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## QUANTIFYING GHG EMISSIONS MAY HELP GROW RFO & VTAE MARKETS



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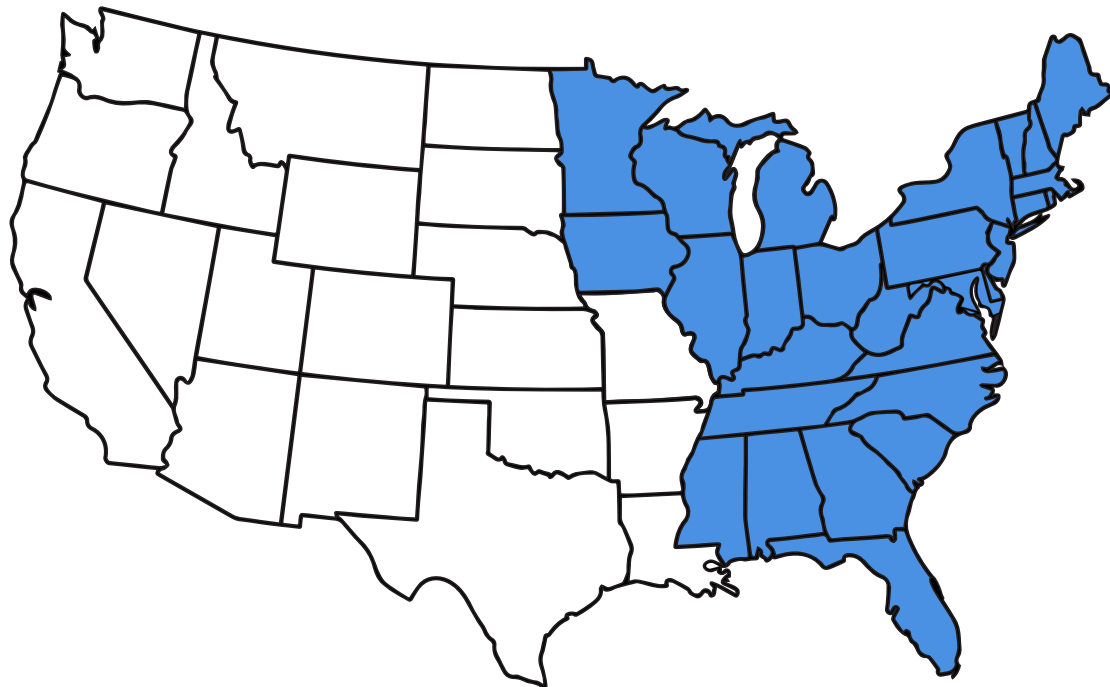
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**EPD: An Opportunity for RFO & VTAE**

On July 1, 2022, Colorado will be the first state to enact a law that requires contractors to submit environmental impact data for asphalt mixes, cement and concrete mixes and steel. To comply, contractors will be required to have an “environmental product declaration” or EPD.

If you are like me, I had to ask what is an EPD?

EPD is an independently verified document, defined by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14025 as a declaration that “quantifies environmental information on the lifecycle of a product to enable comparisons between products fulfilling the same function.”

Joseph Shacat, the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) Director of Sustainable Pavements, likened the EPD to the nutritional labels found on food products. “Instead of counting calories, you’re counting things like how much energy is involved with producing this product,” stated Shacat.

**Market Driver for RFO & VTAE**

The Buy Clean Colorado Act is likely the beginning of agencies at the federal, state, and local level using EPDs to identify low carbon pavement materials in the procurement and project delivery process.

The article on page 14 details the asphalt industry’s effort in developing a tool for their members to generate site specific EPDs. Increasingly, agencies at the federal, state, and local level are using EPDs to identify low carbon pavement materials in the procurement and project delivery process.

Members of NORA provide the asphalt industry Recycled Fuel Oil (RFO) and Vacuum Tower Asphalt Extender (VTAE).

Since RFO and VTAE are products derived from recycled materials, they are burden free (from a Life Cycle Analysis perspective) from the upstream environmental impacts associated with the original product (drilling, extraction, refining, transportation, etc.).

In conversations with Shacat, NAPA is in need of accurate data sets to properly compute their EPDs. Otherwise, they use a ‘proxy’ material. Until recently, NAPA did not have a dataset for RFO so they were using diesel as a proxy.

NORA is reviewing the possibility of generating Environmental Product Declarations for RFO and VTAE. Because they are ‘burden free’ from upstream environmental impacts, they may have a competitive advantage over competitive virgin products. NORA will continue to work to defend and develop markets for products derived from used oil and related materials.

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Know someone who should be a NORA member? Contact [marketing@noranews.org](mailto:marketing@noranews.org) or 703-753-4277 and if they join you get a \$100 Amazon Gift Card.

## INDUSTRY CALENDAR

(meeting dates are tentative and subject to change)

### 2022

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Trade Fair & Conference**  
May 10-11, 2022  
Austin, Texas  
(NORA will be exhibiting.)

