



# United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
Reston, Virginia 20192

October 30, 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](mailto:alehuray@pavementcouncil.org)

Dear Dr. LeHuray:

This letter is to acknowledge receipt of your initial October 21, 2014 email and amended October 28 email, regarding a request for correction of information submitted under U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Information Quality Guidelines. The October 2014 request focuses on the publication by Van Metre and Mahler (2010) and especially the chemical mass balance modeling methods that were used, which was one of the topics also discussed in requests previously submitted to the USGS on May 15 and May 31 in 2013, by or on behalf of the Pavement Coatings Technology Council (PCTC).

This letter is the official notification of USGS receipt of your October 2014 request, however a decision on the merit of this new request is pending since as mentioned above, it relates to the previous request to which the USGS submitted its response on March 19, 2014, and is now in the process of addressing the PCTC's appeal to that response. The USGS Information Quality Guidelines Web page at [http://www.usgs.gov/info\\_qual/](http://www.usgs.gov/info_qual/) states that in the event a second request is received on a topic the USGS has already responded to, unless substantial new information has been submitted, the USGS response to the earlier request shall suffice. Documentation, including the USGS final response to the earlier May 2013 requests, is available at [http://www.usgs.gov/info\\_qual/coal\\_tar\\_sealants.html](http://www.usgs.gov/info_qual/coal_tar_sealants.html).

If a decision is made that the new request does contain "substantial new information," the USGS will respond to you within 60 days of your October 28 amended email.

Sincerely,

Alan D. Thornhill, Ph.D.  
Director  
USGS Office of Science Quality and Integrity