



NCC
NATIONAL
CONCRETE
CONSORTIUM

SH13 CO Overlay
Picture Source: ACPA

Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs)
Concrete Industry Perspective

ACPA

NRMCA

PCA



Infrastructure and Sustainability
Current Initiatives Driving Material Transparency

ACPA

NRMCA

PCA

Federal Buy Clean Initiative

- White House **Buy Clean Actions** Announced September 15th, 2022.
 - Administration Goal: Net-zero emissions by 2050 and a 50-52% reduction by 2030.*
 - Prioritize the Federal Government's purchase of steel, concrete, asphalt and flat glass that have lower levels of emissions.
 - Expand lower-carbon construction materials used in federally-funded projects.
 - Convene states to partner on Buy Clean.
 - Increase data transparency through supplier reporting to track and reduce emissions.
 - Launch pilot programs to advance federal procurement of clean construction materials.
 - Expand the Buy Clean Task Force to eight more federal agencies (total of 17 now).

*Economy-wide from 2005 levels (announced April 22, 2021).



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U.S. DOT Buy Clean Initiative

The US Department of Transportation [policy statement](#) (issued September 15th, 2022),

"...the U.S. Department of Transportation will launch a Buy Clean Initiative that will assess and address the embodied carbon emissions that come from the engineering, design, construction, procurement, maintenance, and disposal of transportation projects"

1. the Department will explore the use of Environmental Product Declarations, which are transparent, verified reports used to communicate the environmental impacts of construction materials. Standardized reporting would help industry to confidently move forward in investing in the production of clean and reliable materials.
2. the Department will develop a Buy Clean policy based on those reports, to ensure that materials purchased with taxpayer dollars are serving the best interests of the American people, while also supporting job creation in sustainable industry.
3. the Department will prioritize education and research on embodied carbon emissions to ensure that we continue to drive down the emissions that come from the materials and processes used in transportation infrastructure.



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1. **Lower Carbon Procurement Pilot (June 2022):** Increase utilization of **environmental product declarations (EPDs)** and encourage the acquisition of products and materials with low embodied carbon emissions.
2. **FHWA Climate Challenge (August 2022):** Grant funding to reduce the lifecycle emissions associated with the design, construction, and maintenance of pavements. (40 submissions from 25 states)
3. **U.S. DOT Embodied Carbon Working Group:** Support efforts to ensure all U.S. DOT modal administrations are prioritizing Buy Clean.



H.R.3684 - Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (2021)

- **Water:** Deliver clean water to all American families and eliminate the nation's lead service lines.
- **Roads & Bridges:** Repair and rebuild our roads and bridges with a focus on climate change mitigation, resilience, equity, and safety.
- **Transit:** Improve transportation options and reduce greenhouse emissions through investment in public transit.
- **Airports & Ports:** Upgrade airports and ports to improve competitiveness, create more and better jobs at these hubs, and reduce emissions.
- **Rail:** Invest in passenger rail to create safe, efficient, and climate-friendly alternatives for moving people and freight.
- **Electric Vehicles:** Build a national network of electric vehicle (EV) chargers.
- **Power:** Upgrade power infrastructure to deliver clean, reliable energy and deploy cutting-edge energy technology to achieve a zero-emissions future.
- **Resiliency:** Make our infrastructure resilient against the impacts of climate change, cyber-attacks, and extreme weather events.
- **Pollution:** Tackle legacy pollution by cleaning up Superfund and brownfield sites, reclaiming abandoned mines, and capping orphaned oil and gas wells.

Source: The White House (Nov 6, 2021) - <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/11/06/fact-sheet-the-bipartisan-infrastructure-deal/>



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H.R.5376 - Inflation Reduction Act of 2022

- \$5.8B allocated for an advanced manufacturing fund intended to help speed decarbonization at industrial plants (SEC. 50161).
 - Disbursed through grants and loans.
 - Also expands eligibility for tax credits for installing emissions-reduction equipment at plants.
- \$5.5B allocated across federal agencies — including \$2 billion to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) — to procure low-carbon materials for transportation and other projects (SEC. 60506).
- \$250M allocated to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to help manufacturers develop Environmental Product Declarations (SEC. 60112).
- \$100M allocated for EPA, FHWA, and GSA to develop and carry out a program for construction materials to identify and label construction materials and products that have substantially lower levels of embodied greenhouse gas emissions (SEC. 60116).



