

TOWN OF



PLAINVILLE

ONE CENTRAL SQUARE, PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT 06062-1955

Robert E. Lee
Town Manager
(860) 793-0221 x201
relee@plainville-ct.gov

**Testimony of
Robert E. Lee, Town Manager
Town of Plainville Before
Public Health Committee
March 7, 2016**

Good afternoon Senator Gerratana, Representative Matthew Ritter and members of the Public Health Committee.

I am here today to testify in support of Senate Bill 300 which would allow Tilcon to expand their quarry operation in the Town of Plainville on property owned by the New Britain Water Company. This legislation, if approved, would benefit three communities – namely – New Britain, Southington and Plainville.

The benefits to the three communities would include Tilcon transferring a total of 275 acres for permanent open space designation. This acreage would be forever protected from any future development. In Plainville alone, the open space would total 157 acres.

In addition, Tilcon currently has authorization to conduct their quarry activity within 300 feet of existing homes. Under the proposed plan, Tilcon would forgo this area for future quarry operation and move it further away from existing homes. The buffer created would be more than three times the distance that is currently allowed – namely - a minimum of 1,000 feet.

Finally, when the quarrying has been completed, a new clean water reservoir will be created which will benefit the City of New Britain and the surrounding communities as well. In the end all of the land would revert back to a Class I and Class II status.

In conclusion, the quarry has been in operation in Plainville for almost 100 years. Tilcon is the second largest taxpayer in the Town of Plainville and employs almost 300 people at this location. In addition to being an economic driver in our community, Tilcon has been a good corporate citizen as well donating to many local charitable causes.

The bottom line is that Senate Bill 300 is a win-win for the economy, the future water sources of the region, the Town of Plainville, and the surrounding neighborhood. I urge you to support this legislation.