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

OCT 3 2005

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

Richard G. Stoll
Foley & Lardner LLP
Washington Harbour
3000 K. Street, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20007-5143

Re: Request for Correction of External Review Draft of EPA's Inventory of Sources and Environmental Releases of Dioxin-Like Compounds in the U.S. (RFC #05005)

Dear Mr. Stoll:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your withdrawal of your Request for Correction (RFC) submitted on behalf of the Cement Kiln Recycling Coalition, dated June 30, 2005. You had requested correction of information contained in the "U.S. EPA's Inventory of Sources and Environmental Releases of Dioxin-Like Compounds in the U.S.: Year 2000 Update (External Review Draft, March 2005)," which is available on the EPA Web site at http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/cfm/recordisplay.cfm?deid=132080. In your RFC, you asserted that the emission factor methodology used by EPA to estimate dioxin/furan compounds "grossly overestimates" emissions of dioxin/furan from hazardous waste burning cement kilns. In addition to submitting the RFC under the EPA Information Quality Guidelines (IQGs), you also presented this issue as a comment during the 60-day public comment period for the External Review Draft. In response to your comment, EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment acknowledged the error and informed you on June 30, 2005, that the emission estimates would be corrected in the final peer-reviewed document.

After careful review of your request, EPA corrected the emissions factor. This was done prior to convening a peer review panel on September 16, 2005 which was announced in the Federal Register in August (Vol. 70, No. 155; Friday, August 12, 2005). EPA issued the erratum revising the emissions estimate from hazardous waste burning cement kilns for the year 2000 to 18.8 grams toxic equivalents (TEQ), replacing the 68.4 grams TEQ reported in the External Review Draft. The erratum, posted on the EPA Web site provided above, was presented to the Peer Review panel and those attending the publicly held peer review meeting. The revised values were accepted and will be incorporated in the final document.

The Agency's goal is to be transparent in our decision-making processes. The IQGs support this goal by incorporating the principles of "quality" (objectivity, utility and integrity) in the information used to support Agency decisions. We appreciate that you have taken time to review the draft report and bring to our attention the inaccuracy in our calculation of the estimated emissions.

Sincerely,

Kimberly T. Nelson
Assistant Administrator and
Chief Information Officer

cc: Linda Travers, OEI
Peter Preuss, ORD, NCEA
David Cheverly, ORD, NCEA