H.R.5376 - Inflation Reduction Act of 2022

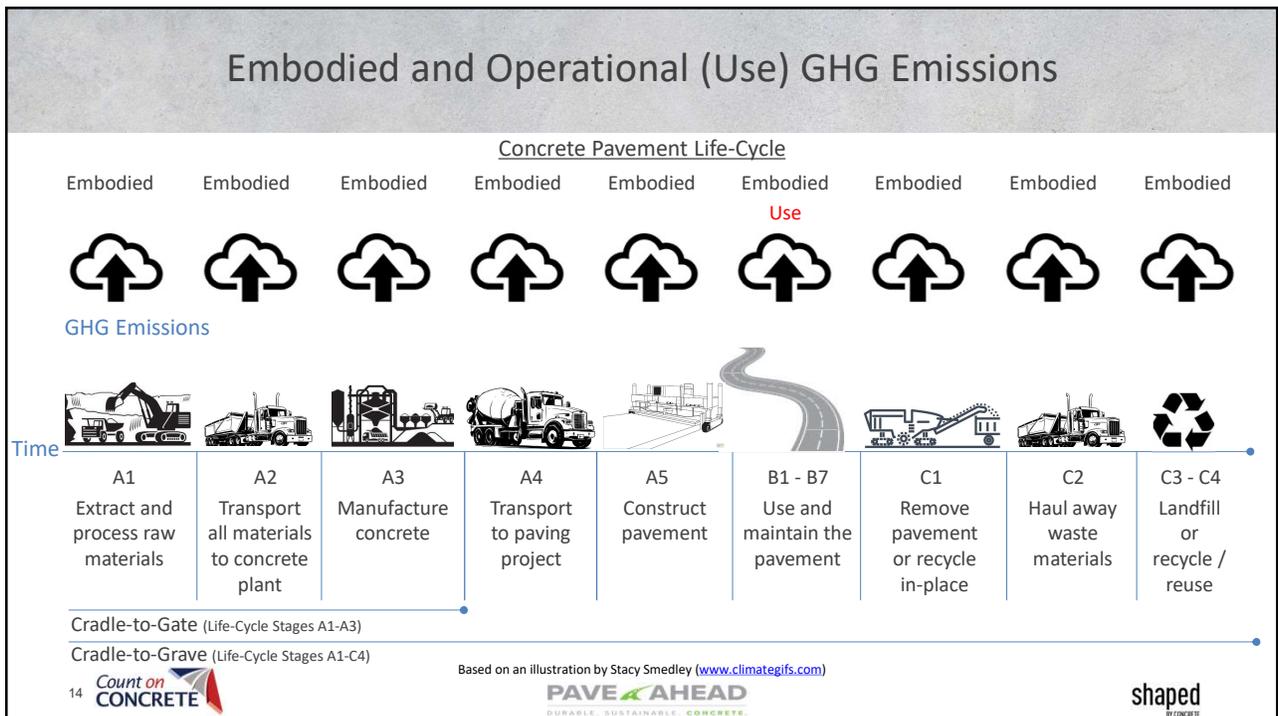
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State and Local Buy Clean Legislation

- California (AB 262)
- Colorado (HB21-1303)
- Minnesota (Buy Clean Study & Buy Clean/Buy Fair Pilot Program)
- Oregon (HB 4139A)
- Washington State (2021-23 Biennium Budgets & Buy Clean/Buy Fair Pilots)
- City of Austin, TX (Climate Equity Action Plan)
- City of Portland, OR (Procurement Services; Low Carbon Concrete)
- Others...

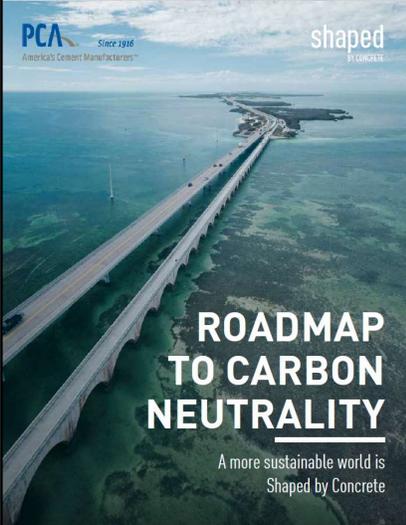




Roadmap to Carbon Neutrality: Cement & Concrete



shaped
BY CONCRETE



**ROADMAP
TO CARBON
NEUTRALITY**

A more sustainable world is
Shaped by Concrete

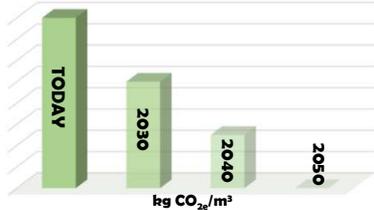
15 **Count on
CONCRETE**

CLINKER	CEMENT	CONCRETE	CONSTRUCTION	CARBONATION
Key chemically reactive ingredient	The binder	Critically useful material to society	Service life / use phase impacts	Concrete is a CO ₂ sink
.....
.....
.....

