



# State asked to just say no to quarry

## Legislators join opposition to proposed Martin Marietta site

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

A local legislative delegation joined residents Tuesday to blast Martin Marietta's plan to open a rock quarry north of Southport.

State Rep. David Redwine (D-Ocean Isle Beach) topped a three-hour state permit hearing held at Bolivia by rallying opponents to a standing ovation when he asked state officials to halt the mine.

More than 300 people attended; no one spoke in favor of the permit.

Redwine asked officials with the N. C. Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources to find a reason to deny the permit based on the seven listed criteria which must be met by the company.

"I say that as a person who feels very strongly in economic development," said Redwine.

He was joined by a local delegation of state Sen. R. C. Soles Jr. (D-Tabor City) and state Rep. Dewey Hill (D-Lake Waccamaw), both of whom oppose the project. Congressman Charlie Rose (D-7th District) also opposes the mine.



Jack Snyder of Southport addresses the state panel before a crowd of around 300 people at Bolivia at Tuesday night's mining permit hearing for the Martin Marietta proposed rock quarry. Another hearing is planned although a date has not yet been set.

"I'm no nuclear scientist, but common sense tells me that with the potential for blasting there," added Redwine, "if something happens we would have all kinds of other environmental damage."

Martin Marietta Aggregates plans to mine for limestone on a 1,000-acre tract north of Bethel Church Road. It applied for state mining permits on October 29.

Steve Reid, with the N. C. Division of Land Resources, said a second public hearing will be held on the proposed Brunswick application "to make sure we address all concerns." A date has not been set.

The department must either grant or deny the permit within 60 days after it was filed or request additional information. Once the data is forwarded, the office has another 30 days to act.

Traffic problems caused by a proposed mine are not one of the seven criteria used to evaluate a permit. That's one reason why the Mining Act of 1971 needs to be amended, said Soles.

"If there's not enough teeth in it to stop this kind of operation from locating in Brunswick County," said Soles, "then there's something obviously wrong with it."

"If the law has to be amended to stop this kind of operation, I intend to be leading the fight in Raleigh."

Soles said he is already working on those amendments for the next session of the N. C. General Assembly. Opponents have also asked for changes in the county zoning laws to prohibit mines.

Martin Marietta officials did not speak at the hearing but stayed afterward to answer questions. They say the mine poses no threat to the local environment, to structures, the underground aquifer or to the Cape Fear River. Up to ten million gallons of water per day must be pumped from the ground to expose the 60-

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# End-of-grade results 'need improvement'

By Marybeth Bianchi  
Feature Editor

Southport Elementary School third graders performed above the state average in all four subject areas measured on end-of-grade tests administered last spring.

In fact, Southport's fifth grade was the only group at that school to fall below the state average in any subject area, and those students were less than three points below the state average in math.

Although Brunswick County has had its test results for months, statewide results were only recently validated to allow local school officials to see how their students compare.

End-of-grade tests were administered in grades three through eight for the first time during the 1992-93 school year, replacing the nationally normed California Achievement Test.

The CAT is considered a measure of basic skills in reading, math and language mechanics, which state education officials felt did not meet requirements for success in today's society. In contrast, the end-of-grade tests are aligned with the state's standard course of study in reading, math, science and social studies.

In addition to multiple choice questions, the state tests use open-ended questions which require students to write out their thoughts rather than select the correct answer from several choices. The county is still awaiting results of this portion of the tests.

The multiple-question test results are reported in percentiles,

Brunswick County Schools End-of-Grade Results					
	Southport	Bolivia	SBMS	County	State
<b>READING</b>					
Grade 3	56%	44%	--	43%	47%
Grade 4	49%	40%	--	42%	46%
Grade 5	50%	47%	--	40%	48%
Grade 6	--	--	43%	44%	47%
Grade 7	--	--	43%	45%	46%
Grade 8	--	--	44%	47%	47%
<b>MATH</b>					
Grade 3	49%	51%	--	41%	47%
Grade 4	49%	42%	--	41%	47%
Grade 5	48%	54%	--	43%	50%
Grade 6	--	--	44%	43%	52%
Grade 7	--	--	46%	49%	51%
Grade 8	--	--	46%	51%	50%
<b>SCIENCE</b>					
Grade 3	61%	68%	--	53%	60%
Grade 6	--	--	48%	44%	52%
Grade 8	--	--	63%	59%	58%
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>					
Grade 3	56%	64%	--	49%	56%
Grade 6	--	--	45%	42%	46%
Grade 8	--	--	48%	48%	51%

which do not refer to the percentage of items answered correctly but rather the percentage of students in the norm group who fall below a particular point, explained Jan Calhoun, assistant superintendent for instruction. The higher the percentile the better the score, he said, admitting, "It's a statistical measure that's confusing."

