

RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSED SOUTHWELL LIMESTONE

I am a farmer in the Southwell area & am concerned about the creation of a mine in our area.

Some of my concerns are listed below:

- 1) **ROADS** – The roads in the area are already poorly maintained, the farmers have to step in & assist in maintenance work from time to time to make these roads passable. Any work done by the road authorities is only done after many letters are written. An increase in vehicles on this road will worsen the situation. I envisage vehicles would have to transport labour to & from Port Alfred, as well as possibly Kenton-on-Sea. The number of large trucks on the road will increase, causing even further deterioration on our roads. Even though you have stated in your document that no new roads are necessary, present road will definitely need to be rebuilt to cater for this increased traffic.
- 2) **CREATION OF JOBS** – You have stated in the document 6.2 that approximately 42 indirect opportunities would be created. How many direct employment opportunities will there be? Port Alfred & Grahamstown have undergone huge development in the past few years, suppliers of construction material have been able to fulfil the demand & with a bigger company coming in, this could mean smaller suppliers in the area could go out of business, thus creating job losses.
- 3) **HISTORICAL ASPECT** – Southwell is one of the early 1820 Settler settlements & buildings date back to 1830. There is at present a school, as well as 2 churches in the area. This historic aspect needs to be considered. The area also has many grave sites, which cannot just be destroyed. This is the centre of our community, having a sports complex as well as a community centre.
- 4) **DUST** – I question the ability to reduce the dust from the mining site. Dust will be inevitable. This will have a negative impact on Mr Stirk's dairy herd, cows grazing pasture that is covered in dust will have reduced performance as well as reduce the longevity of the animals.

From a concerned Southwell resident

Andrew Cock
Lower Waterford farm
Waterford@imagnet.co.za