



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

OFFICE OF
RESOURCE CONSERVATION
AND RECOVERY

NOV 09 2015

Ms. Nancy Alderman
Environment and Human Health, Inc.
1191 Ridge Road
North Haven, Connecticut 06473

Dear Ms. Alderman:

Thank you for your email of October 16, 2015, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the use of tire crumb in places that children play (e.g., synthetic turf fields and playgrounds). Your email was forwarded to the Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery for a response.

The EPA 2010 publication, *Scrap Tires: Handbook on Recycling Applications and Management for the U.S. and Mexico*, served as a resource for developing scrap tire markets in the border region between Mexico and the United States, an area where scrap tires are an especially problematic waste. The Handbook summarized as of 2010 the existing studies pertaining to environmental and human health risks of various scrap tire uses including crumb rubber, all of which found no issues of concern.

The Agency is aware of the more recent public health questions that have been raised over the use of recycled tire crumb materials in artificial turf fields and playgrounds. The Agency's highest priority is protecting public health and the environment, and we will carefully review any new findings or information.

Thank you again for your interest in this issue.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barnes Johnson".

Barnes Johnson
Director