lived there.

In addition to his long-standing connection to the area, Chris serves as Pastor of Oxbow Lake Baptist Church in White Lake Township. He brings a thoughtful, community-minded perspective to the group, grounded in both local history and leadership experience. Chris is also volunteering his time and has declined any compensation from the township.

Both Kara and Chris will assist in asking the hard questions of our experts, ensuring that the review process is not only technically sound but also well grounded in resident participation. Their involvement helps guarantee that this review reflects the concerns and priorities of those who live here.

Call for Additional Volunteers

We are continuing to seek residents who are willing to contribute their time and experience to assist in this fact-finding process. If you have a relevant background or simply a strong interest in contributing to an informed and balanced review, please reach out. Community participation is essential to maintaining a fair and transparent process.

This group is not designed to promote any specific agenda. Its purpose is to gather information, ask critical questions, and ensure residents are well-informed as we move forward.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and positive involvement in shaping the future of Springfield Township.