

The Honorable Thomas W. Wolf  
Governor of Pennsylvania  
Office of the Governor  
508 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

September 14, 2018

Dear Governor Wolf,

I am a resident of East Rockhill Township, Bucks County. I am writing to voice my objection to the reopening plans for the Rockhill Quarry site. This location has been vacant for nearly 40 years and the population surrounding it has doubled in size since it was last active. The property provides no screening for residents as close as 200 feet away. The plans to not only reopen for mining, but install an asphalt plant and turn it into a mega-quarry never before seen in East Rockhill or at any other quarry in Bucks County will irreparably harm this community with an already compromised water system and PFAs contaminated wells shuttered less than 1 mile from the site. Please we implore you to help us when no one else will. The Rockhill Quarry site is located in East Rockhill Township PA, an area consisting primarily of resource protected woodlands, state game lands and quiet, residential, country roads. In the time since the property was vacated, the quarry and surrounding area has grown into its own delicate ecosystem, providing a rich habitat to numerous species of wildlife. Wetlands of the nearby Quakertown Swamp create a perfect environment for over 500 species of plants, mammals, insects, fish, birds and fragile amphibians such as the yellow spotted salamander and the American eel and possibly the severely endangered bog turtle.

In December 2017, Richard E. Pierson Inc. began the reactivation and expansion of the Rockhill Quarry, increasing annual production targets from 500 to 800,000 tons of stone. Additionally, they are proceeding with plans to install an asphalt plant at the same site. Soon a steady stream of 350+ forty-ton tri-axle dump trucks per day will create deplorable dangers along narrow, curvy roads, all of which will turn this quiet, rural community into an industrial wasteland!

NO ONE is stopping them! In spite of the lack of impact studies by government institutions entrusted to keep residents safe, quarry activities continue while Pierson may be VIOLATING THE RIGHTS of the people under Pennsylvania Constitution Article I, Section 27. They ignore the health and well-being of residents and wildlife because the PA DEP grants them necessary approvals to operate. Due to litigation, the township is forbidden to communicate with residents on all quarry matters. Expansion grows with no notice to residents regarding controls for sewage & industrial waste disposal, water supply and storm drainage, noise, polluted air and fire & safety hazards. Mothers contact the DEP to ask if the fumes and dust from the quarry are safe to breathe, while children play 200 feet from quarry property with NO PHYSICAL BARRIERS to shield or protect them --- I am that mother! Pets are hiding under beds while nearby residents are prisoners in their homes, trying to tolerate the deafening, head-pounding noise heard inside and outside.

Richard Pierson's greed is destroying lives while fattening his wallet at the expense of a rural community with little defense against a corporation that has no conscience and a DEP that has no interest in protecting its people and environment! Residents and the environment are at GREAT RISK and must be protected NOW! DEP, EPA and Township send residents in circles with NO relief. I implore you Governor, please come to our aid.