



NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS COALITION

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November 2, 2012

Mr. Henry Patterson
NJ Water Supply Authority
1851 Route 31
PO Box 5196
Clinton, NJ 08809
info@njwsa.org
Submitted via email

Re: Application # RBS-38 for Uninterruptible Water Supply from the Eastern Concrete Materials, Inc.

Dear Mr. Patterson,

The New Jersey Highlands Coalition opposes this water supply application and requests that the New Jersey Water Supply Authority (NJWSA) deny this contract. Eastern Concrete Materials, Inc -- located within both Lebanon Township and Glen Gardner Borough -- is currently the largest water user in the region. According to data on the Highlands Council Interactive Map, all of the subwatersheds in proximity to this quarry have a water availability deficit of (-0.09)-(0.00) million gallons per day. Currently, Glen Gardner residents rely on municipal or private wells, while Lebanon Township residents rely solely on private ones. We are concerned that by approving this application, water availability in the region will be further stressed, negatively impacting the local communities.

In addition to our concerns regarding the impact that the approval of this application will have on the water supply, we also request the NJWSA extend the public comment period and the public hearing date for this contract. Significant weather events and extensive power outages have made it difficult for concerned citizens to visit your office or access your website to review the application in a timely manner. We appreciate the opportunity to submit written comments on this application but ask that you extend the deadline so that more people have an opportunity to comment. We will be supplementing these written comments at the public hearing. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erica Van Auken
Campaign Coordinator