

Dear REPA,

Please see the email below from State Senator Steve Santarsiero. We are extremely grateful for his tireless efforts on behalf of the residents of ERT!

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Pennsylvania Constitution. Article I, Section 27 says: "The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come."

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **PA Senator Steve Santarsiero** <D10.Constituent@pasenate.com>
Date: Thu, Apr 25, 2019 at 4:42 PM
Subject: Rockhill Quarry Update
To: O'Brien, Dan <Dan.Obrien@pasenate.com>
Cc: O'Brien, Dan <Dan.Obrien@pasenate.com>

Dear Neighbor:

I am writing to you today because you have expressed an interest in the reactivation of the Rockhill Quarry in East Rockhill Township. As you may know I, along with state Rep. Craig Staats, U.S. Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick and East Rockhill Township Supervisor Gary Volovnik, met with officials from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to discuss the Quarry on January 9th of this year. We followed that up with a public meeting on January 19th at Bucks County Community College's Upper Bucks Campus that was designed to update residents on what we learned from the DEP meeting and to listen to your concerns. The feedback we received from residents was very helpful.

Following the public meeting, in a February 25th letter addressed to DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell, I requested that the Department review and provide documentation related to historic operations at the Quarry due to the questions surrounding whether or not its operators complied with the requirement that 500 tons of rock be removed each year to be considered in continuous operation. On February 27th, I, along with state Rep. Staats and Congressman Fitzpatrick, sent a joint letter to Secretary McDonnell requesting that the DEP hold quarterly meetings with residents and monthly conference calls with elected officials beginning in March, as well as create a "Community Information" page on the Department's website to ensure the public was consistently updated on the status of the Quarry. After not receiving a response to either letter, I sent Secretary McDonnell a follow-up letter on April 5th requesting a response to the previous inquiries.

At long last, yesterday we received a letter dated April 18th from Secretary McDonnell in response. In it, he stated that a continued evaluation of the Quarry will "incorporate...the items you noted in your

letter if they are not currently being reviewed as part of the process." Secretary McDonnell also mentioned that the "Community Information" page, which has since been launched, would also be developed. This is welcome news; however, there was not a specific response to my requests related to the questions surrounding the removal of 500 tons per year. Also, the implementation of quarterly resident meetings and monthly conference calls with elected officials still has not occurred, nor has DEP committed to them.

The lack of clarity and the delayed responses to the requests are troubling.

Residents deserve to be kept informed in a timely manner. I will continue to work to ensure the residents' concerns are being addressed and more frequent communication is occurring.

I also will continue to advocate for DEP, Pierson and Hanson to follow all state laws and regulations pertaining to the operation of the quarry and other activities there. That includes making sure that DEP conducts a thorough investigation into the operational history of the Quarry, as information provided to date strongly suggests that the quarry did not comply with the annual tonnage requirement.

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact my office with any questions or concerns related to the Quarry. Thank you.

Steve Santarsiero

PA Senate, 10th District

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