



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Active and Abandoned Mine Operations

Solebury Township Annual NHCS 2018 Update Meeting

Pottsville District Mining Office

Michael Menghini – District Mining Manager
Virginia Cain – Office of Field Operations
Gary Latsha – Compliance Manager
Glenn Florence – AAMO Deputy's Office
Michael Kutney, P.G. – Permits Chief

September 2018

Overview

- Pending Permits & Permit Actions
- PCWA & PennFuture Settlement
- Stream Restoration
- Discharge Monitoring
- Complaints
- Sinkholes
- Monitoring Wells & Groundwater
- Quarry Pumping
- Compliance Actions
- EHB Activities / Commonwealth Court
- PADEP Plans
- Numbers
- Reclamation Photos
- Questions

Pending Permits

- Received NPDES renewal application in late June 2012 – no decision made
- Subsequent renewal application received in August 2017

Permit Actions

- Authorized emergency pumping per the January 26, 2016 letter over the 500,000 GPD limit to prevent inundation of the in-pit electric transformers

Permit Actions

- Department letters dated July 12 and July 23, 2018
 - Nine items approving or requiring actions by NHCS
 - Transformer is relocated
 - Department approved maps and yardage calculations (based on visual observation, upcoming survey)
 - Department required more information regarding blasting for reclamation on the east wall (pending review)
 - Department requires a survey of reclamation work due September 30, 2018

Permit Actions

- Department letters dated July 12 and July 23, 2018 (continued)
 - Department modified the yardage per hour of reclamation NHCS must complete. Still on schedule to make the March 2019 deadline
 - Department required improvements to the inlet structure (not complete at this time, weather delays)
 - Department required monthly reclamation updates
 - Department authorized a pit water level of -40' MSL, in accordance with its January 26, 2016 letter

▶ PCWA & PennFuture Settlement



- LEGEND**
- INSTREAM AND NEARBY SINKHOLES (PARAGRAPH 3.a)
 - PRIMROSE CREEK (DOWNSTREAM EDGE TO QUARRY HIGHWALL) (PARAGRAPH 3.b)
 - PRIMROSE CREEK (UPSTREAM EDGE TO PROPERTY LINE) (PARAGRAPH 3.c)
 - PROPERTY LINE

EXHIBIT A CONSENT ORDER AND AGREEMENT		NEW HOPE CRUSHED STONE AND LIME CO. 6970 Phillips Mill Road New Hope, PA
DRAWN BY: <i>MSW</i>	CHECKED BY: <i>LFV</i>	
DATE: 5/21/2013	PROJECT NO: 011012.099	
DRAWING SCALE: 1" = 200'		
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING and SCIENCE		
Earthres Group, Inc. P.O. Box 468 6912 Old Easton Road Pipersville, PA 18947 USA www.earthres.com 215-766-1211		

▶ PCWA & PennFuture Settlement

- NHCS Obligations
 - Perform stream restoration work
 - Different segments prioritized:
 - Swallet area (instream sinkholes)
 - Downstream of Swallet area to quarry
 - Upstream to School property
 - Additional discharge monitoring (TSS)
 - Weekly sampling or within 24 hours of a 1-year, 24-hr storm
 - Currently ongoing
 - PECO culvert clean out

▶ PCWA & PennFuture Settlement

- PADEP Obligations
 - Require additional discharge monitoring (TSS) in next NPDES permit
 - Weekly sampling or within 24 hours of a 1-year, 24-hr storm
 - Currently ongoing
 - Provide PCWA and PennFuture 30 days to comment on restoration work (done)
 - Will provide response to comments not being addressed by PADEP actions (done)

Stream Restoration

- Authorization granted for restoration for all reaches of Primrose Creek
- Work has begun and is proceeding
- Includes inlet structure
- Outlet structure designs are being discussed

Stream Restoration



Sinkhole
Area
(2016)

2/18/2016 10:54

Stream Restoration



Sinkhole
Area
(2017)

