

March 20th, 2024



The Honorable Frank Lucas
Chairman of the House Science, Space & Technology
Committee
2405 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC, 20515

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
Ranking Member of the House Science, Space &
Technology Committee
1401 Longworth House Office Building
Washington DC, 20515

Dear Chairman Lucas and Ranking Member Lofgren,

The National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) appreciates today's markup on HR 7685, the *IMPACT Act*. NAPA is the only national trade association exclusively representing companies involved in the production and application of asphalt pavement mixtures. The asphalt industry represents thousands of companies and over 350,000 hard working men and women across the nation producing and paving local, state and federal roads with asphalt.

As you know, over 94 percent of the nation's roads are made with asphalt pavement, along with over 80 percent of airfields across military, private and commercial airports. Despite the sheer size of our industry relative to the surface transportation pavement market, the asphalt industry is a market leader in carbon emission reduction and environmental sustainability. Due in large part to the operational investments applied by our members to produce asphalt at their plants more efficiently, exploring warm-mix and cold-mix asphalts and utilizing reclaimed asphalt product (RAP) whenever possible, our cradle-to-gate greenhouse gas emissions associated with asphalt mix production account for just 0.3% of total U.S. emissions¹. Further, asphalt is 100 percent recyclable, and is the most recycled product in the country, with almost 90M tons of RAP utilized throughout the country in 2021 alone – which is achieved with drastically reduced carbon outputs, while exceeding performance specifications². NAPA understands that while much has been achieved, more can be done, which is why our industry is committed to achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 via our Road Forward program, which was established in 2020³.

Today's markup of HR 7685 opens the door for more research and development funding through the Department of Energy, in coordination with sister federal agencies, on advancing tangible environmental goals for construction material production. Further, we appreciate your staff on the Committee, who have worked closely with us and other stakeholders, gathering relevant information and better understanding how our industry operates, what our producers already do, and what can be achieved without sacrificing material performance or economic growth.

Please consider the asphalt industry as a resource, and NAPA stands ready to continue this collaboration with your Committee. We look forward to working you on this bill as it evolves and similar efforts in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nile Elam", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nile Elam
Vice President of Government Affairs
National Asphalt Pavement Association

¹ https://www.asphaltpavement.org/uploads/documents/Sustainability/SIP-106_GHG_Emissions_Inventory_for_Aspalt_Mix_Production_in_the_US_%E2%80%93_NAPA_June_2022.pdf

² https://www.asphaltpavement.org/uploads/documents/Sustainability/NAPA_RAP_Benefits_for_Pavement_Owners_1121.pdf

³ <https://www.asphaltpavement.org/climate>