**NORA Mid-Year Meeting and EH&S Forum**  
June 22-24, 2022  
Louisville, Kentucky

**Independent Lubricants Manufacturers Association Annual Meeting**  
October 1-4, 2022  
Marco Island, Florida

**NORA Annual Conference & Trade Show**  
November 9 - 12, 2022  
Naples, Florida

### 2023

**National Asphalt Pavement Association Annual Meeting**  
February 5-8, 2023  
Miami Beach, Florida

**NORA Winter Meeting**  
February 22 - 24, 2023  
New Orleans, Louisiana



The banner features a circular wooden barrel on the left with the NORA logo and text: "NORA 2022 MID-YEAR MEETING AND EH&S FORUM". To the right, the NORA logo is displayed above the text: "2022 Mid-Year Meeting and Environmental Health & Safety Forum June 22 - 24, 2022 | Louisville, Kentucky Register now at [noranews.org](http://noranews.org)".



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# Welcome to the newest 2022 NORA Board Members



**Mark Giaquinto**  
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mgiaquinto@nobleoil.com



**Mills Heard**  
CRH Americas Materials  
(601) 954-6310  
mills.heard@na.crh.com



**Steve Lewis**  
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# Industry News

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE NEWS ITEMS IS AVAILABLE AT [WWW.NORANEWS.ORG/NEWS](http://WWW.NORANEWS.ORG/NEWS).  
SEND ANY INDUSTRY NEWS UPDATES TO [COMMUNICATIONS@NORANEWS.ORG](mailto:COMMUNICATIONS@NORANEWS.ORG).

## **Clean Harbors and Vertex Terminate Planned Acquisition**

NORA member Clean Harbors Inc. said it mutually agreed with NORA member Vertex Energy Inc. to terminate Clean Harbors' planned acquisition of Vertex's used motor oil collection and re-refinery assets. In June, environmental and industrial services company Clean Harbors agreed to acquire assets related to Vertex's UMO collection and re-refinery business in an all-cash transaction for \$140 million.

The transaction, which was subject to approval by U.S. regulators, had received a request for additional information and documentary materials from the Federal Trade Commission in September. Under the terms of the deal, either party could walk away unencumbered from the transaction if it was not finalized by March 31, 2022.

## **Quala Network Acquires Five Facilities**

NORA member Quala expanded its network in the Gulf and Midwest with three acquisitions aimed at expanding capacity and geographic footprint. In December 2021, Quala acquired Haughton Environmental in Shreveport, Louisiana, Tank Trailer Cleaning and AAA Trailer Services in East St. Louis, Illinois, and Sani-Kleen Tank Cleaning with three locations in Missouri and Kansas. With the addition of Tank Trailer Cleaning and AAA Trailer Services, Quala more than doubles capacity in this market with a 50-acre facility. David Braykovich, Vice President of Industrial Services & Rail, stated, "With the acquisition of Haughton Environmental, Quala expands its capacity in the Shreveport market with a newly constructed ten-acre facility offering chemical tank cleaning, frac tanks and box cleaning, as well as expanding our commercial waste water treatment business in Northern, Louisiana. Quala has current plans to expand the facility to include tank trailer repair and maintenance along with commercial industrial services."

## **27 British Columbian Businesses Receive Used Oil Recycling Grants**

Through 2021, NORA member British Columbia Used Oil Management Association (BCUOMA), a not-for-profit group dedicated to the collection and recycling of used motor oil, oil filters, oil containers, used antifreeze and antifreeze containers, created strategic alliances and awarded infrastructure grants to 27 businesses. The grant program provides businesses with the

infrastructure required to responsibly handle, collect, and store used oil and antifreeze materials using economic, efficient and environmentally acceptable options.

David Lawes, CEO, stated, "BCUOMA's priority is to make used oil recycling easy for everyone, and we will continue to look for opportunities to upgrade and improve recycling facility locations across the province throughout 2022." These new and upgraded recycling depots are part of a vast network of publicly accessible eco-friendly facilities where British Columbian residents can return used oil and antifreeze materials for free.

## **Valicor Environmental Services Acquires ASI Environmental Services**

NORA member Valicor Environmental Services ("Valicor") announced it has acquired NORA member ASI Environmental Services ("ASI") in December 2021. ASI operates one full-service centralized wastewater treatment facility in Texarkana and two waste transfer facilities in Texas and Arkansas. With the addition of ASI, Valicor now operates 25 facilities across 14 states and recycles more than 300 million gallons of wastewater annually.

Steve Hopper, CEO of Valicor, said, "We are pleased to partner with ASI as we expand our leading network of wastewater treatment facilities in Texas and Arkansas. Together with ASI's talented team, we will be able to better service ASI's customers and expand our coverage area for existing Valicor customers."

Richard Norton, Founder and CEO of ASI Environmental Services, added, "We believe that Valicor is the right partner for ASI's next chapter of growth. Our companies share a strong commitment to environmental stewardship and both teams are guided by our customer-centric approach. We are confident that our partnership with Valicor will provide even greater value for our customers."

## **Flottweg LAUNCHES New Separator**

NORA member Flottweg recently launched the AC1700 separator to its' separator portfolio. Separators are used to separate the finest solid particles from liquids. The AC1700 is engineered and made in Germany and is characterized by two essential features: the separator is very robust with low-maintenance requirements and remains calm even under extremely high g acceleration. The AC1700 fits between the AC1500 and AC2000 series.





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# Changing of the Guard

## Ken Bentfeld Named NORA President

During the 2021 NORA Conference in Florida, Ken Bentfeld of Valicor Environmental Services became the 25th President of NORA. He received the gavel from outgoing President Gary Risse, Senior Vice President of Trihydro Corporation.