NEAR-TERM

MID-TERM

LONG-TERM



kg CO_{2e}/m³

PAVE AHEAD
DURABLE SUSTAINABLE CONCRETE

shaped
BY CONCRETE

Reducing Concrete's Embodied Carbon Emissions (In-Use to Near-Term)

- **Optimized Pavement Designs & Rehabilitations**
 - Use of Pavement ME and other innovative methods (e.g., short or long [jointless] slab designs, concrete o/l, FDR).
- **Use of Type IL Cement**
 - Portland-limestone cement containing more than 5% but less than or equal to 15% by mass of limestone.
- **Alternative & Blended Cements / Clinkers**
 - The use of low CO₂ clinker and blended cements.
- **Supplementary Cementitious Materials (SCMs)**
 - Fly Ash, Slag, other pozzolans to reduce the amount of cement in the concrete.
- **Aggregate Optimization**
 - Use well graded mixes to reduce paste and improve workability & durability. On-site concrete recycling.
- **Enhanced Carbonation**
 - Technologies to use CO₂ emissions (e.g., injected CO₂).



Optimizing concrete mixes using these tools allows the Industry to create low carbon ready-mix concrete

17 **Count on
CONCRETE**

PAVE AHEAD
DURABLE SUSTAINABLE CONCRETE

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Reducing Concrete's Embodied Carbon Emissions (Mid- to Long-Term)

- **Increase Use of Alternative Fuels at Cement Plants**
 - Utilize transformative fuels and technologies: hydrogen, plasma heating, oxyfuel/oxy-calcination, electric calcination, agriculture and sorted disposed waste...
- **Zero or Low Emissions During Cement and Concrete Manufacturing and Transportation**
 - Move to renewable energy sources and alternative fuels (e.g., hydrogen) or electric power for transportation.
- **Development of New Cements**
 - Use low CO₂ clinker and blended cements, new binders, etc.
- **Carbon Capture Utilization & Storage**
 - Further develop technologies to capture, store, and use CO₂ emissions (e.g., underground storage, enhanced carbonation cement and aggregates, etc.).



Optimizing concrete mixes using these tools allows the Industry to create low carbon ready-mix concrete



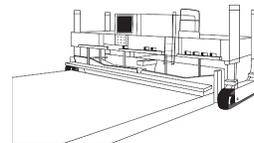
Industry Partnering: Working Together to Meet Sustainability Goals



Cement Suppliers



Equipment Manufacturers



Concrete Contractors

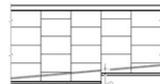


Aggregate Suppliers

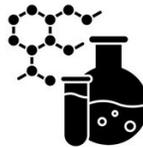
Concrete Producer
Partners



Truck Manufacturers



Precast Suppliers



Admixture / Additive Suppliers



Steel Suppliers





Type III ISO 14025 Environmental Product Declaration (EPD)

Summary Page
Life Cycle Assessment (LCA Page)
Detail Page

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Declared Product:
Mix 45/10/2/C2 – Jeffco Plant
Description: CDOT CLASS 5/DP LOW SLUMP
Compressive strength: 4500 PSI at 28 days

Declared Unit: 1 m³ of concrete

Global Warming Potential (kg CO ₂ e)	365
Ozone Depletion Potential (kg CFC11e)	0.0004
Acidification Potential (kg SO ₂ e)	1.81
Eutrophication Potential (kg N-e)	0.39
Photochemical Oxidant Creation Potential (kg O ₃ e)	22.4
Abiotic Depletion (kg Sb-e)	7.82E-5
Abiotic Depletion (kg Nb)	710
Total Waste (kg)	102
Consumption of Freshwater (m ³)	3.24

Product Components: natural aggregate (ASTM C33), Portland cement (ASTM C150), batch water (ASTM C160), fly ash (ASTM C618), silica fume (ASTM C989), water (ASTM C200)

Individual detail and impacts are reported on page three of this EPD.

LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT

SYSTEM BOUNDARY
This EPD is a cradle-to-gate EPD covering the product stages (A1-A3) only.

