



June 26, 2020

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

**Re: REPA is not alone in request for PERMANENT CLOSURE of the ROCKHILL QUARRY**

Dear Secretary McDonnell:

We are not alone! Please take a moment to acknowledge this growing list of those requesting closure of the Rockhill Quarry:

- [Senator Steve Santarsiero](#)
- [Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick](#)
- [State Representative Craig Staats](#)
- [Bucks County Commissioners](#)
- [East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors](#)
- [Richland Township Manager](#)
- [Penn Environment - David Masur](#)
- [Bucks Environmental Action](#)
- [Conservation Voters of PA](#)
- [Delaware Riverkeeper Network](#)
- [Pennridge School District](#)

In recent months, calls have been growing to Governor Wolf, PADEP and PA Department of Health from legislators, environmental groups and residents asking for the permanent closure of the Rockhill Quarry in East Rockhill Township due to the presence of Naturally Occurring Asbestos (NOA).

In a letter written to Rockhill Environmental Preservation Alliance (REPA) on February 7, 2020, the PA Department of Health shared that the NOA at the Rockhill Quarry site “should be avoided and left alone” and that it would be detrimental to the health and wellbeing of the residents if it were to be disturbed in any way.” PA DOH further states: “Avoid blasting it, crushing it, or grinding it up. . . Especially avoid digging, transporting and/or gardening in areas in which NOA has been detected or suspected to be present.” REPA's expert geologist, Dr. Bradley Erskine, has issued several reports indicating that results to date have severely under reported asbestos levels, and that the methodologies for test results submitted

to DEP by Hanson Aggregates PA, LLC have not been in conformance with universally recognized standards of practice for asbestos testing.

REPA requests that you closely review the letters we are enclosing, as well as all of the technical reports we have previously submitted to PADEP. All reports can be found on the REPA website.

<https://rockhillpa.org/asbestos-update/>

We strongly urge that PADEP do the right thing and, together with Governor Wolf and the PA Department of Health, respond to the concerns of legislators and environmentalists, as well as the community which you are tasked to protect and who will be put at risk for exposure to a deadly carcinogen should operations at the Rockhill Quarry be allowed to resume.

We sincerely appreciate your prompt attention to this serious and dangerous matter.

Respectfully yours,

Rockhill Environmental Preservation Alliance, Inc.

cc: The Honorable Governor Thomas Wolf  
The Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick, U.S. Representative PA-01  
The Honorable Steven Santarsiero, 10<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District  
The Honorable Craig Staats, PA's 145<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
The Honorable Diane Ellis-Marseglia, Chair, Bucks County Board of Commissioners  
The Honorable Robert Harvie, Jr., Vice Chair, Bucks County Board of Commissioners  
The Honorable Gene DiGirolamo, Bucks County Board of Commissioners  
East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors  
Marianne Morano, East Rockhill Township Manager  
Paul Stepanoff, Richland Township Manager  
Megan Banis-Clemens, Pennridge School Board Director  
Michael Kutney, PADEP  
John Stefanko, PADEP  
Gary Latsha, PADEP

## **Letters asking for Closure of Rockhill Quarry**

[State Senator Steve Santarsiero District 10 to Raphael M. Barishansky Deputy Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Health, February 12, 2020 Re: Rockhill Quarry, East Rockhill Township](#)

[Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick June 25, 2020 Letter to Secretary Patrick McDonnell, PA DEP](#)

[County of Bucks, Office of the Commissioners to Dr. Rachel Levine, PA Department of Health, Secretary and Mr. Patrick McDonnell, Secretary Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection - February 19, 2020](#)

[Mr. Paul Stefanoff to Mr. Patrick McDonnell, Secretary Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection - March 10, 2020 Re: Support of Dept. of Health Letter dated February 7, 2020 to Rockhill Environmental Preservation Alliance, Inc. regarding Rockhill Quarry in East Rockhill Township, Bucks County, PA](#)

[Craig T. Staats, PA House of Representatives, 145<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, to Mr. Patrick McDonnell, Secretary Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection - March 13, 2020, Re: Rockhill Quarry, East Rockhill Township Bucks County](#)

[East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors to Governor Tom Wolf - April 28, 2020 Re: East Rockhill Township's Opposition to Reopening the Rock Hill Quarry](#)

[Rockhill Environmental Preservation Alliance, Inc to The Honorable Thomas Wolf Governor – April 28, 2020 Re: PERMANENT CLOSURE of Rockhill Quarry, East Rockhill, Bucks County, PA](#)

[Pennridge School Board Director Megan Banis-Clemens June 26, 2020 Letter to DEP](#)

[David Masur, Executive Director, Penn Environment to Governor Wolf \[June 2020\]](#)

[Maya K. van Rossum the Delaware Riverkeeper, to Governor Wolf - June 18, 2020 Re: PERMANENT CLOSURE of Rockhill Quarry, East Rockhill, Bucks County, PA](#)

[Sharon Furlong, Spokesperson, Bucks Environmental Action to Governor Wolf - May 22, 2020](#)

[Conservation Voters of PA to the Office of the Governor of Pennsylvania \[June 2020\]](#)