NORA is a member driven association. The Board of Directors, led by the President and Executive Committee, provide the oversight and direction to help maximize the value of being a member of NORA.

"I am extremely honored and excited to serve as President of NORA," stated Bentfeld. "NORA continues to be a premier trade association due in part to its active and engaged membership. The successes discussed at our recent Winter Meeting was the result of strong participation and collaboration across the membership and committee groups. Given the landscape of today's regulatory environment and the potential changes our industry faces, it's a very important time to be a NORA member. I am very much looking forward to your continued partnership as we move the association forward to serve the interests of our membership and the recycling industry."



Ken Bentfeld, Senior Vice President of Valicor Environmental Services, LLC (l) receives the gavel from outgoing NORA President Gary Risse, Senior Vice President of Trihydro Corporation.

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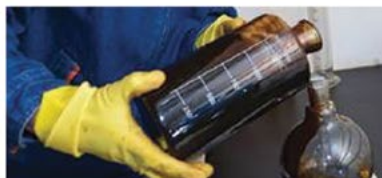
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# Victory in Vermont

*NORA's Successful in Defending 279 in New England and Beyond*



**NORA** and its members successfully tackled a significant threat to 40 CFR Part 279 (Standards for the Management of Used Oil) that emerged late last year.

During their hazardous waste program reauthorization in 2021, the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VDEC) added a section (§ 7-805(g)) which would only allow oily wastewater to be managed as used oil if it has greater than 50% used oil. If the used oil was less than 50% and has any hazardous characteristics, it would be managed as hazardous waste.

### The Threat to 279

In Vermont, the *proposal would have undermined the entire existing used oil regulatory frame work*. If approved, Vermont would be the only state that would implement this Draconian requirement that automatically transforms oily wastewater into hazardous waste.

For NORA members in all other states, this also created a real threat for two reasons:

- Vermont could have become a precedent for other states to implement
- NORA was informed by a VDEC representative *they believe the US EPA is looking into this and considering taking action within the next two years*. (NORA has not been able to independently confirm this).

### NORA's Action

The Vermont proposal was a real and direct threat to NORA's mission and its members. After consulting with NORA members for their input, NORA delivered oral comments in Vermont on August 10, 2021. On August 20, 2021, NORA submitted formal written comments to Vermont.

### NORA's Victory

After reviewing NORA's comments and those of members and industry partners, a representative from Vermont in October 2021 stated, "We pulled the used oil changes out of the proposed rules and proceeding with rulemaking without this change at this time."

In December 2021, Vermont issued their "Response to Comments Hazardous Waste Regulations." In those responses, VDEC "received comments from 14 interested parties. Most of

those comments opposed the addition of proposed § 7-805(g) requiring that hazardous waste determinations be made on the aqueous component of used oil/water mixtures under certain circumstances."

The following interested parties provided comments

- NORA, an Association of Responsible Recyclers
- Associated General Contractors of Vermont
- Associated Industries of Vermont
- Automotive Oil Change Association
- Casella Waste Systems, Inc.
- Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc.
- Specialized Environmental Services, L.P.
- Sustainable and Renewable Products, LLC
- TAS Environmental Services, L.P.
- Vermont Fuel Dealers Association
- Vermont Vehicle & Automotive Distributors Association

Since VDEC removed the proposed § 7-805(g) from the final proposed rule and due to the extensive nature of the comments received on that proposed regulation, the Agency decided to not provide responses to the comments of NORA or the other interested parties.

Interestingly though, VDEC "believes that subchapter 8 of the VHWMR **must eventually address this matter (since it is not currently addressed under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) 40 CFR part 279 regulations)**, it agrees that more extensive outreach to, and collaboration with, all interested parties is necessary to properly convey they Agency's concerns with the current used oil regulatory framework, as well as the concerns identified by interested parties during the public comment period."

"Members of the association came together as they always do to challenge misguided threats to 279 such as Vermont's proposal," stated NORA Executive Director Scott D. Parker. "NORA will continue to defend the rights of members to responsibly recycle used oil and related materials in a forceful and effective way."

Since Vermont incorrectly believes Part 279 and the Centralized Water Treatment system does not address the "Agency's concerns with the current used oil regulatory framework," this incredible victory is not the end, but the beginning of a sustained effort to promote responsible recycling. ■

# Adding Up Your Impact

## How and Why to Quantify GHG Emissions Related to Asphalt Mixture Production

BY JOSEPH SHACAT, NAPA

*Editor's Notes:* This article was originally published by the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA). NAPA has developed a tool for their members to generate site specific Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) which independently verify and document transparent and comparable information about the life-cycle environmental impact (including carbon) of products. Increasingly, agencies at the federal, state, and local level are using EPDs to identify low carbon pavement materials in the procurement and project delivery process.

Members of NORA provide the asphalt industry Recycled Fuel Oil (RFO) and Vacuum Tower Asphalt Extender (VTAE). Since RFO and VTAE are products derived from recycled materials, they are burden free (from a Life Cycle Analysis perspective) from the upstream environmental impacts associated with the original product (drilling, extraction, refining, transportation, etc). NORA is reviewing the possibility of generating Environmental Product Declarations for RFO and VTAE so the NAPA model will have access to an accurate data set.

