



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Reston, Virginia 20192

June 10, 2014

In Reply Refer To:
Mail Stop 911

Leonard S. Kurfirst
Surdyk & Baker
225 W. Washington St., Suite 2200
Chicago, IL 60606
lkurfirst@sbchicago-law.com
www.surdyk-baker.com

Dear Mr. Kurfirst:

Regarding the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) receipt of your April 8, 2014 email, subject: "Appeal to the USGS Response to two Requests for Correction of Information Submitted under U.S. Geological Survey Information Quality Guidelines" related to three publications (Web Site, Press Release, and Fact Sheet) on the topic of Coal Tar Sealants.

This is to inform that we will need to extend the time for responding to the appeal request beyond what was indicated in our April 15 letter. Your appeal will be evaluated by a panel of independent scientists not involved in the development of either the products you cited or the final USGS response that was appealed. Additional time than anticipated was needed to select the appropriate panel members and confirm their availability to serve on the panel and to subsequently get their evaluation. We anticipate sending a response to the appeal within 60 days or no later than mid-August 2014. We will let you know if additional time beyond this is needed.

Documentation related to the appeal, as well as the original requests, may be viewed on our Web page at http://www.usgs.gov/info_qual/coal_tar_sealants.html.

We appreciate your patience.

Sincerely,

Alan D. Thornhill

Director

USGS Office of Science Quality and Integrity