

Concerns regarding the proposed AAMPA 3-Unit Warehouse, West Pennsboro Twp., Cumberland County

Based on review of the Land Development Plans for AAMPA's three (3) Structure Warehouse Project and the Soils Mapping (by USDA & Soil Conservation Service), there are environmental concerns regarding soil types and particularly the geology. The predominant soil types on the proposed site are Duffield Silt Loam, Hagerstown-Rock Outcrop Complex, and Hagerstown Silt Loam have similar characteristics.

The common features of the soils at this site, according to Soils Mapping (by USDA & Soil Conservation Service) are as follows:

1. Shallow Depth to Bedrock (typically 40 – 60 inches)
2. Subject to the Development of Sink Holes
3. And most concerning; Subject to Ground Water Contamination through Solution Channels and Bedrock Caverns

On Behalf of the Borough of Newville & the Newville Borough Water & Sewer Authority, our most serious concern is the Big Spring Creek Water Quality. Previously the Authority had a Permit from the PA Department of Environmental Protection & the Susquehanna River Basin Commission to withdraw water from the Big Spring. The initially proposed point of withdrawal was upstream of the Dam Structure, but because of excessive silt in the Dam, in subsequent years it was determined that the best location for an intake was below the Dam Structure. However, the initial permit expired.

Kindly understand the Cool Spring is the only Water Source at this time, and the requests for public water supply continue to grow, it is imperative that an intake be permitted and constructed in the Big Spring in the relative near future.

Considering the close proximity of the proposed project with the proposed extensive excavation in Limestone Bedrock and the characteristics referenced previously, we have serious concerns for the future Water Quality of the Big Spring.

According to the review of the Land Development Plans the proposed excavation can be extremely extensive as follows:

1. Excavation to proposed Finished Grade can be up to 20 ft. (mostly in limestone).
2. Excavation for subsurface features and utilities including water lines, sanitary sewer lines, storm water lines, and storm water control features can be in the range of 25 ft. to 35+ ft. (mostly in limestone)

It is our position that the West Pennsboro Township, the Cumberland County Soil Conservation Service, and the PA Department of Environmental Protection, take a serious review of the environmental concerns and the potential for future Ground Water and Big Spring contamination.

In summary, we encourage and request that the best management practices for stormwater management on a karst topography as stated in the DEP's Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual be required. We are concerned that the proposed stormwater management plans are not appropriate for the topography and geology of the site. The current design may very likely encourage the creation of sinkholes and pose a danger of contamination getting into the ground water feeding Big Spring, which will be a future source for public water supply for Newville and surrounding Townships.