**A**s the pressure to publicly disclose greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions grows, asphalt companies can get ahead by benchmarking and tracking their emissions. Calculating GHG emissions across a company's entire operations can be a daunting task, but several tools and resources, including some designed specifically for the asphalt mix production industry, are available to help companies as they begin this journey.

### Why Do Companies Calculate GHG Emissions?

In recent years, publicly traded companies have seen growing pressure from investors and other stakeholders to disclose GHG emissions. Meanwhile, the Securities and Exchange Commission is developing regulations that are expected to require climate-related disclosures, including GHG emissions. For privately held companies, which represent the majority of companies in the asphalt paving industry, pressure may come from customers rather than investors. One example of customer pressure is California Senate Bill 260, which is set to be reconsidered in 2022 and would require companies that do business in the state and have more than \$1 billion in gross revenues to report GHG emissions to the California Air Resources Board.

Even if a company isn't planning to disclose GHG emissions, there are a number of reasons to quantify and track emissions for internal purposes. Many companies use GHG emissions as a key performance indicator to track the environmental impacts of operations; some use an internal cost of carbon to incentivize process improvements and capital expenditures

that reduce GHG emissions. Quantifying GHG emissions can also help to understand the potential financial impact of carbon pricing regulations. While carbon pricing mechanisms may seem far-fetched, even the American Petroleum Institute has endorsed carbon pricing as a climate change mitigation measure, giving credence to a future in which each ton of GHG emissions has a financial cost.

The demand for corporate disclosure of GHG emissions will continue to grow as pressure ratchets up from investors, customers, government agencies, and other stakeholders. For example, Granite Construction conducted a formal sustainability materiality assessment in 2019 and identified GHG emissions as materially significant to company operations. Raven Adams, Granite's sustainability lead, explained that developing a GHG emissions inventory helped the company prioritize emission reduction projects as part of its effort to reduce GHG emissions by 25% by 2030. "Most direct emissions come from our equipment fleet, so we will focus on reducing this by using alternative fuels and electrifying our fleet," Adams said. "Our next largest source of emissions is asphalt production, where the biggest reduction opportunities involve innovating to reduce fuel used for drying aggregate."

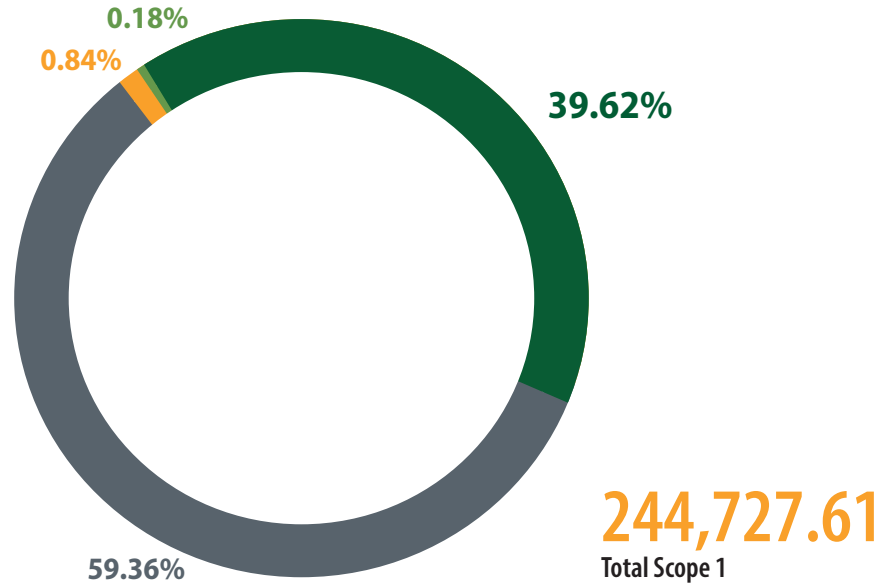
### How to Calculate GHG Emissions

Once you've made the business case for quantifying GHG emissions, the next step is to select an appropriate tool or methodology. Adding to available resources from government agencies and nonprofit organizations, NAPA developed two

## Scope 1: Breakdown by Source

Scope 1 CO<sub>2</sub> Equivalents (US Tons) with % by Source

- Asphalt Plants: 96,953
- Equipment Fleet: 145,281.81
- Heating: 2,057.80
- Inliner Processing: 435



tools specifically for asphalt mix producers to help measure and reduce GHG emissions. Each tool has its own purpose, scope, system boundaries, upstream datasets, and other considerations, so it's important to understand the assumptions and limitations of each tool. Avoid direct comparison of the outputs from different tools without careful consideration of each tool's inherent assumptions.

### NAPA GHG Calculator

NAPA's GHG Calculator is a free, web-based tool that provides a gate-to-gate analysis of the GHG emissions associated with asphalt mix production. The gate-to-gate scope means that it quantifies emissions directly associated with asphalt plant operations. This includes on-site fuel consumption for burners and equipment, as well as upstream emissions from the generation of purchased electricity. The upstream electricity emissions are regionalized based on the plant location to reflect the local mix of power generation that feeds the grid.

Beyond quantifying GHG emissions, features include the ability to estimate potential emission reductions from the use of warm-mix asphalt (WMA) technologies and the allowance of credits for upstream GHG emission reductions associated with the use of reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP) and recycled asphalt shingles (RAS). More information is available in the User Guide.

