



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

April 5, 2017

New Hope Crushed Stone & Lime Company
Attn: Ms. Christina Cursley
P.O. Box 248
New Hope, PA 18938-0248

Re: New Hope Crushed Stone & Lime Company
Permit No. 7974SM3
March 13, 2017: Request for Temporary Relief from Reclamation
Solebury Township
Bucks County

Dear Ms. Cursley:

On March 13, 2017, New Hope Crushed Stone & Lime Company (NHCS) submitted a request for temporary relief from reclamation and stream activities required pursuant to the Department's letter of January 29, 2016, due to safety issues identified during a Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) inspection conducted on March 6, 2017.

The Department subsequently scheduled and participated in a joint inspection with MSHA inspectors and NHCS personnel, on March 16, 2017, to review the areas of concerns referenced in MSHA's March 6, 2017 inspection report.

During the March 16, 2017 inspection and subsequent conversations, we discussed the feasibility of constructing a new haul road/access road across the top of the pit on the north side. This option would allow NHCS better access to the west side of the pit to conduct stream restoration work, accomplish reclamation requirements on the north wall, and remediate the safety issues regarding overhanging and/or loose rocks identified in the MSHA inspection report. Additionally, the material being excavated to stabilize the slide area, could be used in the reclamation/new road construction along the north wall, thereby reducing the total amount of time associated with NHCS's request for temporary relief from reclamation and stream activities.

Based upon our inspection and discussions, please submit to the Department for consideration by no later than April 11, 2017, a detailed submission that describes all work that must be done for NHCS to remediate the safety issues identified by MSHA regarding the slide area as well as a schedule for completing that work. The submittal must include the estimated time needed to address each of the items safety issues/concerns noted in the MSHA inspection, in accordance with the proposed work plan discussed and tentatively agreed upon during our March 16th meeting/site visit, and a tentative date as to when reclamation and stream activities will resume. NHCS is reminded that reclamation work needs to resume and continue as noted in items 2 and 3 in the Department letter dated January 29, 2016, as soon as possible. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the January 29, 2016 letter will result in enforcement action.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 570.621.3118.

Sincerely,



Gary A. Latsha
Environmental Group Manager
Bureau of District Mining Operations

cc: Michael J. Menghini
Nels Taber
Alicia Duke
Nathan Houtz
Amiee Bollinger
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