

Ms. Sarah Connick
Senior Project Manager
Sustainable Conservation
121 Second Street
Sixth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Ms. Connick,

Thank you for your letter of July 19, 2002 regarding the innovative work your organization is doing through industry partnerships. I am pleased to learn about the auto recycling and brake pad partnerships you described and your successes to date.

Our Product Stewardship team has been working in the same voluntary partnership mode with several sectors to address growing environmental problems associated with particular waste streams. For example, we partnered with the carpet industry, recyclers, nonprofit organizations, and state and local governments through a Memorandum of Understanding to work towards diverting 40% of spent carpets from landfills by 2012. We are also currently involved in a multi-stakeholder dialogue – the National Electronics Product Stewardship Initiative (NEPSI) – to work cooperatively with state and local governments, manufacturers, retailers, recyclers, and environmental groups to develop solutions to the challenge of end-of-life electronics management.

Our Office is always interested in finding out about other multi-stakeholder processes. We look forward to learning more about your projects, and to exploring the prospect of working with your organization. We are becoming increasingly aware of the role automobile manufacturers, their suppliers, and recyclers play in solving the end-of-life environmental problems associated with dismantling and recycling or landfilling automobile components. We are currently exploring these issues and ways in which we might be able to partner with industry to address these concerns.

EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) has also been working to improve compliance among automobile salvage yards through the development of innovative compliance assistance tools. They have a series of conference calls you might be interested in joining. You can contact Emily Chow at (202) 564-7071 for more information about their program.

You may also wish to visit EPA's Product Stewardship website (<http://www.epa.gov/epr/products/vehicles.html>) for more information about our efforts. The site has a useful section on vehicles with links to other initiatives, resources and organizations. You can contact Clare Lindsay at (703) 308-7266 or Julie Rosenbach at (703) 308-6241 for more information about these efforts.

Thank you for your interest and for bringing your projects to our attention. We appreciate your dedicated work to solve environmental problems through strategic partnerships.

Sincerely Yours,

Marianne Horinko
Assistant Administrator