



County Commissioners

Robert J. Harvie Jr., *Chair*
Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia, *Vice Chair*
Gene DiGirolamo, *Secretary*

Chief Operating Officer

Margaret A. McKeivitt

December 27, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Shirley
Interim Acting Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

RE: Rock Hill Quarry, East Rockhill Township, Bucks County, PA

Dear Interim Acting Secretary Shirley,

We are writing to express our concerns regarding the undisclosed methods of self-monitoring and self-testing that have been conducted at Rockhill Quarry in East Rockhill Township. As the leader of the chief environmental agency in Pennsylvania, you have a solemn responsibility to protect the health and safety of our community. The residents of East Rockhill Township and the surrounding communities have repeatedly expressed their concerns about the presence of naturally occurring asbestos at the quarry and how the resumption of mining operations could negatively affect their health and safety.

According to the Rockhill Environmental Preservation Alliance, the DEP has never permitted a quarry that tested positive for asbestos near a residential area to proceed. We believe you should continue this sound practice.

Ultimately, every DEP staffer involved in the oversight of Rockhill Quarry should ask this simple question: would I want to live within 5 miles of a quarry that could spread life-threatening asbestos particles into the air?

The Bucks County Commissioners remain committed to the health and safety of its residents and will continue to monitor this situation closely.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Harvie Jr., Chair

Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia, Vice Chair

Gene DiGirolamo, Secretary