



September 2, 2019

Secretary Patrick McDonnell
Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Michael Kutney, P.G.
Chief, Permits and Technical Section
Department of Environmental Protection
Pottsville District Mining Office
5 West Laurel Boulevard
Pottsville, PA 17901

**Re: Rockhill Quarry (Pierson Materials/Hanson Aggregates) Rockhill
Environmental Preservation Alliance, Inc. Technical Review and Comments
on Asbestos Laboratory Reports**

On behalf of Rockhill Environmental Preservation Alliance, Inc. (REPA), enclosed please find a September 1, 2019 report prepared by Erskine Environmental Consulting. The report presents a technical review of four laboratory reports posted on the East Rockhill Township web site, and provides recommendations for additional testing and alternatives to avoid the potential exposure to residents and school children located near the quarry site. The report finds that the laboratory methods, quantitation methods, and inappropriate deviations from standard of practice indicate that the sampling and analysis program that was implemented at the Rockhill quarry site is **inadequate and deficient** to assess and quantify the concentration of asbestos. The report also recommends alternatives that can be considered to fully characterize the asbestos concentrations in the materials, and the production of data that can allow an informed decision regarding the potential risk to residents and children at the nearby school as well as the 23 other schools (and approximately 11,612 children) potentially at risk for exposure to asbestos from the Rockhill Quarry.

As you know, on June 6, 2019, REPA submitted a report to DEP prepared by Erskine Environmental Consulting on the Geologic Investigations Hazardous Materials Naturally Occurring Asbestos Qualitative Geologic Survey Sampling Plan (QGSSP) for Rockhill Quarry. Unfortunately, we never received any acknowledgement from DEP that the report had been received. We have only heard from other sources that the report was received and is “being considered” by DEP, leaving us to wonder what points of the report are being considered. REPA requests that DEP acknowledge the receipt of the enclosed report, as well as the report submitted on June 6, and that it explain what points of report it is considering.

Thank you for your attention to this serious matter.

Respectfully yours,

Rockhill Environmental Preservation Alliance, Inc.

cc: Steven Baluh, P.E (via email)
Marianne Morano, Township Manager (via email)
Amiee Bollinger PADEP (via email)
Virginia Cain, PADEP (via email)
Robert Fogel, PADEP (via email)
Erika Furlong, PADEP (via email)
Craig Lambeth, PADEP (via email)
Gary Latsha, PADEP (via email)
Shawn Mountain, PADEP (via email)
Patrick Patterson, PADEP (via email)
James Rebarchak, PADEP (via email)
Daniel Sammarco, PADEP (via email)
Sachin Shankar, PADEP (via email)
John Stefanko, PADEP (via email)
Richard Tallman PADEP (via email)
Doug White, PADEP (via email)