

October 14, 2024

Dear Mr. Chris Ward, CEO:

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Cshanyse Allen, and I serve as the President of the Inner East Athens Neighborhood Association, Inc. I am writing to express serious concerns on behalf of our community regarding the ongoing impact of the Heidelberg Materials Athens Quarry on nearby homes and properties.

For several years now, residents within the vicinity of the quarry have reported significant structural damage to their homes. This damage, which include, but not limited to, sinking foundations, and cracked floors and walls, have only worsened over time. Many of these issues date back to 2013 or earlier, and despite numerous attempts by homeowners to seek resolution, their concerns have gone unanswered.

Our community members have followed the appropriate steps to file claims, only to encounter repeated roadblocks. The previous insurance company for the quarry was dropped, and the current provider, Sedgwick, has refused to accept new claims. This lack of accountability is alarming and, quite frankly, unacceptable.

We are seeking immediate assistance to address the damage caused by the quarry. Specifically, we request:

1. Financial support for homeowners who have already incurred repair costs due to damage caused by quarry operations.
2. Financial assistance for homeowners with outstanding repairs to their homes or property.
3. A fund, managed by our nonprofit organization, to cover future repairs for any additional damage resulting from the quarry's activities.

It is unacceptable that a business known to cause property damage continues to operate without addressing the harm inflicted on the surrounding community. We understand the quarry has been in operation for over 50 years, but many of the affected homes have been here just as long, if not longer. This is one of the poorest areas in Athens, and it is deeply concerning that our community's vulnerability may have been a factor in the location choice for the quarry.

We are requesting a prompt response and would appreciate the attendance of a Heidelberg Materials representative at our upcoming town hall meeting on October 26th at 2 PM at East Friendship Baptist Church, 480 Arch Street, Athens, GA 30601. This is our second town hall meeting on the matter, and we hope to resolve these issues swiftly and amicably. We ask that the representative attending the meeting be authorized to discuss and resolve claims.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter. We look forward to working together to find a solution that addresses the concerns of our community.

Dr. Cshanyse Allen, DNP, MSN, RN

Cshanyse Allen

President
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