Stream Restoration



Sinkhole
Area
(2018)

Stream Restoration



Downstream
of Sinkhole
Area
June 2018

Fish in
the creek

Discharge Monitoring

- In effect since August 2013
- 260 samples (effectively once/week)
- Average TSS concentration of 4.4 mg/L



Complaints

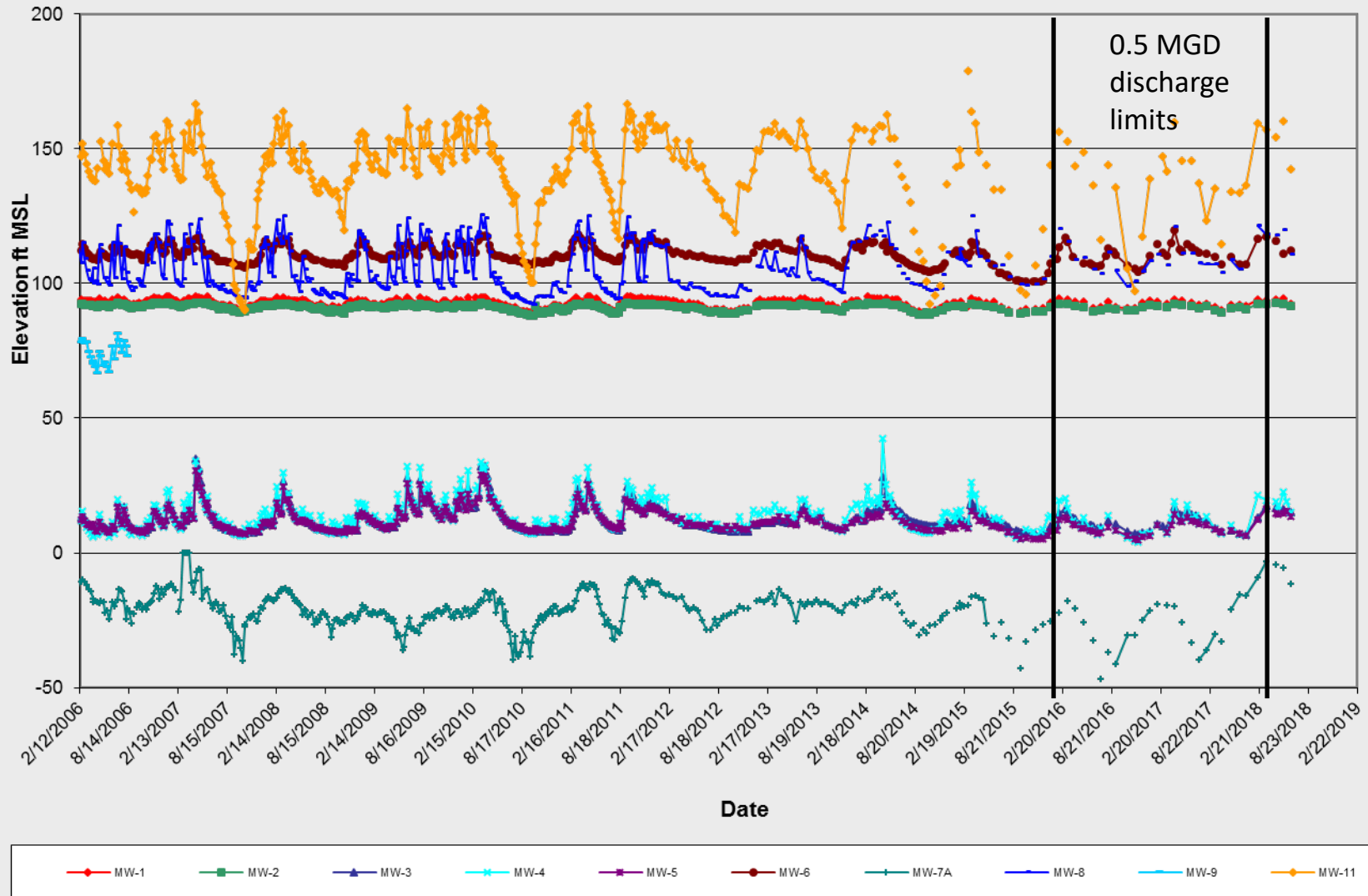
- 3rd Quarter 2017 blasting complaint
 - Shot in compliance
- 3rd Quarter 2017 blasting & well complaint
 - Shot in compliance, well not affected by surface mining activities
- 4th Quarter 2017 well complaint
 - Well not affected by surface mining activities