For example, fifth graders at Waccamaw scored at the 25 percentile in math. That means 75 percent of the fifth graders across the state scored higher than those at Waccamaw, and 24 percent scored lower. Fifth graders at Southport Elementary were right in the middle in reading with a percentile of 50.

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# CP&L report: no evidence of crack coverup

By Jim Harper  
Staff Writer

A Carolina Power and Light Co. committee reported Tuesday it found no support for a claim that the company covered up knowledge of the cracked reactor shroud which is keeping Brunswick Unit 1 off the line.

The question remains open, however, as the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's office of investigation is conducting an enquiry into the allegation that CP&L covered up knowledge of the shroud crack since 1984.

Charges were made in October by the National Whistleblower Center, the Coastal Alliance for a Safe Environment and former CP&L contract worker Charles Webb that the company "discovered cracks in the shroud some nine years earlier" than last summer, when the Unit 1 outage was extended about four months to repair the cracks.

In a petition to the NRC the center, the alliance and Webb said

*'... these accusations were made publicly. This is not an investigation to vindicate ourselves, but an investigation to get at the facts.'*

Roy Anderson  
CP&L vice-president

that in 1984 engineers called company attention to the cracks in the reactor shroud. The shroud is a stainless steel cylinder within the reactor that helps direct the flow of water around the heating elements -- bundles of nuclear fuel.

Cracks were reported by CP&L when a 1991 videotape inspection of

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# State concerned about group

## Evidence points to illegal fund-raising

By Holly Edwards  
Municipal Editor

The state board of elections has asked the district attorney to investigate alleged anonymous political fund-raising conducted by "Concerned Citizens of Long Beach."

The board also called attention a campaign law prohibiting a person from publishing in a newspaper or brochure any derogatory charge against a candidate intended to promote another candidate without indicating the party responsible for the charge.

Deputy director Yvonne Southerland emphasized that politi-

*'This ... seems to prove the existence of an organized group attempting to remain anonymous that may or may not have used monies from businesses for political activity for political purposes.'*

Yvonne Southerland  
Deputy director

cal fund-raising and activity must be done openly and cannot be conducted anonymously.

"The 'concerned citizens' seem well-organized and very active. They appear to be seeking local legal ad-

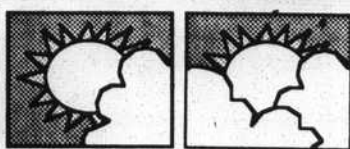
vice that leaves them doing things just inside the law," Southerland wrote in a memo to the board. "The 'concerned citizens' group remains anonymous to the dismay of the media and others who did not support their views."

She also told the board of elections that the campaign reporting office received, sender unidentified, a copy of a check written to the "Concerned Citizens of Long Beach" in care of council candidate Frances Allen, who was supported by the group.

"This additional item seems to prove the existence of an organized group attempting to remain anonymous that may or may not have used monies

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## OUTSIDE



### Forecast

The extended forecast calls for partly cloudy skies Thursday and Friday with high temperatures in the 50-60 range, and lows in the 40s. Mostly cloudy skies are expected Saturday, but warmer, with highs in the 60s and lows in the 50s.

### Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2	LOW
9:36 a.m.		3:24 a.m.
9:57 p.m.		4:02 p.m.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3		
10:21 a.m.		4:09 a.m.
10:47 p.m.		4:47 p.m.
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4		
11:09 a.m.		4:58 a.m.
11:43 p.m.		5:35 p.m.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5		
----- a.m.		5:53 a.m.
12:01 p.m.		6:28 p.m.
MONDAY, DECEMBER 6		
12:43 a.m.		6:56 a.m.
1:00 p.m.		7:26 p.m.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7		
1:47 a.m.		8:00 a.m.
12:01 p.m.		8:25 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8		
2:53 a.m.		9:08 a.m.
3:06 p.m.		9:26 p.m.

The following adjustments should be made: Bald Head Island, high -10, low -7; Caswell Beach, high -5, low -1; Southport, high +7, low +15; Yaupon Beach, high -32, low -45; Lockwood Folly Inlet, high -22, low -8.