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Media Release

**Wednesday, December 7, 2011
For Immediate Release**

**BRIGHTON COUNCIL
MAINTAINS CONTROL OF ST. MARY'S/CBM GRAVEL PIT**

Brighton, ON - Brighton Council voted, on Monday, December 5, 2011, to approve in principle the proposed St. Mary's/CBM gravel pit to be located in the former Township of Brighton by passing an Official Plan amendment only. Council has not yet passed the required Zoning by-law which will provide the necessary controls through the next steps.

Mayor Mark Walas stated "Council recognized the need to ensure the interests of Brighton are protected and by making this decision we have control of the outcomes through negotiating agreements with St. Mary's CBM. If we had not approved the Official Plan amendment, the decisions for our community would be in the hands of the Ontario Municipal Board".

Prior to Council's decision on Monday night, Council held numerous public meetings to receive input from those residents expressing concerns about the proposed pit. Council also retained independent experts to peer review the reports prepared by the consultants for CBM and to provide to Council their opinions regarding the appropriateness of establishing a gravel pit at the proposed location. All of the consultants retained by Council, including an independent land use planner, recommended approval in principle as the proposal was consistent with Provincial and local policy requirements for establishing new gravel pits.

Council's decision to approve an amendment to the Official Plan represents a first step. The matter of a rezoning of the lands is still before Council, and Council also passed a resolution Monday night that its support of the rezoning will be subject to CBM providing satisfactory responses to all remaining technical questions and entering into an agreement with the Municipality addressing all conditions to the satisfaction of Council.

Mayor Walas pointed out "Council has been committed to ensuring the communities involvement in the process and will continue to seek input from the community through the next stages". It is anticipated that the conditions in the agreement will deal with matters/concerns raised by members of the public and the technical consultants retained by Council such as protection and monitoring of water supplies, protection of water features, controls on noise, traffic, etc.