Product Stage	System Boundary	Unit	Value
A1	Production	kg CO ₂ e	365
A2	Transportation	kg CO ₂ e	0.0004
A3	Installation	kg CO ₂ e	1.81

CUT-OFF
Items excluded from system boundary include: production, manufacture, and construction of manufacturing capital goods and infrastructure; production and manufacture of production equipment, delivery vehicles, and laboratory equipment; personnel-related activities (travel, furniture, and office supplies); and energy and water use related to company management and sales activities that may be located either within the factory site or at another location.

ALLOCATION PROCEDURE
Allocation follows the requirements and guidance of ISO 14044. The product category rules for this EPD recognize fly ash, silica fume and slag as waste products recovered materials and thus the environmental impacts allocated to these materials are limited to the treatment and transportation required to use as a concrete material input.

LIFE CYCLE INVENTORY (LCI)
Jeffco Plant is a truck (trailer) mixing plant. 30% of all mixing truck(s) energy has been allocated to module A3.

This EPD was calculated using industry average cement data. Cement LCA impacts can vary depending upon manufacturing process, efficiency and fuel source by as much as 50% for some environmental impact categories. Cement accounts for as much as 85% of the impacts of the concrete mixes included in this EPD and true manufacturer specific cement impacts could result in variation of as much as 44%.

PRIMARY SOURCE OF DATA

- Aggregate (sand/gravel): EPA/PCRF Survey 2015
- Ashland (silica fume): EPA/PCRF Survey 2015
- Aggregate (sand/gravel): EPA/PCRF Survey 2015
- Cement (Portland): EPD 2015
- Aggregate (sand/gravel): EPA/PCRF Survey 2015
- Cement (Portland): EPD 2015
- Fly ash (ASTM C618): EPD 2015
- Silica fume (ASTM C989): EPD 2015
- Portland cement (ASTM C150): EPD 2015
- Batch water (ASTM C160): EPD 2015
- Fly ash (ASTM C618): EPD 2015
- Silica fume (ASTM C989): EPD 2015
- Portland cement (ASTM C150): EPD 2015
- Batch water (ASTM C160): EPD 2015

DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS DERIVED FROM LCA

Input Assessment	M1	A1	A2	A3	Total
Global warming potential	kg CO ₂ e	362	202	128	692
Ozone depletion potential of hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC)	kg CFC11e	7.82E-5	8.44E-10	4.45E-10	0.0004
Acidification potential	kg SO ₂ e	0.08	0.02	0.02	0.12
Eutrophication potential of soil and water eutrophication (N)	kg N-e	0.02	0.20	0.10	0.32
Photochemical oxidant creation potential (POCP)	kg O ₃ e	11.7	7.07	3.47	22.24

Resource Use

Resource Use	M1	A1	A2	A3	Total
Abiotic depletion potential for non-fossil-based resources (CDP _{abiotic})	kg Sb-e	0.0004	-	2.41E-05	0.0004
Abiotic depletion potential for fossil resources (CDP _{fossil})	MJ	205	205	205	615
Renewable primary energy resources as energy (EP _{RE})	MJ	455	0.00E+00	8.72	464
Renewable primary resources as material (EP _{RM})	MJ	0.00E+00	-	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Non-renewable primary resources as energy (EP _{NR})	MJ	1.49E	205	205	1.90E
Non-renewable primary resources as material (EP _{NRM})	MJ	3.99	-	0.00E+00	3.99
Consumption of fresh water	m ³	3.23	-	0.04	3.24

Secondary Material, Fuel and Recovered Energy

Secondary Material, Fuel	M1	A1	A2	A3	Total
Secondary Material, Fuel	kg	191	-	0.00E+00	191
Renewable secondary fuel (EP _{RSF})	MJ	17.9	-	0.00E+00	17.9
Non-renewable secondary fuel (EP _{NSF})	MJ	172	-	0.00E+00	172
Recovery energy (RE)	MJ	0.00E+00	-	0.00E+00	0.00E+00

Waste & Output Flows

Waste & Output Flows	M1	A1	A2	A3	Total
Production waste (kg)	kg	4.26E3	-	0.00E+00	4.26E3
Non-hazardous waste (kg)	kg	102	-	0.00	102
High-level radioactive waste*	kg	0.00E+00	-	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Intermediate and low-level radioactive waste*	kg	4.26E3	-	0.00E+00	4.26E3
Compost for reuse*	kg	0.00E+00	-	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Material for recycling*	kg	1.71	-	0.00E+00	1.71
Material for energy recovery*	kg	0.00E+00	-	0.00E+00	0.00E+00
Recovered energy (kg)	kg	0.00E+00	-	0.00E+00	0.00E+00

Additional Inventory Parameters for Transparency

Inventory Parameter	M1	A1	A2	A3	Total
Global warming potential (GWP)	kg CO ₂ e	362	202	128	692

* Energy LCA input categories and inventory items are all water dependent and have high levels of uncertainty that preclude meaningful addresses pending further development. Use caution when interpreting data in these categories.

