February 13, 2026

Norvell Township Hall
300 Mill Road
Brooklyn, MI 49230

Re: Proposed Norvell Mine Project

Dear Norvell Township Officials,

Our names are Michael and Diana Arnold and we live on Arnold Road, adjacent to the property that is proposed as a gravel mine. We have concerns about the proposed project and would like our concerns to be heard in the decision-making process.

The Arnold family has a long history with Norvell Township that we are proud of. We have raised our families here for many generations, farmed the land and taken care of the natural areas near our farmlands. This land is our home. We chose to spend our lives in this beautiful corner of Jackson County. We understand how special our property is and its importance in the mosaic of this region of high-quality habitat and high-functioning natural resources. Part of why we love this area is our connections to the unique landscape and the wildlife who reside here. We are worried that the proposed gravel mine will undermine our property value, the quiet enjoyment of our private property, including our residence, and the investment we've made in the land's perpetual protection.

Part of this process of protecting the Arnold Family legacy was working with Legacy Land Conservancy to permanently protect the high-quality natural areas and wildlife habitat on our property with a conservation easement. This conservation easement allows the property to remain in private ownership and on the tax roll, while permanently protecting the natural resources that we are responsible for stewarding. This conservation easement acknowledges that our property is critical to water quality, flood mitigation, and the rural character of this region. After working with Legacy to put this agreement in place for six years, we finally closed on the conservation easement in September, 2022.

Before and while working with Legacy, we partnered with several entities interested in rare and endangered species to allow studies on our property, including for the threatened slippershell mussel. We were told our property has the most slippershell mussels on one site found to date by Michigan State University. The property is ideal habitat for the slipper shell mussel because of the high quality of the water and the aerating of the water over our small rock dam on the property. Changes to the water table and water quality would threaten this habitat. This is just one species and one unique quality of our property. We also have recorded several other rare

species on our parcel as well as anthropological sites, including near the property line that is shared with the proposed gravel mine.

The noise, sights, pollution, and other disturbances associated with heavy industrial use of the proposed mine are of great concern to our enjoyment of our private residence as well. Approving this gravel mine would drastically change the neighborhood from peaceful, quiet, natural sanctuary for those who live here and visit the Parks, to a busy, loud, industrial zone. We are worried that our home will not be as peaceful and enjoyable and that our animals, wild and domesticated, will be under duress.

Thank you for considering our concerns both to our enjoyment of our property and to the investment we and our community have made in the natural resources in this beautiful part of Norvell Township. We hope you will take them into consideration as proud residents of this area, who care deeply about this area and the land's future.

Sincerely,

Michael Arnold

Diana Arnold