



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Reston, Virginia 20192

November 19, 2014

In Reply Refer To:
Mail Stop 911

Anne LeHuray, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Pavement Coatings Technology Council
2308 Mount Vernon Avenue, Suite 134
Alexandria, Virginia 22301
alehuray@pavementcouncil.org

Dear Dr. LeHuray:

This is a follow up to my letter of October 30, 2014, regarding the October 28, 2014 request you submitted related to U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) publications on coal tar sealants. The specific subject of your October 28 request—the chemical mass balance modeling discussed in Van Metre and Mahler (2010)—was one of the topics raised in the May 15, 2013 request for information correction we received on behalf of the Pavement Coatings Technology Council (PCTC). All points raised in the May 15 request and the subsequent May 31 request, including those related to the chemical mass balance modeling, were fully addressed in our March 19, 2014 response (http://www.usgs.gov/info_qual/documents/Final_USGS_Response_signed031914.pdf).

The October 28 request contains no information not already substantially presented in the two previous requests submitted on behalf of the PCTC and addressed in our response. Therefore, we do not find that the October 28 request warrants a new response and we consider the request closed.

An appeal to our March 19 response was submitted by the PCTC April 8 and the USGS response to that appeal is in the process of being finalized. Please refer to our Web page at http://www.usgs.gov/info_qual/coal_tar_sealants.html for related documentation.

Reference: Van Metre, P.C. and Mahler, B.J., 2010, Contributions of PAHs from coal-tar pavement sealcoat and other sources to 40 U.S. lakes, Science of the Total Environment 409: 334-344.

Sincerely,

for  *Deputy Dir. OSQI*
Alan D. Thornhill, Ph.D.
Director
USGS Office of Science Quality and Integrity