EPDs are comparable only if they comply with ISO 21930 (2017), use the same, sub-category PCR where applicable, include all relevant information modules and are based on equivalent scenarios with respect to the context of construction works.

COMPANY
BURINCO Colorado
201 Centennial Dr.
Milliken, CO 80543

PLANT
Jeffco Plant
10888 CO-93
Golden, CO 80403

EPD PROGRAM OPERATOR
National Ready Mixed Concrete Association
900 Spring St
Silver Spring, MD 20910

NRMCA/EPD-20029

DATE OF ISSUE
10/20/2021 (valid for 5 years until 10/20/2026)

ISO 21930:2017 Sustainability in Building Construction — Environmental Declaration of Building Products; serves as the core PCR
PCR for Concrete, NSF International, February 2019 serves as the sub-category PCR

Sub-category PCR review was conducted by Thomas P. Glavin • Industrial Ecology Consultants

Independent verification of the declaration, according to ISO 14025:2006: □ Internal □ External

Third party verifier: Care Vought [care@sustainablebuildings.com] • Sustainable Solutions Corporation

For additional explanatory material
Manufacture Representative: Dana Rukovitch (dana.rukovitch@burinco.com)
Software Tool: CarbonCLARITY Suite, EPD Generator • Verification
LCA & EPD Developer: Climate Earth (support@climateearth.com)

AMERICA'S CONCRETE
301 Delaware St.
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303.497.0000

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10888 CO-93
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Type III ISO 14025 Environmental Product Declaration (EPD)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Declared Product:
 Mix 45FN31C2C • Jeffco Plant
 Description: CDOT CLASS B/D/P LOW SLUMP
 Compressive strength: 4500 PSI at 28 days

Declared Unit: 1 m³ of concrete

Global Warming Potential (kg CO ₂ -eq)	345
Ozone Depletion Potential (kg CFC-11-eq)	8.20E-6
Acidification Potential (kg SO ₂ -eq)	1.01
Eutrophication Potential (kg N-eq)	0.39
Photochemical Ozone Creation Potential (kg O ₃ -eq)	22.4
Abiotic Depletion, non-fossil (kg Sb-eq)	7.02E-5
Abiotic Depletion, fossil (MJ)	710
Total Waste Disposed (kg)	102
Consumption of Freshwater (m ³)	3.24

Product Components: natural aggregate (ASTM C33), Portland cement (ASTM C150), batch water (ASTM C1602), fly ash (ASTM C618), admixture (ASTM C494), admixture (ASTM C260)

Additional detail and impacts are reported on page three of this EPD

DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS DERIVED FROM LCA

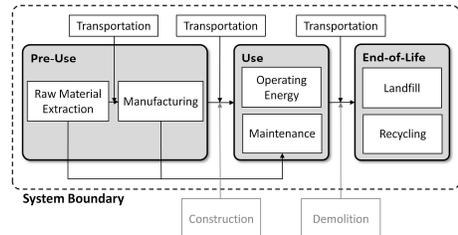
Impact Assessment	Unit	A1	A2	A3	Total
Global warming potential	kg CO ₂ -eq	312	20.2	12.6	345
Depletion potential of the stratospheric ozone layer (ODP)	kg CFC-11-eq	7.99E-6	8.40E-10	6.47E-7	8.20E-6
Eutrophication potential	kg N-eq	0.35	0.02	0.02	0.39
Acidification potential of soil and water sources (AP)	kg SO ₂ -eq	0.62	0.28	0.13	1.01
Formation potential of tropospheric ozone (FOOZ)	kg O ₃ -eq	11.7	7.17	3.47	22.4
Resource Use					
Abiotic depletion potential for non-fossil mineral resources (ADP _{minerals}) [*]	kg Sb-eq	6.69E-5	-	3.41E-6	7.02E-5
Abiotic depletion potential for fossil resources (ADP _{fossil})	MJ	225	285	200	710
Renewable primary energy resources as energy (fuel), (RPRE) [*]	MJ	49.5	0.00E+0	6.72	56.2
Renewable primary resources as material, (RPRM) [*]	MJ	0.00E+0	-	0.00E+0	0.00E+0
Non-renewable primary resources as energy (fuel), (NPRE) [*]	MJ	1,405	285	205	1,995
Non-renewable primary resources as material (NPRM) [*]	MJ	3.99	-	0.00E+0	3.99
Consumption of fresh water	m ³	3.20	-	0.04	3.24