Sinkholes

- Sinkhole Summary
 - 3rd quarter 2017
 - Potential sinkhole north of quarry investigated, erosional feature, not in limestone
 - 1st quarter 2018
 - Sinkholes southwest of quarry. Quarry and landowner coordinating repairs
 - 1st quarter 2018
 - Sinkholes west of quarry. Repaired per permit

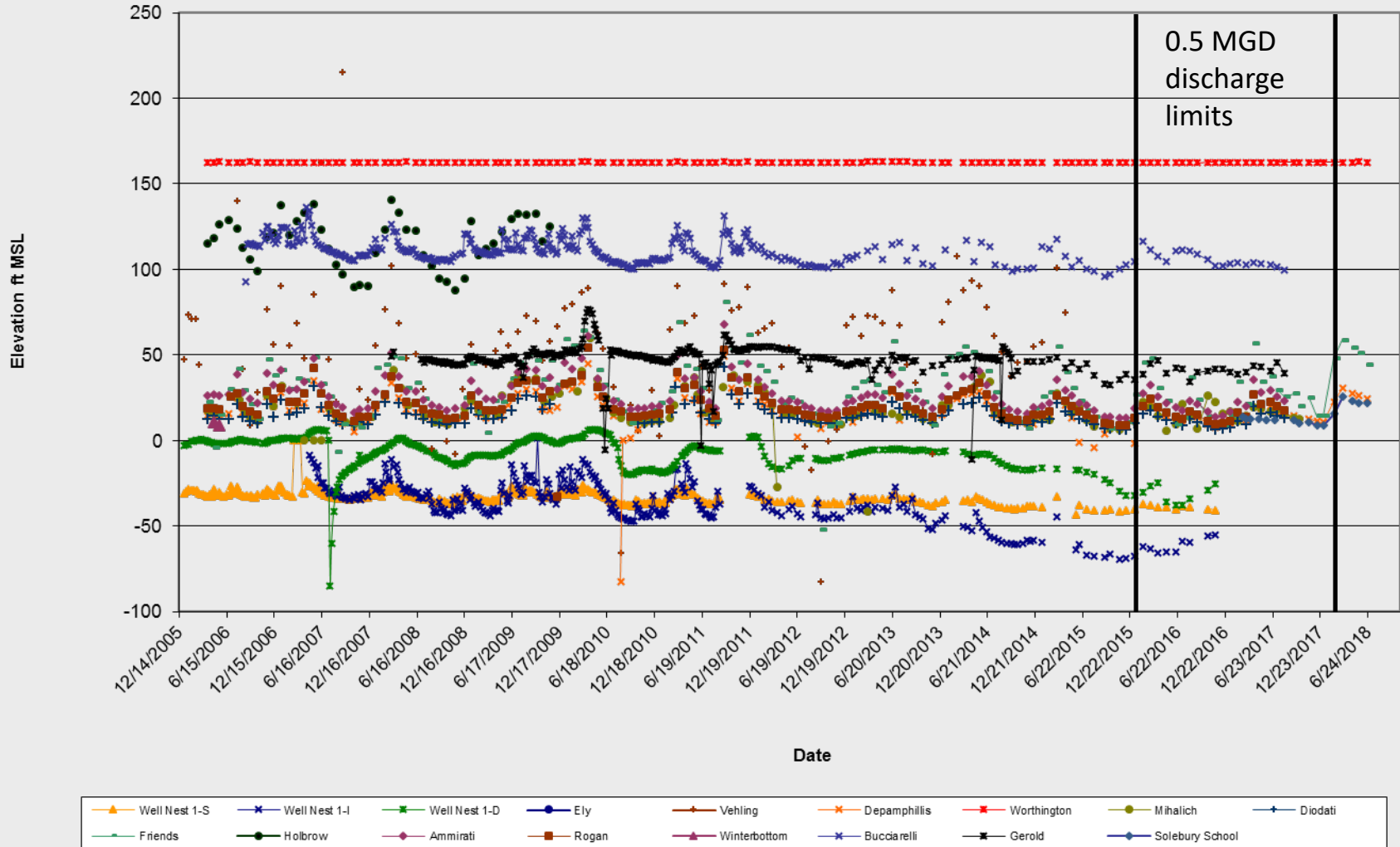
Monitoring Wells & Groundwater

Monitoring Well Groundwater Elevations at
New Hope Crushed Stone and Lime Co., Inc. SMP No. 7974SM3



