



**TO:** Sharon Township Board of Trustees  
**FROM:** Sharon Preservation Society  
**SUBJECT:** Petitions regarding decision on Stoneco application to mine 400 acres on Pleasant Lake Rd  
**DATE:** 07-JUL-2023

Please find original copies of a petition circulated by Sharon Preservation Society, beginning in July 2022. The petitions contain:

- **403 signatures** – almost entirely from township residents, with a handful of township property owners. The signatures were collected **from 254 township addresses**. The addresses are all valid; we checked them against the township’s list of registered voters, or in a few cases, drove by the physical location. We eliminated duplicate signatures from this total; duplicate signatures are marked as such on the forms.
- **26 signatures** from surrounding villages and townships (Freedom, Manchester Township, Manchester Village, Chelsea). Note that Sharon Preservation Society did not conduct widespread appeal for signatures outside the township. If so, we believe this number would have been immeasurably higher.

The signatures were collected via: various township functions, U.S. mail to Sharon Preservation Society, and door-to-door solicitation.

In short, the signers encourage members of the Board of Trustees to...:

**“...deny a Special Land Use permit for the proposed mine if it is determined that the mine would create very serious consequences for the township and its residents.”**

Sharon Preservation Society understands Stoneco has submitted a letter to the township to propose conditions to mitigate the very serious consequences created by the proposed mine. Unless those conditions realistically eliminate the very serious consequences, the signers of the petition have indicated they encourage the Board to deny the permit.

#### **COMMENT:**

We believe that **403 signatures is a vast undercount** of the total Sharon Township population that would encourage the Board to deny the SLU permit. Sharon Preservation Society is a small organization and had few volunteers engaged in the door-to-door effort.

Regardless, we believe that 403 signatures represent a very significant percentage of the population.

- **403 signatures represent:**
  - **27% of the 1475 persons,<sup>1</sup> over age 18**, in Sharon Township.
  - **34% of the number of 1198 residents that voted** in the most recent general election, 2022
- **254 addresses represent 36% of 704 township households<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> SEMCOG 2020 census results

- During door-to-door signature collection, some volunteers maintained logs of their visits. According to the logs, of the 109 residents referenced in the logs that answered the door:
  - **85% of these signed the petition**, often with some degree of enthusiasm
  - **Only 9% were a hard “NO”** (most of these were currently, or had been, employed in some capacity by aggregate mines)
  - **6% were uncommitted** at the time (ie. wanted more time to consider the issue)

We ask Sharon Township Board members to consider the will of these signers as a factor in a decision for the SLU permit for the 400-acre mine on Pleasant Lake Rd.