
Subject:

Rock Hill Quarry Update 3.15.19

Greetings,

You are receiving this email from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) because you have expressed interest in the Rock Hill Quarry in East Rockhill Township, Bucks County.

What is the current status of regulated mining activities at the quarry?

Mining and related activities remain under a cessation order until lifted, in writing, by DEP. Certain activities at the site are still permissible, most notably, the construction of the rock crusher and sampling/monitoring activities. The cessation will remain in place until all of the following items are submitted, reviewed and deemed satisfactory by DEP:

- Enhanced Asbestos Assessment Plan: *not yet submitted*
- Background or Asbestos Characterization Sampling Plan for recently processed aggregate stockpiles and existing water bodies on site: *submitted and approved, 12/19/18*
- Draft Air Monitoring Plan/Dust Mitigation Plan: *submitted 12/20/18, it was reviewed and comments sent back to RE Pierson and their consultant, Compliance Plus, for consideration prior to the submittal of the final plan*

What's happened since the December 2018 email update?

- DEP reviewed the Background or Asbestos Characterization Sampling Plan and Draft Air Monitoring Plan/Dust Mitigation Plan and provided comments where applicable.
- Staff from DEP were on site several times to observe aggregate and water sampling, as well as conducted a site visit to observe background ambient air sampling for asbestos.
- DEP staff met with legislators and East Rockhill Township representatives to discuss the quarry and additional avenues to keep the community informed.
- DEP staff met with Quarry representatives to discuss the required sampling and monitoring needed.

What are the next steps regarding DEP?

- DEP's Air Quality program will review and evaluate the Air Monitoring Plan/Dust Mitigation Plan once submitted to determine whether plans are adequate to ensure the safe operation of the site.
- In addition to sampling conducted by the company, DEP's Mining Program will also be conducting its own sampling at the quarry.
- In addition to the ongoing asbestos sampling and monitoring, revisions to the Surface Mining Permit are required before the rock crusher and asphalt plant could be operational. Additional revisions are needed to address the potential to encounter asbestiform minerals during mining operations.
- Hanson, the quarry owner and permittee, has proposed revisions to the existing discharge (NPDES) permit, which would be subject public notice and public participation.

Thank you for your continued interest in DEP's oversight of the Rock Hill Quarry.

Sincerely,

John Stefanko

John J. Stefanko | Deputy Secretary
Active and Abandoned Mine Operations
Department of Environmental Protection