

To the Town of the Blue Mountains Municipal Council,

I am writing today regarding the amended motion passed by Committee of the Whole last week that would permit ASTEC (BTI) a temporary exemption to the Town's noise bylaw prohibiting operating noise outside the hours of 7am to 7pm and specifically allowing the exemption for the hours from 7 pm to 11 pm.

While my preference remains that the existing bylaw remain in place, I have some suggestions that might strengthen the Committee's motion. I hope this item will be separated from any other Committee of the Whole motions, ensuring there is opportunity for discussion at Council before a vote.

While the Town would require the company to install noise monitoring equipment, and make data from that equipment available to the town in the event of a noise complaint, there is no timeframe for the installation of the equipment. Similarly, the motion directs the company to establish a committee with neighbouring residents, but does not stipulate this committee must be set up and a schedule of meetings established before the company begins making operational noises over a longer period each day.

Having reviewed both the company's original application to council, and the presentation to committee last week, it is not clear to me what the actual impact of this decision would be – a continuation of its current operations, or permission to get around existing constraints and make addition noise later into the evening.

Notwithstanding my opposition to granting the exemption, and without prejudice to my right to continue to oppose the temporary or any permanent exemption in the future, I propose that the motion is amended to require BTI to:

1. Make clear the implications of extended allowable hours of operational noise.
2. Share with neighbours, Mayor Soever and Council the data from any noise assessments that the company, or anyone acting on the company's behalf, or any agency of any level of government, has already conducted in the past 5 years.
3. Meet the conditions of the motion **before** it is permitted to extend its hours.

The motion extends the exemption until May 9, 2023. It would therefore be in the company's best interests to move quickly to comply with the town's required conditions, to ensure it can take advantage of the maximum available time for the temporary exemption.

In addition, while I support the idea of a committee to improve relations between the company and the residential community, and would be willing to participate, I believe the committee's work would be made more effective if the membership included representation from the Town. In particular, as the committee's work would be related to the town's noise bylaw, it would be helpful to have the town involved in the discussion.

Thank you,
Cim Nunn

■■■■ Bay Street E.