### Emerald Eco-Label EPD Tool

Emerald Eco-Label is NAPA's web-based tool for developing verified plant- and product-specific cradle-to-gate Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs). The tool meets the requirements of the Product Category Rules (PCR) for Asphalt Mixtures. The cradle-to-gate scope includes upstream emissions associated with extracting and processing raw materials and transporting raw materials to the asphalt plant, as well as plant operations. EPDs provide much more information

### EARN CREDITS FOR CONSTRUCTION

EPDs can help customers earn credits for construction projects seeking certification under a green rating system, such as the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED v4 program. Several state and local agencies, including Caltrans, the State of Colorado, and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, are developing policies that will require paving contractors to develop and submit EPDs as part of the procurement or project delivery process. More agencies are expected to develop EPD policies as a component of their GHG emission reduction efforts.

than GHG emissions, including environmental impacts such as smog forming potential, acid rain potential, ozone layer depletion, and resource use indicators.

One of the biggest benefits of the Emerald Eco-Label tool is the new Optimizer function, which helps companies understand how they can reduce the environmental impacts reported in an EPD. With the Optimizer, users can develop scenarios that evaluate the benefits of operational improvements such as energy efficiency projects. It also provides more granular data at the unit process level, which can help users identify and prioritize process improvements. The Optimizer allows users to evaluate the economic impacts of changing fuels and reducing aggregate moisture content, providing an economic lens to assess the sustainability of process improvements.

### GHG Protocol

The GHG Protocol ([ghgprotocol.org](http://ghgprotocol.org)) is a standardized framework and set of emission factors used for corporate GHG emissions reporting. Where NAPA's GHG Calculator and Emerald Eco-Label tool focus exclusively on asphalt mix production, the GHG Protocol can be used by any enterprise to calculate its GHG emissions. It categorizes GHG emissions into three scopes.

#### GHG PROTOCOL SCOPES

**SCOPE 1:** Direct company emissions

**SCOPE 2:** Indirect emissions from electricity purchases

**SCOPE 3:** Indirect upstream (e.g., supply chain) and downstream (e.g., from installation or use of the product) emissions associated with company activities

Many companies will start by reporting Scope 1 emissions, and later expand their reporting efforts to include Scope 2 and 3 emissions. For example, Granite Construction included only Scope 1 emissions in their 2020 Sustainability Report. CRH, which has been reporting independently assured annual GHG emissions since 2005, included Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions in their 2020 Sustainability Report.

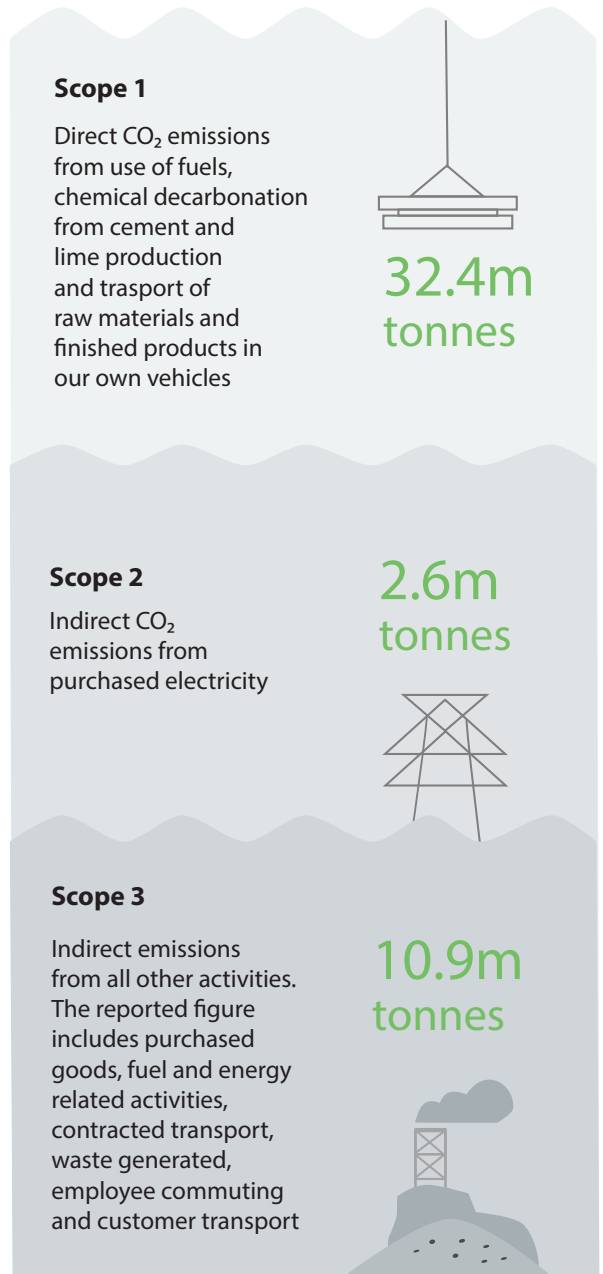
The GHG Protocol provides a robust set of emission factors and calculation tools for quantifying most Scope 1 and 2 emissions. Scope 3 emissions are more difficult to quantify, since they are by definition outside the direct control of the company. One advantage of the Emerald Eco-Label tool is that it can be used to quantify upstream Scope 3 GHG emissions associated with asphalt mix production.

