

Regal Front River-Inn, June 16, 2000

Good afternoon, I am Leon Steinbach, president of the Hazelwood Yellow Ribbon Committee. I am here this afternoon to recommend to the Corp of Engineers that a 404 permit not be granted to Tri-Star Business Communities and to the Mills Corporation. Other agencies such as the Fish, Game and Wildlif Service, Coalition for the Environment, Conservation Department, and the Sierra Club have also recommended to the Corp that 404 permit should not be approved for this project.

The 370/Missouri Bottom Road Tax Increment Financing District establish^{ed} by Hazelwood Ordinance 3020-98 consists of 686 acres of some the nation's most fertile farmland, wetlands and flood plain. Within the 322 acres that the Tri-Star Business Communities and Mills Corporation plans to develop, there are 70 acres of flood plain and about 30 acres of wetlands. Since last fall, Tri-Star Business Communities has been destroying the natural habitat, trees, farmland, wetlands and flood plain on the estimated 160 acres that they own.

What used to be a haven and refuge for wild life along the Missouri Bottom Road as you enter Henry Trucking is now an erosion disaster because large Earthmovers have been removing Thousands of tons of rich fertile topsoil and using it to fill up and destroy the wetlands and Flood plain are.

This area should not be developed into an industrial park or retail mall. Development will contaminate and pollute the water table of the Missouri Valley and chemicals in the air and from industrial waste, will kill off the fish, wildlife, vegetation and natural habitat.

When it rains, it floods. I took some photo^s several weeks ago to show you what happens To this area when we received several inches of rain.

Show photos. This is no area that should be used for commercial development. Commercial development would only result in moving flood water further down stream All along Aubochon and Charbonier Road down to St. Stanislaus Park on the Bridgeton side, businesses like Prouhet vegetable farms will be flooded due to this Development. This development will block flood waters coming upstream from Chesterfield, Maryland Heights and Bridgeton.

This area should remain farm land, wetland and flood plain. It would^{be} better to use it for a wildlife refuge or park.

I want the Corp of Engineers to know that there were about 4,000 Hazelwood voters that signed a petition because they wanted to vote on this very important Mills shopping center development issue. The Hazelwood City Council, Mayor and Mills corporation officias interfered with our petition process by going door to door, and mailing propaganda to Hazelwood Citizens asking them to remove their name from our petition. There continues to be great concern by Hazelwood and Bridgeton citizens that this whole Beautiful Missouri Valley area will be destroyed by commercial development.

The Hazelwood Yellow Ribbon Committee and Coalition for the Environment wanted to LET THE VOTERS DECIDE whether Hazelwood's wetlands, natural resources, wild life and farming heritage should be destroyed for just another mall at Hazelwood's expense. AGAIN, I RECOMMEND THAT THE CORP OF ENGINEERS DISAPPROVE THE TRI-STAR BUSINESS COMMUNTIES REQUEST FOR A 404 DEVELOPMENTAL PERMIT. THANK YOU. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at area code (314) 839-8015. My e-mail address is lestein@juno.com.

ROAD
FLOODED

BRILLIANT
WEIGHT
SINGLE UNIT
OTHERS

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PROUHEI FARM
VEGETABLES
PUMPKINS
OPEN 10-7
SUN 10-2

MUMS