

BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK  
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COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND  
COOPERATION IN EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

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June 25, 2020

The Honorable Patrick McDonnell  
Secretary, Department of Environmental Protection  
DEP Southeast Regional Office  
2 E. Main Street  
Norristown, PA 19401

Dear Secretary McDonnell,

I write today regarding the Rockhill Quarry, located in East Rockhill Township, Pennsylvania where operations have been ceased since December 5, 2019 due to independent testing confirming the existence of naturally occurring asbestos (NOA) at the quarry. Since the cessation order by the DEP, I have formally requested the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to require an independent geologic investigation conducted by an experienced professional geologist to measure the amount of NOA at the quarry and the impacts of the NOA throughout the surrounding environment. Given the recent contract termination between Hanson Aggregates PA, LLC and R.E. Pierson, I ask the DEP to consider requesting from the EPA the thorough independent investigation I previously requested to the EPA before any future contracts are signed or any future permits are issued.

In addition to the geological investigation request, I ask for your full and fair consideration to the enclosed statements from PennEnvironment, Conservation Voters of PA, Bucks County Environmental Action, and Delaware Riverkeeper Network calling on the permanent closure of the Rockhill Quarry. In the event a fair independent geological investigation is not conducted, the only way to ensure our communities and residents are safe from the hazards of NOA is through the permanent closure of the Rockhill Quarry.

Thank you for the work you are doing to protect my constituents from this dangerous situation. As you move forward reviewing this case, I urge you to continue to keep my office updated on any developments and do not hesitate to reach out if I can be of assistance in any way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Fitzpatrick".

Brian Fitzpatrick (PA-01)  
*Member of Congress*