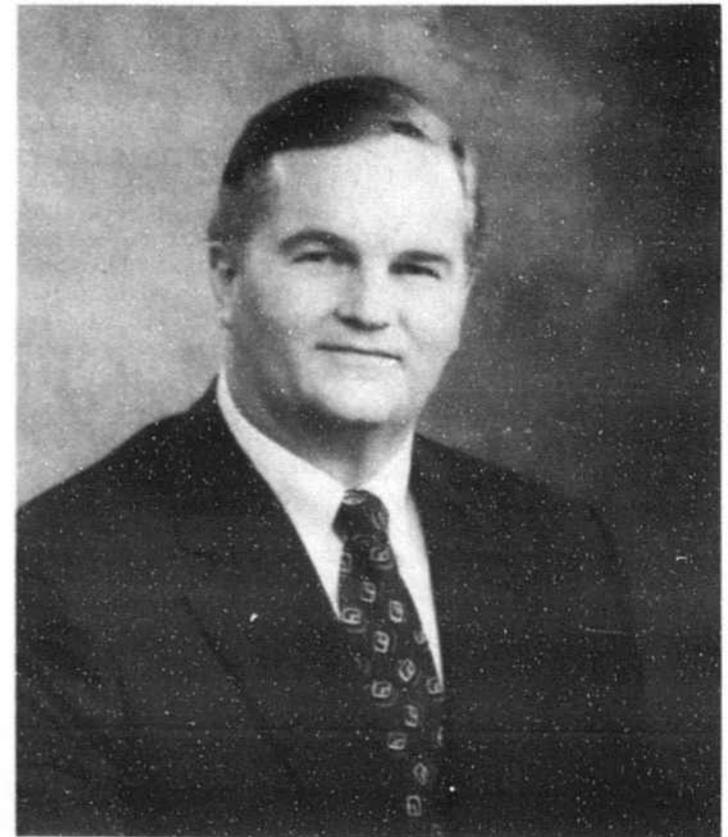


# An Open Letter from Martin Marietta Aggregates to the Residents of Brunswick County

## Some Thoughts on Rights and Responsibilities

We at Martin Marietta Aggregates have a reputation for doing our business in a quiet, safe, effective and high-quality manner, consistent with environmental safeguards. Our recent experiences in Brunswick County have been most troubling to our employees, particularly those in the Wilmington area. How, they have asked me, can a company like ours that emphasizes honesty, integrity, safety and compliance, be openly and wrongly criticized?



## Martin Marietta Recognizes its Responsibilities

I would like to set the record straight on a number of recent allegations.

1. Martin Marietta is not in the landfill business. Allegations that dead tree stumps held in one area of our Brunswick site constitute an illegal landfill are incorrect. To ensure that there is no further misunderstanding, we are having the stumps removed from our property.
2. Water runoff from a test well, reported on our site, was the result of deliberate tampering of a well cap that was installed to prevent just such an occurrence. Martin Marietta has informed local law enforcement officials and will pursue legal recourse to prevent additional tampering on its property. In addition, we have posted the property and hired on-site security to prevent such occurrences from happening in the future and to assure that the property remains as it was when our siting studies were conducted.
3. Martin Marietta's Brunswick County site has been completely inspected for endangered plants or animals and none were found to inhabit the area in which the land will be disturbed by our operations. A video tape alleging that the site contains both endangered plants and animals provides no indication of where the filming took place and is contrary to existing findings by respected biologists who have surveyed the site several times.
4. In the early stages of considering this project, we spoke with CP&L's senior management to advise them that we were proposing to open a quarry near their plant. We made it clear that we wanted to work closely with them to assure that our project would not have any negative impact on their operation. Since that time, we have shared information with them regularly and CP&L representatives have even visited some of our quarries. Both we and CP&L paid particular attention to any possible effect that groundwater pumping might have on their railroad and transmission lines, which cross our property.

At a recent public hearing, CP&L advised that they were studying the Martin Marietta proposal and wished to reserve their rights to submit comments to the North Carolina Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources (DEHNR). We understand CP&L's position and admire the company's management, who are issuing a clear message about their commitment to safety. We have already revised our plans to accommodate CP&L and will continue to work with them to assure safe operations for both companies.