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Senate of Pennsylvania

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December 21, 2021

Honorable Patrick McDonnell
PA Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225

Re: Hanson Extension Request

Dear Secretary McDonnell:

I am writing today to express my concerns about the continued delays in the permit application process between the DEP and Hanson related to the Rockhill Quarry. I would also like to respectfully request a meeting with you in January 2022 to discuss the need for permanently prohibiting all mining activity at this site.

When I wrote to you in June, I expressed that more than adequate time has been provided for Hanson to respond to the items requested in the November 18, 2020 Technical Deficiency Letter. The responses provided by Hanson in their July 6, 2021 partial response have resulted in additional deficiencies that Hanson responded to December 6, 2021. Meanwhile the Department continues to review the responses provided in the October 29, 2021 submission, which was delayed due to requested extension provided to Hanson on June 21, 2021. This continued back and forth demonstrates a lack of urgency in addressing this hazardous quarry and the risks it presents to the Rockhill Community.

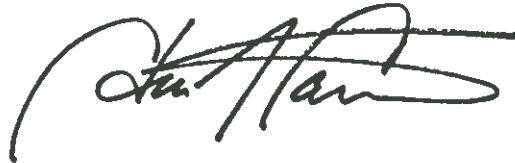
On November 23, 2021, Hanson has once again asked to be relieved of annual minimum tonnage removal requirement for active mining operations. In the PA DOH letter dated February 7, 2020, sent to The Rockhill Environmental Preservation Alliance, it is stated that naturally occurring asbestos is "best to be avoided and left alone". I neither wish to have this request granted or do I wish for Hanson to fulfill this requirement. Rather, I request that because of the existence of naturally occurring asbestos, resulting in no safe way for any rocks to be removed from the premises, the mining permit be rescinded, and the quarry closed permanently.

While the quarry operations have been ceased for the past 3 years, the residents are anxious to have resolution on the future of the quarry. With the inadequacy of Hanson's

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responses and the existence of naturally occurring asbestos, there continues to be no acceptable safe operation that can occur at this facility. I respectfully request no further extensions be granted to Hanson in proving responses to their multitude of deficiencies, the request for abeyance on the minimum tonnage removal requirement be denied, and that the mining permit be rescinded, and the quarry closed once and for all. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven J. Santarsiero". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "S" that loops back under the rest of the name.

Steven J. Santarsiero
10th District

cc: REPA
West Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors
Pennridge School District Board of Directors