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Sam Brownback, Governor

April 14, 2016

Mr. Norbert Munoz
Acting Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
6111 SW 29th Street
Topeka, KS 66614

Attention Eric Deitcher, ROW/Civil Rights

Dear Mr. Munoz:

In support of the current pooled fund solicitation #1428 "Utilization of Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS) for Real-Time Testing and Quality Control Monitoring of Aggregate Materials used in Highway Construction," the Kansas DOT is requesting the waiver of the non-Federal funding match for State Planning and Research Funds for use on the proposed project. Kansas DOT will serve as the lead agency, and the approximate level of funding required to complete the research is $1,008,000. The estimated duration of the project is 4 years and the estimated number of partners will be 7-8 including the lead agency.

The overall objective of this study is to upgrade QC/QA in the industry by developing a real-time laser scanning system to rapidly classify aggregates used in highway construction. The intent is to employ this classification process to:

1. Quantify specific engineering properties (e.g., specific gravity, acid insoluble residue, Microdeval loss, etc.),
2. Assess whether an aggregate source will pass or fail a defined engineering property test,
3. Identify and/or quantify the presence of deleterious materials (e.g., reactive aggregates, charts, etc.),
4. Determine whether aggregate composition or quality is changing during production, and
5. Determine the source material or sources of blended production materials

An aggregate laser scanning system has the potential to be employed in private and government material testing laboratories, where laser scanning of aggregate samples can be undertaken, providing multiple engineering parametric results in near real time.

If you have any questions, please call me at 785-291-3847.

Sincerely,

Susan F. Barker, P.E.
Technology Transfer Engineer

c: Rod Montney