



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 25 2008

OFFICE OF  
SOLID WASTE AND  
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
United States Senate  
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-2402

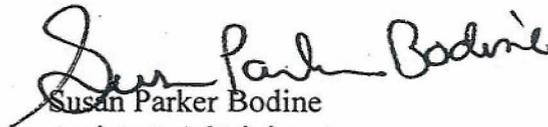
Dear Senator Cochran:

Thank you for your letter of December 13, 2007 to Administrator Stephen L. Johnson concerning the draft report to Congress, "Study on Increasing Usage of Recovered Mineral Components (RMCs) in Cement and Concrete Projects." I was asked to respond on his behalf.

We have been in contact with Karen Kiggins of the National Slag Association (NSA) and provided NSA with the opportunity to submit additional information demonstrating the value of slag as RMCs. NSA provided us with additional information which we reviewed. Based on the information we received, we provided additional discussion of blast furnace slag aggregate (BFSA) and steel slag in the report. We also developed and incorporated environmental benefit estimates for the use of BFSA as an aggregate.

We appreciate your interest in this important matter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may call Carolyn Levine in EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, at (202) 564-1859.

Sincerely,

  
Susan Parker Bodine  
Assistant Administrator