GWP Gases: CO₂, methane, nitrous oxide, CFCs, HFCs, HCFSs, PFCs, SF₆



Product Category Rules (PCR)

- Instructions on how and what to report via the EPD
 - Product studied
 - Functional unit
 - System boundaries
 - Life cycle stages included
 - Impacts reported



Concrete Industry EPD Process

1. Submitting Company Selects a Program Operator.
2. Choose Product and Related Product Category Rule (PCR) and Gather Data per PCR.
3. Conduct Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA) by In-House Staff or LCA Consultant.
4. Conduct Independent Review of LCA.
5. Develop Draft EPD by In-House Staff or LCA Consultant.
6. Submit the LCA Report and Draft EPD to Program Operator for Initial Verification.
7. Program Operator Engages Independent Verifier Who Reviews the LCA Report and Draft EPD.
8. Program Operator Certifies EPD for Submitting Company.



Common EPD Program Operators for Concrete

Program Operator	LCA / EPD Practitioner
	&
	&



Concrete Product Category Rule (PCR) – Revision History

Version	Date issued
Version 1 (published by Carbon Leadership Forum)	November 2012
Version 1.1 (published by Carbon Leadership Forum)	December 2013
Version 2 (published by NSF International)	February 2019
Version 2.1 (published by NSF International)	August 2021 Valid through February 22, 2024

Version 2.x (published by NSF International) August 2022(?) Consideration of Mobile Mixers

Concrete PCR Revisions: Consideration of Mobile Batch Plants

- PCR Committee recently voted to include a one-year deviation:
 - Informative annex to the PCR;
 - Allows for data collection and analysis of data from portable mixing equipment;
 - Data would be basis for paving project EPDs using mobile batch plants.
- Committee will evaluate need to add language specific to paving vs. building mobile batch plant impacts.
 - Subcommittee could be assigned and propose expanded language, if necessary.
- Roller Compacted Concrete Paving Industry
 - Seeking clarification whether deviation is applicable to continuous (pugmill) mixers.

Concrete Environmental Product Declarations



- ~40,000* product specific EPDs have been published by concrete producers since 2013 in U.S. and Canada (~43,000+* globally)
 - Largest number published by any industry
 - Concrete GWP Values (from EC3 Tool):
 - Conservative (Baseline set @ 80th percentile): 362 kgCO_{2e}/yd³
 - Average (“Typical” @ Arithmetic Mean & Std Dev): 299 kgCO_{2e}/yd³ ± 26.7%
 - Achievable (“Low-Carbon” set @ 20th percentile): 232 kgCO_{2e}/yd³

GWP benchmarks should be established locally and by mix type.

Based on Embodied Carbon in Construction Calculator (EC3) Tool Published by Building Transparency which is very comprehensive but not exhaustive.