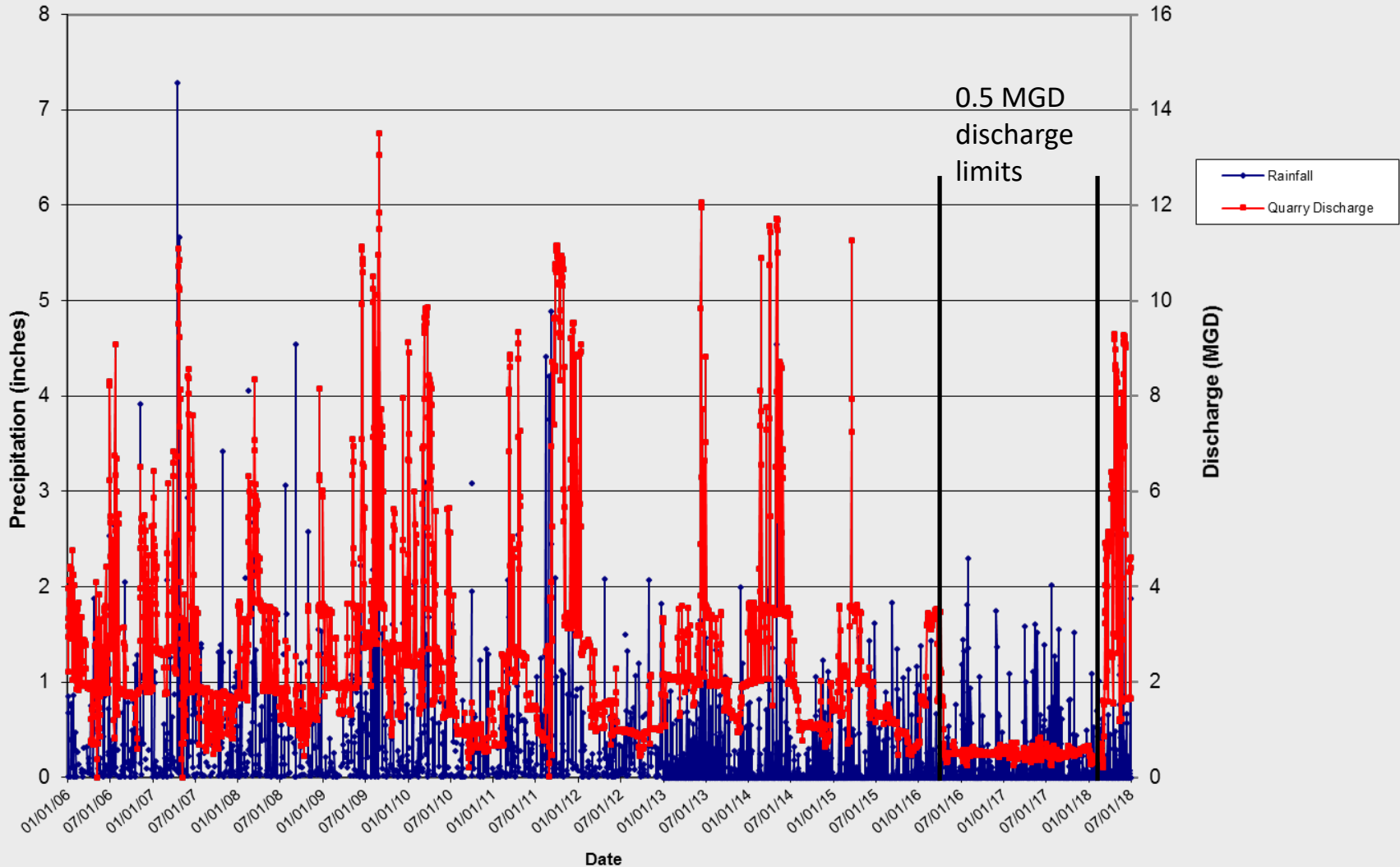
Monitoring Wells & Groundwater

Residential Well Groundwater Elevations at
New Hope Crushed Stone and Lime Co., Inc. SMP No. 7974SM3



Quarry Pumping

Precipitation and Quarry Discharge (MGD) at New Hope Crushed Stone & Lime Co. Inc.
SMP No. 7974SM3



Compliance Actions

- July 2017 compliance order
 - Failure to meet reclamation yardage make up schedule by July 1, 2017
 - Lifted August 2017 when the reclamation yardage was caught up
- Inspection reports forwarded to Solebury Twp.

EHB Activities

- EHB hearing in May 2016 denied NHCS' petition for a supersedeas of January 29, 2016 letter (denied)
- Hearing held in March 2017 for appeal of January 29, 2016 letter
- Hearing was scheduled for September 2017 for appeal of August 2016 compliance order (withdrawn)
- In September 2017 an adjudication for the March 2017 hearing upheld the January 29, 2016 letter, NHCS appealed to Commonwealth Court

EHB Activities

- Solebury School appealed the increased pumping authorization in April 2018.
- Solebury School withdrew its appeal in August of 2018

PA Commonwealth Court

- Oral argument held on June 7, 2018 regarding the appeal of the January 26, 2016 letter adjudication
 - Solebury Township and Solebury School were interveners
- Opinion rendered on July 20, 2018 affirmed the EHB's September 2017 adjudication. (Keeps the January 26, 2016 letter in effect)