### U.S. EPA Center for Corporate Climate Leadership

Under this umbrella, the Environmental Protection Agency offers technical tools, guidance documents, educational materials, and resources to help companies quantify, track, and reduce GHG emissions. It covers everything from developing a GHG management program to supply chain engagement. Learn more at [epa.gov/ClimateLeadership](http://epa.gov/ClimateLeadership). ■

## 2020 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

We report on our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in line with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol developed by the World Resources Institute and the WBCSD





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# MATT GARTNER

## RECEIVES NORA JOHN J. NOLAN PRESIDENT'S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



On November 11, 2021 during the NORA Conference, Matt Gartner was presented with the NORA's John J. Nolan President's Award of Excellence. It is presented occasionally to a member for extraordinary service and dedication to the liquid recycling industry.

Matt has been active in NORA for over 20 years. He has served as the head of NORA's Membership & Marketing Committee, EH&S Committee and the Guiding Principles Committee. He created NORA's Environmental, Health and Safety Forum in 2014. This June, NORA will host the forum for the ninth time. Matt developed the concept because he recognized that companies involved in the responsible recycling of used oil and related materials have unique EH&S needs. One of Matt's catch phrases is: "there should be no secrets when it comes to safety."

"NORA and its membership represent the best there is in the recycling industry," stated Matt Gartner. "The prior recipients of this award were not only the forefathers, but true titans of the liquid recycling industry. Without them paving the way, there would be no industry. To receive this award is very humbling. I am extremely grateful to the members that they felt that my work and involvement within the association was worthy of such a tremendous accolade. Thank you."

Matt is the Vice President of NORA member XL Insurance, Division of AXA. XL has been a member of NORA since 2000.

John J. Nolan was instrumental in the founding of NORA in 1984. He served as NORA's President for a decade from 1984-1993. ■

### Recipients of NORA's John J. Nolan President's Award of Excellence

2021	Matt Gartner
2016	Steve Anacker
2014	Jim Tefft
2009	Bernie Snyder Bill Ward
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# RFO Market Threatened in Michigan

A significant threat to the Recycled Fuel Oil (RFO) market has developed recently in Michigan. Based on the comments from a Michigan agency, it appears as if the use of RFO will not be permitted by asphalt plants seeking new burner permits or for existing plants if there are any modifications or upgrades. NORA is concerned that the misguided rationale for this decision could move beyond the borders of Michigan.

NORA has a strong tradition of working to defend all markets for used oil and related material derived products. The NORA Board of Directors has approved NORA filing an Amicus Brief on this issue to correct the record in Michigan and defend the use of RFO by asphalt plants.

NORA will keep members updated on this important issue.

## Background

In March 2021, an asphalt company was going through the permit process to build a plant in Michigan. During the initial permit application process, the asphalt company worked with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) to develop the language for the proposed permit. In it, the fuel that the permittee could burn included natural gas, propane, recycled used oil (NORA refers to this as RFO) and fuel oil #1-6.

On July 1, 2021, the proposed permit was opened to public comment. In addition, the permit was further evaluated using the US EPA's Environmental Justice Screen (USEPAs EJ



SCREEN). The comment period closed on September 22, 2021.

During that time, 340 comments were received.

On November 15, 2021, a permit was issued with 13 changes from the original based on the

comments from interested parties. The first of those changes was:

*“The ability to burn recycled oil has been eliminated.”*

All other fuel sources in the proposed permit were kept.

## Michigan's Responses to Comments: Misguided Basis for Banning RFO

There were multiple responses to comments by EGLE which served as the basis for banning RFO. These are part of the official record for this permit and NORA takes strong exception to them. Here are few examples:

### 1. Response to Comment

One of the commenters mentioned that RFO should be removed and, if not, the emissions from RFO should be compared to natural gas.

EGLE responded that the applicant plans to burn natural gas only and wanted the other fuels as an option. EGLE went on to state that it was keeping the natural gas, propane, and fuel oil #1-6 alternatives but was eliminating RFO because is “not fundamental to the process and operation of the facilities” and to be compliant with Rule 224 (use of best available technology).



NORA has multiple concerns with EGLE’s responses. First, the rationale of banning RFO because it is “not fundamental to the process and operation of the facilities” but keeping the other alternative fuels is flawed logic. RFO, and the other alternative materials, are not fundamental to ANY asphalt plant.

Second, EGLE states that eliminating RFO demonstrates compliance with Rule 224 which relates to using Best Available Control Technology for Toxics (T-BACT) to maximize the degree of emission reduction. EGLE states that eliminating RFO reduces “potential emissions” and, as stated on a call, only related to natural gas – not the other alternative fuels. EGLE allowed the use of #6 oil with a sulfur limit at 1% (twice the limit of the other fuels) but would not allow RFO.

### **2. Response to Comment**

One of the commenters stated the area where the plant was going had a higher portion of homes with lead-based paint so EGLE should not permit additional lead in the area.

EGLE responded that the burning of RUO was the main source of predicted lead at the facility.

It is not clear how EGLE modeled the lead emissions related to RUO. NORA is working to gather that information through a Freedom of Information Act action. Although Part 279 allows 100 PPM of lead, it is NORA’s understanding that RFO generally has 5 – 7 PPM of lead. In addition, it is not clear if the model incorporated a bag house.

### **3. Response to Comment**

One of the commenters shared concerns about how

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) from the air emissions would impact a stream on the property.

