

From: Jan Meriwether

Attention: The City of St. Marys Planning Commission, Mayor and Council

There are simply far too many unknowns about the proposed use of the former Gilman Paper Mill site to responsibly consider rezoning for the proposed Port of St. Marys Industrial and Logistics Center. There are no specifics regarding the types of industries that could be located at this proposed port. What industries will be located on this site and what is the nature of their business/production? Seems a fair and quite basic question. Without that information, how can the citizenry evaluate the impact on our community?

Rezoning to allow unknown industries to locate and conduct business (what input? what output?). I came to St. Marys in 2006 AFTER the paper mill was no longer running. It's remains continue to be a blight on the entrance to our charming, historic little town. Why would we replace with another industrial complex and do so with so many unknowns: Impact on property values? Mitigation plans for removal of toxic materials known to be on the site? Impact of cumulative traffic -- trucks, rail, barge?

Revitalizing that property is of tantamount importance and should be done in a way that protects our community, safeguards the quality of life of our citizens and protects the environment. As I stated initially, to approve a rezoning proposal would, in my opinion, be irresponsible.