



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

JH

May 28, 2002

OFFICE OF POLICY,
ECONOMICS, AND INNOVATION

Ms. Jennifer Joy Wilson
President and CEO
National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association
2101 Wilson Blvd, Suite 100
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Ms. Wilson:

As you know, the use of an Environmental Management System (EMS) allows facilities to reduce their environmental impacts and increase their operating efficiency. By reinforcing existing operations with a comprehensive approach to environmental management, an EMS can help streamline operations, create awareness that environmental protection is every employees job, and improve environmental performance. Environmental management systems (EMS) and the Performance Track Program are strongly supported by EPA's management, including Governor Whitman.

EPA recently completed its review of the revised NSSGA EMS guidelines for conformance with EPA's National Environmental Performance Track Program EMS criteria. We found that, if a facility follows the NSSGA guidelines in developing its EMS, the facility should meet the EMS criteria under the Performance Track Program.

NSSGA is to be commended for developing EMS guidelines that will assist its members in meeting the criteria for the National Environmental Performance Track Program. I know that you personally took great care to provide information useful to the broad range of companies in your membership. We also commend you for your efforts to provide EMS training for your members using the guidelines. Such training should be most useful for those desiring to meet the EPA Performance Track EMS criteria.

With best wishes,

Tim Stuart

Tim Stuart, Ph.D.
Manager
Performance Track Assistance Project

cc: John S. Hayden
Bill Ford
Charlie Hawkins

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