EGLE responded the PCBs emissions from the facility is from the burning of RFO and the use of recycled asphalt pavement (RAP). Further, they go on to state that RFO is being eliminated. EGLE stated that RAP may potentially contain PCBs, albeit limited.

NORA has contacted EGLE to let them know there are rules on the books that already prevent PCBs from being in RFO burned at asphalt plants. EGLE responded that they have data that suggest otherwise. An EGLE representative stated that, “in the past asphalt plants blended used oil with PCBs in conjunction with hazardous waste.” Again, NORA is working to gather that information through a Freedom of Information Act action.

### **Next Steps: Amicus Brief**

NORA members reviewed the issue at the 2022 Winter Meeting in San Antonio and determined that this is an industry wide threat. The NORA Board has approved hiring attorney Chris Harris to work with Executive Director Scott D. Parker to draft a forceful Amicus Brief to the court to help correct the record. NORA is specifically replying to the misguided response to comments by EGLE related to RFO.

“In reading Michigan’s response to comments, they seem to be using RFO as the boogeyman and solving all sorts of issues by banning it,” stated NORA Executive Director Scott D. Parker. “We know that RFO can be used safely and we will put a tremendous effort to correct the record.”

NORA will keep its members updated on this important project. ■



# NORA

## Conference & Trade Show

November 10-13, 2021

The 2021 NORA Conference and Trade Show in Orlando attracted over 225 attendees and 38 exhibitors. For many, this was their first business trip since March of 2020. Attendees gained valuable insight through networking and industry education session.

The conference featured various educational sessions headlined by keynote speaker Dick Vitale. The title of his address was: “*The Game Of Life.*” Additional speakers presented on a wide variety of industry topics (see page 32). All speaker PowerPoints for the conference sessions are now available online in the members-only section of the website.

The conference featured several events, including the NORA Fishing Expedition, the NORA Golf Tournament, and the Universal Studios Scavenger Hunt. The conference concluded with the Closing Party featuring Dueling Pianos. Photos of these events can be found on pages 23-29 as well as online in the Events pull-down menu.

NORA would like to thank the conference sponsors for their support (please see page 30).

### Feedback from Conference Attendees

“Great event which gives you access to information and people specific to our industry.”

—Brian Bidelspach, *Liquid Environmental Solutions*

“I would tell someone who hasn’t attended a NORA event that though they may feel, going in to it, that they won’t take away anything, they couldn’t be more wrong. Conversations bridge gaps.”

—Prima Mull, *Howco Environmental Services*

“You can learn about this industry and the participants in a relatively short period of time.”

—Ellie Bruce *Heritage-Crystal Clean, LLC*

### Feedback from Conference Exhibitors

“Everything about the venue proved upbeat and friendly, a real spirit of cooperation by all. The support of the staff, the warm reception by the board of directors, and the overall positive attitude of staff and participants alike were very refreshing.”

—Jay Byram, *Standfast TRAM*

“This is the most valuable platform to show your products relating to Used Oil Recycling.”

—Luke Staengl, *Pragmatic Environmental Solutions Company - PESCO*

“By being a member and exhibiting, I have been known as a trusted source in my field. Two large clients started out as prospects by calling me because I was in NORA.”

—Ralph Scully *InCon Process Systems & GIG Karasek*

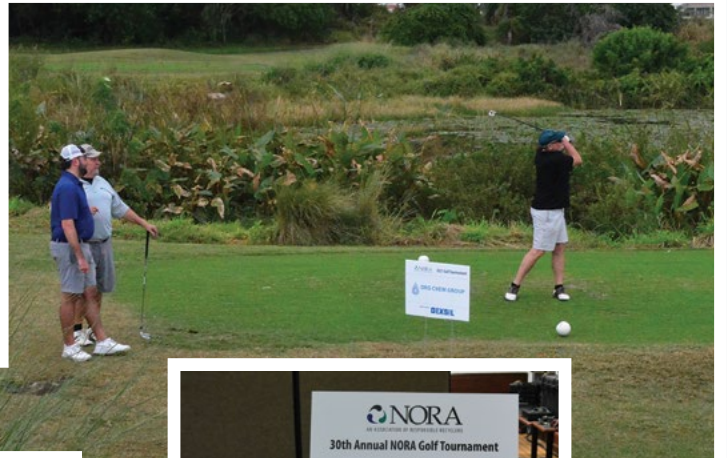


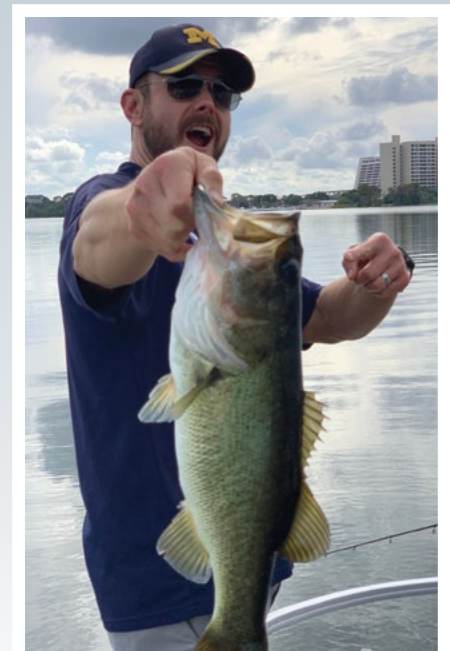














# NORA

Conference & Trade Show  
November 10-13, 2021

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# 2021 NORA Conference Presentations

Thursday, November 11 and Friday, November 12

The NORA Conference and Trade show featured various educational sessions by industry leaders covering topics on driver shortages to the 2022 economic forecast and impact on the liquid recycling market. To download and view the presentations, visit [noranews.org](http://noranews.org) and navigate to events > past events > 2021 NORA Annual Convention and Trade Show.

