

NATIONAL STONE, SAND & GRAVEL ASSOCIATION



*Natural building blocks for quality of life*

November 11, 2008

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President-elect  
Presidential Transition Team  
Washington, D.C. 20270

Dear President-elect Obama:

On behalf of the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA) please accept our sincerest congratulations on your election as the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. We write in support of your recommendation to include infrastructure in the next stimulus package.

We believe a second stimulus which contains transportation infrastructure funding for “ready to go” projects, will create thousands of jobs and improve road conditions, which are the cause of one-third of traffic fatalities. We appreciate that you recognize the stimulative effect of transportation projects and have supported a second stimulus with infrastructure investment included.

NSSGA represents the quarries, and sand and gravel businesses whose products form the foundation of America’s built environment. Not a home or a school, a road, hospital or water treatment plan is built without aggregates. Our industry - dominated by small, family owned businesses in 11,000 locations nationwide - mirrors the economy and is a basic industry key to America’s economic recovery.

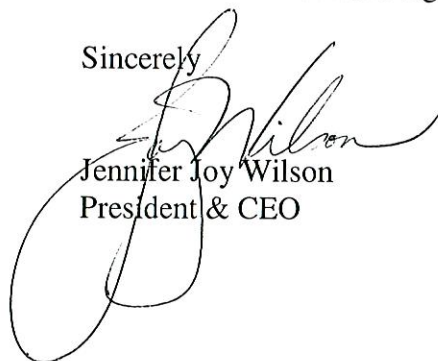
While nearly three billion tons of aggregates were produced in 2007 at a value of approximately \$21 billion, in 2008 the USGS estimates significant reduction in tonnage due to dramatic economic declines, especially in housing and road construction. The industry contributed over \$40 billion to the U.S. 2007 GDP. Every \$1 million in aggregate sales creates 19.5 jobs, and every dollar of industry output returns \$1.58 to the economy. Aggregate comprises 94 percent of asphalt pavement and 80 percent of concrete is aggregate.

With allies in labor, state and local government and the business community, we will continue to build support for an economic stimulus that contains funding for immediately ready to go infrastructure projects. Further we want to work with you and your administration to develop a surface transportation reauthorization bill that proposes a

vision for transportation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to keep America competitive, and on other key issues essential to the quality of America life.

Enclosed with this letter are additional NSSGA materials, including the association's recommendations for the next surface transportation legislative reauthorization. We hope you will look on NSSGA and its members as a resource as we move forward together.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Joy Wilson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Jennifer Joy Wilson  
President & CEO

Enclosures  
Cc: Mort Downey