



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION

POTTSVILLE DISTRICT OFFICE

July 10, 2015

New Hope Crushed Stone & Lime Co.  
P.O. Box 248  
New Hope, PA 18938-0248

Re: New Hope Crushed Stone & Lime Co.  
Application Nos. 7974SM3C15 and  
NPDES Permit Renewal No. PA0595853  
Solebury Township  
Bucks County

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Department has reviewed the Proposed Reclamation Plan and Sequence dated June 30, 2015. The proposed plan is unacceptable for the following reasons:

1. The reclamation schedule is based on available reserves instead of the actual time needed to reclaim sections of the quarry.
2. The reclamation schedule assumes that New Hope Crushed Stone & Lime Co., Inc. (NHCS) has authorization to remove benches. NHCS does not have authorization to remove benches. NHCS may request to remove benches under Chapter 77.573.
3. The information provided by EarthRes Group, Inc. (ERG) on behalf of NHCS does not address the pending NPDES permit renewal. Please submit revisions to the Surface Mining Permit *and* the NPDES Permit that achieve the following:
  - a. Abate the public nuisance caused by NHCS' lowering of the groundwater;
  - b. Restore the groundwater underneath Solebury School to post-mining levels;
  - c. Maintain the minimum required downstream flow (the revision should provide an estimate of the change in water pumping required to achieve the required reclamation plan); and,
  - d. Manage erosion and sedimentation so that the discharge meets NPDES Permit limits and Chapter 93 water quality standards.
4. The proposed plan does not provide a schedule for reclamation of the quarry that includes:
  - a. A timeline for when each lift will be flooded; and

July 10, 2015

- b. the approximate amount of reclamation that will occur while each lift is flooding (for example, acreage of slope faces reclaimed, highwalls reduced, construction of stream inflow and outfall structures, acreage planted and stabilized).
5. Additionally, please provide an update regarding the installation of a groundwater elevation monitoring well at Solebury School.

As discussed in our May 13, 2015, meeting at the Pottsville District Mining Office, a formal submission for the Reclamation Plan and Sequence is due by August 9, 2015. Failure to satisfactorily address the items in this letter may result in the Department initiating an appropriate compliance action to address the issues raised in the Environmental Hearing Board's Adjudication.

Sincerely,



Michael Kutney, P.G.  
Licensed Professional Geologist  
Pottsville District Office

cc: Michael J. Menghini  
Nathan A. Houtz  
Gary A. Latsha, SMCIS  
Amiee Bollinger, SMCI  
Nels J. Taber, Regional Counsel  
EarthRes Group, Inc., Consultant  
Municipality of Solebury Township  
Primrose Creek Watershed Association  
Solebury School  
Tickler: 8/9/2015  
File  
MS1-NHCS rec plan reply (7/15)

MPK:pae