



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

POTTSVILLE DISTRICT OFFICE

November 17, 2015

Margot Johnson
PO Box 315
New Hope, PA 18938

Re: New Hope Crushed Stone & Lime Co.
Solebury Township
Bucks County

Dear Ms. Johnson:

I am in receipt of your letter dated November 2, 2015, regarding your concerns about the activities taking place on the above referenced quarry operations. Your letter states that:

- 1) In Items Nos. 1 through 3 you reference unbearable, deafening noise and dust from the quarry.


The Department, along with Solebury Township, has conducted investigations regarding sound levels of the mining activities taking place at the quarry. The investigations have shown that sound levels at the quarry are within the allowable limits. As for the dust issue, the Department conducts routine inspections at the quarry and has not observed any fugitive dust being generated from the mining activities. The quarry routinely operates a water truck to water the haul roads and the access road to the load out area near the scale house. The quarry also utilizes water spray bars on their crushing/screening plants and conveyors to eliminate fugitive dust from occurring. The Department has not issued any violations regarding fugitive dust infractions. Neither the Pottsville District Office, nor the Department's Air Quality Program in the Southeast Regional Office, has a record of any complaints being filed by you regarding these issues in the past twenty years. The Pottsville District Mining Office is viewing your November 2, 2015 letter as a complaint and will have an inspector assigned to investigate.

- 2) In Item No. 4 you reference that frequent quarry blasts have cracked your stone house inside and out, split bathroom tiles and cracked your swimming pool.

The quarry has an approved Blast Plan that is part of its surface mining permit. The quarry is required by the rules and regulations of the Department and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to keep detailed records of each blast event. These blast records are to be made available for review by the Department's mining inspector and blasting/explosives inspector. The blast records are reviewed by the mining inspector during each quarterly complete inspection and also when the blasting/explosive inspector conducts his inspection. A review of quarry blasting records indicates that they are in compliance with the rules and regulations of the

5 West Laurel Boulevard | Pottsville, PA 17901-2522

570.621.3118 | Fax 570.621.3110

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