



California Stormwater Quality Association®

Dedicated to the Advancement of Stormwater Quality Management, Science and Regulation

April 19, 2012

Ms. Polly Zehm
Deputy Director
Washington State Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Subject: Better Brakes Rule

Dear Ms. Zehm:

Thank you for inviting California representatives—including a representative of our organization, the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA¹)—to participate in Washington Ecology's conversations with interested parties about development of draft rules to implement the Washington Better Brakes Law. We appreciate the cooperation between Washington Ecology and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) on the implementation of the two related state laws that grew out of the Brake Pad Partnership, which CASQA members co-founded in the 1990s.

Timely and effective implementation of California's brake pad law (SB 346) is a high priority for our members because it will provide California's cities and counties with the tool they need to comply with stringent federal and state water quality mandates, including copper TMDLs and avoid billions of dollars in costs and potential penalties. We greatly appreciate Ecology's commitment to working with all parties affected by its decisions, including those of us in California.

Through the Better Brakes Rule development process, Washington Ecology has worked with the brake pad manufacturing industry and other interested parties to develop a brake pad product compliance marking system. The development of the marking system was the reason for CASQA's involvement in Washington's regulatory process.

The system embodied in the proposed Better Brakes Rule relies on a combination of markings on brake pads and on product packages. California end users represented by the Automotive Services Council of California and the California Retailers Association have informed DTSC that this combined product plus box marking system—together with an aggressive supply chain education program—will meet their needs for successful implementation of California's SB 346. Implementation of the Washington-developed integrated pad and box marking system, which we support, will be just as important for California as it is for Washington.

¹ CASQA is comprised of stormwater quality management organizations and individuals, including cities, counties, special districts, industries, and consulting firms throughout California. Our membership provides stormwater quality management services to more than 23 million people in California. CASQA was originally formed in 1989 as the Stormwater Quality Task Force to recommend approaches for stormwater quality management to the California State Water Resources Control Board.

Thank you for including CASQA and DTSC in your regulatory development process. If you have any questions, please contact me at (650) 365-8620.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geoff Brosseau". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Geoff Brosseau, Executive Director
California Stormwater Quality Association

cc: Evelia Rodriguez, DTSC
Suzanne Davis, DTSC
Ian Wesley, Washington Department of Ecology
Ken Zarker, Washington Department of Ecology
CASQA Board of Directors, Executive Program Committee, and Brake Pad Partnership Team