## The Driver Shortage Is Here!

Presented by: Leah Shaver

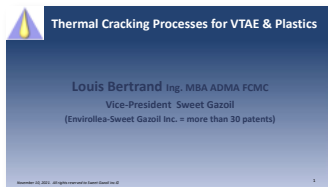


The pandemic has exacerbated the shortage of drivers. In this session, attendees heard from the industry expert on best practices on driver recruitment and retention in

today's tight driver market.

## Thermal Cracking Processes for VTAE & Plastics

Presented by: Louis Bertrand

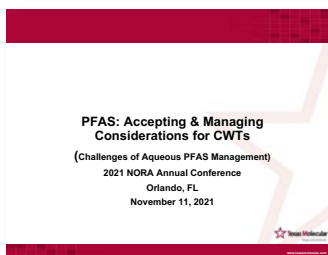


VTAE (vacuum tower asphalt extender), waste plastics and refinery vacuum tower bottoms are heavy hydrocarbons that have higher value if cracked into

lighter products. Louis Bertrand compared common thermal cracking processes when applied to VTAE and other troublesome feedstocks such as plastics.

## PFAS: Accepting & Managing Considerations for CWTs

Presented by: Frank Marine



The EPA continues to conduct research and develop regulatory frameworks related to PFAS. It is clear that future PFAS regulations will directly impact NORA members. This aqueous PFAS presenta-

tion covered important considerations that will be helpful for NORA members in preparation and decision-making regarding the acceptance and management of water with PFAS.

## Infrastructure: Legislative Impact on Asphalt & RFO Market

Presented by: Jay Hansen, National Asphalt Pavement Association



As Congress passed the infrastructure legislation, it appears as if over a trillion dollars is going to be spent on roads, bridges and related items. This session provided the latest hot mix

asphalt volumes and the forecast for 2022 for you to consider.

## 2022 Economic Forecast & Its Impact on the Liquid Recycling Market

Presented by: Elliot Eisenberg, Ph.D.

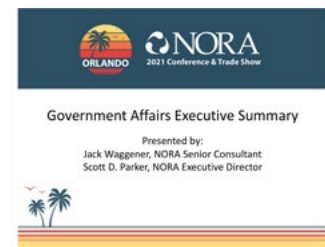


As you prepare your business strategies, this session provided a customized economic forecast for 2022 and beyond. This session addressed the overall economy, how GDP will perform, oil prices, workforce chal-

lenges, and much more of interest to NORA members.

## Government Affairs Executive Summary

Presented by: Jack Waggener, Senior Principal at AECOM & Scott D. Parker, NORA Executive Director



NORA has been actively involved with many new government regulations and initiatives in 2021. This session provided a high-level view of the government affairs issues that are evolving in the liquid recycling sector

that will impact your business in 2022 and beyond.

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# NORA Supplier/ Vendor Directory



NORA Supplier/Vendor Members in good standing as of 3/11/2022 are listed below. Companies in **bold** have an ad in this magazine. Companies with a \$ are part of the **NORA \$ave** program by offering discounts/value added services to NORA members. Contact NORA to learn more about the NORA \$ave program.

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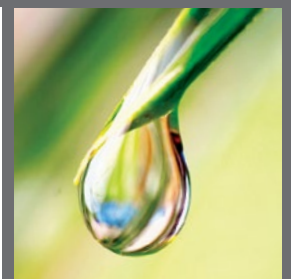
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TOTAL CHLORINE  
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YES/NO AT 1000 PPM

**RESULTS IN 5 MINUTES**

US EPA SW-846, Method 9077  
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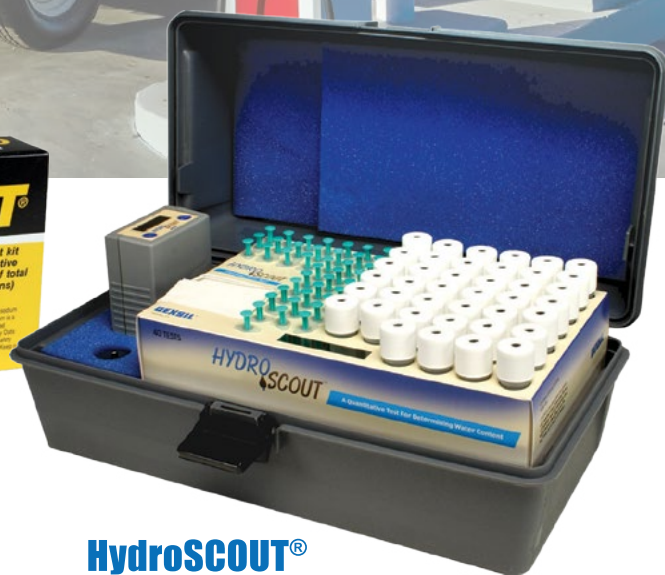
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