Illinois, Minnesota, Ohio Concrete EPDs

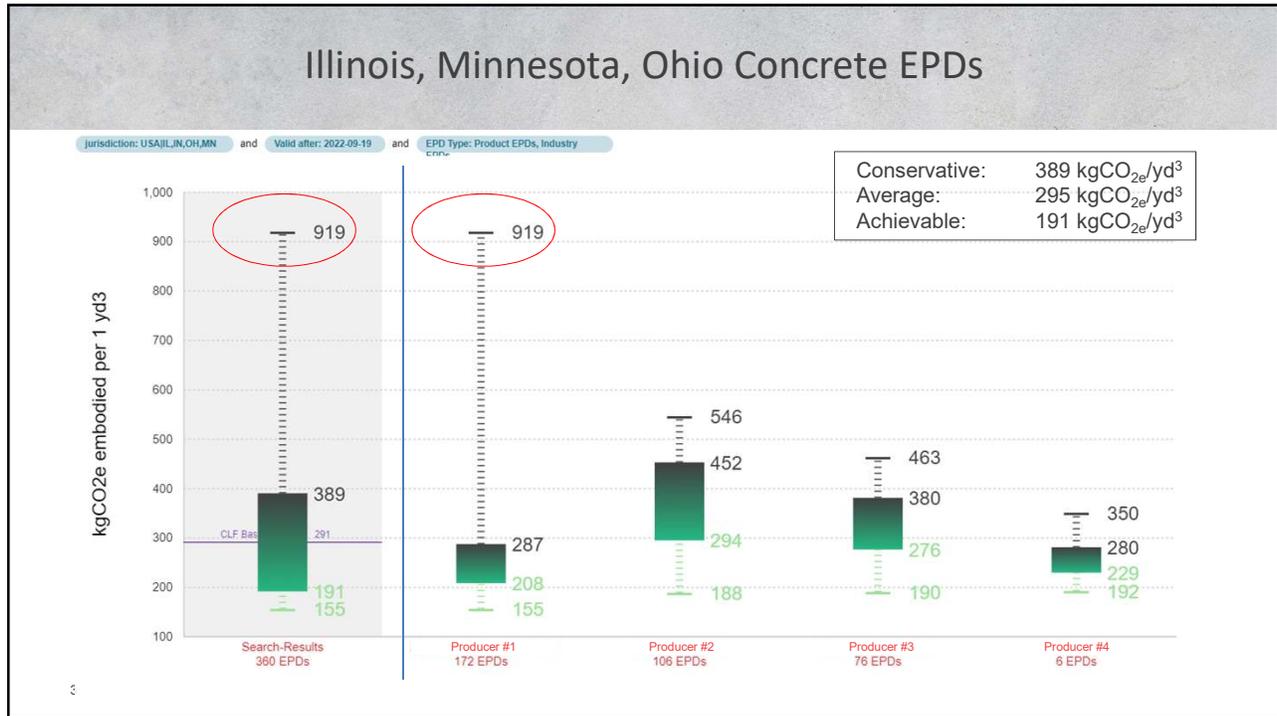


- Currently 360* concrete EPDs Published for IL, MN, OH (zero for MI in EC3)
 - Concrete GWP Values (from EC3 Tool):
 - Conservative (Baseline set @ 80th percentile): 389 kgCO_{2e}/yd³
 - Average (“Typical” @ Arithmetic Mean & Std Dev): 295 kgCO_{2e}/yd³ ± 40.8%
 - Achievable (“Low-Carbon” set @ 20th percentile): 191 kgCO_{2e}/yd³

GWP benchmarks should be established locally and by mix type.

based on Embodied Carbon in Construction Calculator (EC3) Tool Published by Building Transparency which is very comprehensive but not exhaustive.





Industry Wide Environmental Product Declaration

- Ready Mixed Concrete Industry Wide EPD (v3.2) Jan 2022 – Nov 2024
- From NRMCA Member Data (100+ Companies & ~2,000 Plants)
- Concrete GWP Values from IW EPD (calculated at ↑strength & ↓SCM ranges):

Industry Average EPD (Published January 3rd, 2022)										
28-day F _c , psi	Minimum	Maximum	0% FA/SL	20% FA	30% FA	40% FA	30% SL	40% SL	50% SL	50% FA/SL
Conventional Concrete GWP (per yd ³)										
0 - 2,500	136.6	213.7	213.7	184.7	169.1	152.6	168.0	152.8	137.5	136.6
2,501 - 3,000	150.7	238.1	238.1	205.2	187.4	168.8	186.1	168.9	151.7	150.7
3,001 - 4,000	182.5	293.3	293.3	251.7	229.1	205.5	227.5	205.6	183.7	182.5
4,001 - 5,000	220.3	358.5	358.5	306.6	278.6	249.0	276.5	249.2	221.8	220.3
5,001 - 6,000	231.5	377.4	377.4	322.6	293.0	261.7	290.8	262.0	233.1	231.5
6,001 - 8,000	266.9	438.9	438.9	374.4	339.5	302.6	336.9	302.9	268.9	266.9
Lightweight Aggregate Concrete GWP (per yd ³)										
0 - 3,000	303.0	426.4	426.4	367.2	335.2	360.0	305.7	340.8	303.0	321.6
3,001 - 4,000	343.6	491.2	491.2	424.0	385.0	414.7	348.2	390.3	343.6	362.5
4,001 - 5,000	373.6	547.6	547.6	468.5	422.4	455.3	380.1	427.5	373.6	394.4

Supplementary Cementitious Material (SCM) Ranges:
 0-19% Fly Ash and/or Slag, 20-29% Fly Ash, 30-39% Fly Ash, 40-49% Fly Ash, 30-49% Slag, 40-39% Slag, ≥ 50% Slag, ≥ 20% Fly Ash and ≥ 30% Slag