PADEP Plans

- Review NPDES renewal application
- Enforcing the January 2016 letter
- Get updated information on the outlet structure
- Review blasting information for east wall
- Review monthly updates

Numbers

- 500,000 gallons per day
 - Minimum pumping volume, requested by Solebury Township
- 98' and 48' MSL
 - Currently permitted post-mining water level
 - Chapter 77.594 requires reclamation slopes to extend 50 feet lower
 - Outlet structure under review allows for higher post-mining water elevations
- Current water level is approximately -40 MSL

Numbers

- Bond liability
 - \$1,144,029 Amount of bond approved under PILB
 - \$464,882 paid in to date by NHCS
 - \$54,341 current annual payment
- Total reclamation yardage approximately 220,000 moved to date, with 152,000 remaining
- Approximately 2,100 lineal feet of highwall reclaimed, approximately 2,100 lineal feet remain

Reclamation Photos



West &
North Walls
August
2018

Reclamation Photos



West &
North Walls
Sept. 2018

Reclamation Photos



East Wall
Sept. 2018

Reclamation Photos



East Wall
Sept. 2018



pennsylvania

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Active and Abandoned Mine Operations

For More Information

Monthly Updates, Inspection Reports,
Communications and more, posted as available.

Please visit: www.dep.pa.gov

Regional Resources>Southeast Region>Community Information