

Someone has to do the “Dirty Jobs”

On the Discovery Channel, Mike Rowe experiences the “Dirty Jobs” to which ordinary people commute every day. Few of us would envy the individuals who perform these jobs; however, the roles that they play are in important ones. Someone ultimately has to do the work.

Similarly, certain industries are deemed more attractive than others. Everyone likes the idea of having an IT or biotechnology company in their proverbial back yard. After all, these industries are “clean” and provide “good high-paying” technical jobs.

However, not every employer can be in one of these industries. Somewhere, someone has to manage a landfill, handle industrial waste, and yes ... produce concrete. For the persons that hold jobs with these “dirty” companies, that paycheck is no less important and no less meaningful than if they had worn a lab coat to work. These potential employees do not mind getting their hands dirty and do not mind giving a fair day’s work for a living wage.

Those who oppose the Titan concrete facility have branded it an unacceptable evil before they ever hear the whole story. They oppose a use on property that is entirely consistent with the present use. The land is already used for industrial purposes, and it is home to an existing quarry and mining operation.

Is this my first choice for a new industry and employer in the area? ... Probably not. However, I am not prepared to tell anyone that would benefit from working there that his “dirty job” is any less important than mine.

NOTE: Letter to Editor – *Star News*