

10TH DISTRICT
STATE SENATOR
STEVE SANTARSIERO

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Senate of Pennsylvania

February 25, 2019

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

Re: Rockhill Quarry

Dear Secretary McDonnell,

As you may know, a question has arisen regarding the historic operation of the Rockhill Quarry (the Quarry) in East Rockhill Township. Specifically, both the lack of complete records and the nature of the records that have been discovered regarding Hanson Aggregates' (Hanson) operations of the site over the last 40 years or so call into question whether Hanson has complied with the requirement that at least 500 tons of stone be removed from the Quarry on an annual basis to be considered an ongoing operation, and, therefore, one that does not require a new operating permit. At the meeting that I attended with a representative of Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick, state Representative Craig Staats and Township Supervisor Gary Volovnik on January 9, 2019, the DEP stated that it was conducting its own internal investigation on this issue as the available evidence had raised similar questions at the Department.

We do not know what the scope of that investigation is, but would like to ask that the Department look into the following as part of its review and, to the extent available, provide our office with copies of relevant documents as well:

- All documents underlying alleged truckloads of stone leaving the Quarry from 1980 through 2018, such as scale certificates signed by weigh masters and inventory records;
- All records relating to stockpiles of stone at the site from 1980 through 2018;
- The apparent inconsistency in records regarding the amount of stone removal in 1983 and 1986;
- All documents relating to alleged consistent truck weights from 2010, 2011, and 2013;
- All documents relating to the reported removal of exactly 500 tons of stone in 1998, 1999, 2000, 2008, 2011, and 2012;

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- The identification and interviews of former DEP inspectors and Hanson employees with knowledge of this issue; and
- Historical aerial photos of the Quarry between 1980 and 2018.

Thank you for looking into this issue further. I look forward to the results of the Department's continued investigation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven J. Santarsiero". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "J".

Steven J. Santarsiero
PA Senator, District 10

CC: Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick, Member of Congress
Honorable Craig T. Staats, Pennsylvania House of Representatives