



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

November 5, 2018

The Honorable Patrick McDonnell
Secretary, Department of Environmental Protection
DEP Southeast Regional Office
2 E. Main Street
Norristown, PA 19401

Secretary McDonnell:

I am writing to you today regarding the Rockhill Quarry located at 2055 North Rockhill Road, Sellersville, PA, 18960 in East Rockhill Township in my congressional district. It is my understanding that the operators of the quarry have submitted a permit application to the State Department of Environmental Protection for a 1000 ton per hour non-metallic mineral processing plant.

A large number of my constituents residing near the quarry are extremely concerned that the permit will have negative impacts on the health and safety of the neighboring communities. Chief among their concerns are:

1. The permit is for a 1000-ton per hour mineral processing plant at a location in extremely close proximity to families' homes in the absence of noise mitigation requirements. Moreover, there is DEP evidence that noise emanating from the property is louder in some areas off-site than it is on-site due to the topography of the area.
2. The permit is for a high volume of stone (~400-700 truck trips) to be processed in an area known to have small country roads inaccessible to major roadways.
3. This permit is for a high volume of stone to be processed, a volume that is ten times the volume of other Bucks County quarries?
4. This permit allows for a proposed mitigation for particulate matter suppression that has already been known to fail at this location.
5. This permit is for a high volume of stone to be processed at this location when the only roads available have questionable infrastructure, completely inadequate for the increased volume that the proposed plant would generate.

6. This permit allows for a dust suppression system that uses 9250 gallons of water per hour in an area with an already compromised water system. There is DEP evidence that Ridge Run PFSs contamination is less than 1 mile from the site submitting this permit.

7. This permit contains hours of operation that could be 8-16 hours per day, in a residential area that has no berms or sound barriers.

I am respectfully requesting your personal full and fair consideration of my constituents' concerns regarding this permit. I would also greatly appreciate your department's response to my constituents' concerns enumerated above. I am extremely concerned that the operation of this quarry under the requested permit would create an unnecessary health and safety risk to my constituents. I look forward to receiving your response and making sure that proper review and oversight of this project continues to be a priority.

Sincerely,



Brian K. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress