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The Planning Department Worcestershire County Council

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Objection to Planning Application for Quarry Development at Lea Castle Farm (Application Ref: 19/000053/CM)

I am writing to formally object to the planning application for the proposed quarry at Lea Castle Farm. As a concerned resident of the local area, I believe that the proposed development would have serious, detrimental effects on the environment, property values, local businesses, and the overall well-being of the community. I would like to outline my objections as follows:

## **Environmental Impact:**

The quarrying operation poses a significant threat to the local environment, including the destruction of valuable habitats, air and water quality degradation, and potential long-term damage to the landscape. Noise, dust, and vibrations from mining activities could irreparably harm local ecosystems, including wildlife populations that depend on the area for survival. Additionally, the carbon footprint associated with quarrying activities will contribute to further environmental degradation, undermining the area's commitment to sustainability and conservation.

## **Property Values:**

It is widely acknowledged that proximity to quarries can significantly reduce property values. Potential buyers are likely to be deterred by the prospect of living near an industrial site, with the accompanying noise, dust, and other environmental disturbances. This would not only affect the value of homes directly surrounding the quarry but could also have a wider impact on the area's desirability as a whole. Homeowners are likely to experience financial loss due to the negative externalities of such a development.

## Impact on Local Businesses:

Our local businesses rely on the appeal of a clean, attractive, and peaceful environment to attract customers and clients. The presence of a quarry would likely discourage tourism and have a direct, negative impact on small businesses, restaurants, retail shops, and other services that contribute to the local economy. The disruption caused by the quarry, including noise, traffic, and dust, could make the area less desirable for consumers and investors, further compounding the economic harm to local enterprises.

## Community Well-being:

The health and quality of life of the local community should be the top priority when considering any new development. The proposed quarry would result in heightened noise levels, air pollution from dust, and increased traffic congestion from large quarry trucks passing through residential areas. These factors would create significant inconvenience and distress for residents, particularly children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing respiratory conditions. The social fabric of the community could be eroded as people are forced to live in an environment dominated by industrial activity rather than a peaceful, residential atmosphere.

In light of these concerns, I strongly urge the council to reject the planning application for this quarry. I believe that this development would be incompatible with the values of the local community and would have long-lasting negative impacts on both the environment and local economy.

Thank you for considering my objections. I hope that you will give serious thought to the long-term implications of this proposal for the people who live and work in this area. Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Gemma Butcher