

# Questions and Answers about Martin Marietta Aggregates' Proposed Brunswick Facility

*Martin Marietta Aggregates is proposing to develop a limestone quarry on about 1,000 acres of land in the vicinity of the intersection of N.C. 133, N.C. 87 and Sunny Point Road. The facility would include limestone mining operations and facilities for processing raw materials for shipment. Over the past several weeks, a number of questions have been publicly raised about how such a facility might affect the citizens of Brunswick County.*

## **Will I be able to hear the operations at the facility?**

While there is certainly some level of sound associated with any industrial facility, levels at our proposed Brunswick facility must stay within specific levels at the boundaries of the site as mandated by the State of North Carolina. In addition, Brunswick County requires a buffer zone around all industrial sites to help muffle sound. This buffer area of trees and plants will significantly reduce the sound levels from the facility.

## **Isn't this kind of facility very dusty? Won't there be constant dust in the air and on our highways from hauling the limestone?**

Limestone, especially from the coastal area, tends to be damp when it is removed from the ground which helps reduce dust significantly. While some dust may be raised in the crushing operation, it is kept to a minimum by a dust control system required by the State to protect the environment and our employees who work in the area. In addition, once trucks are loaded, they may drive through a water spraying system which dampens the limestone product even more and prevents dust from flying off the trucks in route.

## **What about blasting? How loud will it be? How often? And what about blasting effects on the Bethel Church neighborhood, CP&L's Brunswick nuclear power plant and the Sunny Point terminal?**

Blasting is necessary at the site to remove the limestone for further processing. On average, there will be no more than two blasts per week. On most days, there may be no blasting at all and never at night or on Sundays. Our nearest neighbors would hear little more than they would if they slammed a door and feel little more than if their children ran across the room.

Our experience with blasting indicates there would be no effects from our blasting either on the Brunswick nuclear plant or the Sunny Point terminal. We nevertheless conducted a thorough study to be certain there would be no effect. The results of that study were shared with officials from the power plant. Their experts have indicated that they see no blasting effects on their operations. Our understanding is that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will likewise review this information to ensure that there will be no impact on the plant.

## **I'm on well water. Could the quarry operation affect my well and if it does, what will Martin Marietta do about it?**

Operations will require us to excavate 80 to 90 feet. At that depth, water in the excavation must be removed. We estimate that it could be as much as 10 million gallons of water per day.

We are planning to pipe this clean groundwater to the Cape Fear River. This water is not contaminated or used in our process in any

way. Our discharge will be under permit from the State of North Carolina which will test and monitor it on a regular basis.

It is possible that our operations may affect a few nearby wells, especially older, shallow-water wells less than 40 feet deep that may have only three to four feet of water at the bottom. Martin Marietta will, at its cost, either replace the affected well with a deeper one or connect the resident to the county water system.

## **What happens to the water used by Martin Marietta in the operation? Will that water also be discharged to the Cape Fear River?**

Absolutely not. All water used in our processes is recycled on site and reused. None of this water is discharged into the Cape Fear River or off site.

## **What effect will the facility have on traffic, particularly the number of trucks on our local highways?**

The limestone processed at the Brunswick facility will be transported on trucks. For the first two to three years the quarry is in operation, there will be about 35 to 40 trucks a day through the facility. As our operation expands, that number of trucks will also increase.

We are working with local authorities to select the best haul routes to handle our truck traffic. The increased truck traffic amounts to less than two percent of current levels. One part of the solution is a specific entrance/exit to the site off N.C. 133, well away from the intersection of N.C. 133 and N.C. 87. Another part of the solution is turn lanes added to N.C. 133 near the entrance to the facility. A third part of the solution may be adding traffic signals at the intersection and/or changing the intersection itself. We will continue to work with county officials to find and implement the best ways of keeping our highways safe for everyone.

## **How will Martin Marietta effect our local economy?**

Our facility will have a positive effect of the economy of Brunswick County. In the first 10 years of operation, we will invest close to \$10 million in the plant, including construction of buildings and purchase of equipment. In the first years of operation, we will pay approximately \$23,800 each year in Brunswick County taxes and \$1,400 to Doshier Hospital. In later years, we will be paying approximately \$68,000 per year in county taxes and nearly \$4,000 to Doshier Hospital. About 25 to 30 new jobs will be created, with a payroll of approximately \$600,000 a year. We expect to spend another \$500,000 each year on local goods and services. And we anticipate that as many as 75 new jobs will be created locally as a result of our operations in the community.

## **If Martin Marietta doesn't locate on this site, how else could the property be used?**

The proposed site is zoned "Heavy Industrial" and so just about any type of business that meets the requirements of this category could locate on some of the property. However, because of restrictions on land use caused by the location of the Sunny Point facility, construction of any buildings or structures is prohibited on nearly one-half of the 1,000 acre site. This property contains a deposit of limestone unique in its location and of the highest quality. We think that our Brunswick facility is the best use of the restricted property, one that benefits local citizens and the county as a whole.