• **NRMCA members decreased their carbon footprint by 21% in 7 years**



NRMCA MEMBER INDUSTRY-AVERAGE EPD FOR READY MIXED CONCRETE





DURABLE SUSTAINABLE CONCRETE



https://www.nrmca.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/NRMCA_EP_D10294.pdf

NRMCA Member Regional LCA Benchmark Report

Region	28-Day Compressive Strength, psi								
	2,500	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,000	8,000	3,000LW	4,000LW	5,000LW
National	183.5	200.6	235.6	279.0	294.6	341.3	376.4	412.9	449.8
Eastern	183.3	201.5	240.2	289.0	305.3	360.5	395.4	437.9	480.1
Great Lakes Midwest	177.6	194.8	231.4	277.6	293.1	345.3	381.6	421.6	461.3
North Central	184.2	201.9	238.8	284.7	301.5	351.8	372.1	410.7	451.7
Pacific Northwest	180.0	199.8	242.0	295.2	311.9	372.7	396.2	439.7	483.4
Pacific Southwest	196.5	213.5	247.3	288.9	306.4	349.0	382.2	417.5	453.9
Rocky Mountains	177.5	194.6	229.8	273.4	289.6	336.7	369.8	406.5	443.5
South Central	172.4	187.7	218.6	257.2	272.2	312.8	357.7	390.2	424.5
South Eastern	188.9	204.6	236.5	275.5	292.1	332.2	365.6	398.7	429.4

- Published July 2022 (v3.2)
- Region Specific Mixtures For:
 - 6 Conventional Concrete Mixtures &
 - 3 Lightweight Concrete Mixtures



Table B1-NRMCA U.S. National Benchmark Mix Designs (per cubic yard)

Compressive Strength	psi	2500	3000	4000	5000	6000	8000	3000 LW	4000 LW	5000 LW
Portland Cement	lbs	354	394	475	576	610	719	394	475	556
Fly Ash	lbs	62	69	83	101	107	126	69	83	97
Slag Cement	lbs	17	19	23	28	30	35	19	23	27
Mixing Water	lbs	305	305	305	315	341	341	308	308	308
Crushed Coarse Aggregate	lbs	1,126	1,115	1,083	1,029	1,061	1,018	0	0	0
Natural Coarse Aggregate	lbs	553	547	531	505	521	499	0	0	0
Crushed Fine Aggregate	lbs	169	167	162	154	159	152	161	149	136
Natural Fine Aggregate	lbs	1,282	1,270	1,233	1,171	1,208	1,159	1,225	1,130	1,035
Man. Lightweight Aggregate	lbs	0	0	0	0	0	0	980	990	1,000
Air %	%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	0	6%	6%	2%
Air Entraining Admixture	oz	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
Plasticizer & Superplasticizer	oz	3	3	3	7	3	3	3	7	7
Set Accelerator	oz	25	20	15	10	25	20	15	10	10
Total Weight	lbs	3,867	3,886	3,895	3,878	4,037	4,049	2,178	2,168	2,159



Optimization - Compare to Benchmark

3,000 psi w/Fly Ash Southeast U.S. Region

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Global warming potential: 226.87 kg CO₂e

Depletion potential of the stratospheric ozone layer (COP): 6.51E-6 kg CFC-11-eq

Acidification potential of soil and water sources (AP): 0.88 kg SO₂e

Formation potential of topographic ozone (FPO): 19.1 kg O₃e

Appendix D: NRMCA Member National and Regional LCA Benchmark (Industry Average) Report - Version 3

Table E9-South Eastern LCA Results (per cubic yard)

Strength	psi @28 days	2,500	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,000	8,000	3000LW	4000LW	5000LW
GWP	kg CO ₂ e	209.17	226.87	262.74	306.52	325.03	370.15	387.10	424.12	458.62
ODP	kg CFC11-eq	5.93E-06	6.35E-06	7.23E-06	8.28E-06	8.77E-06	9.87E-06	1.42E-05	1.52E-05	1.60E-05
AP	kg SO ₂ e	0.77	0.82	0.92	1.04	1.10	1.22	1.90	2.01	2.11
EP	kg Ne	0.29	0.31	0.35	0.40	0.42	0.47	0.68	0.72	0.76
SFP	kg O ₃ e	16.72	17.73	19.81	22.27	23.53	26.13	25.96	28.09	30.07
ADPI	MJ, NCV	1,307.52	1,399.79	1,588.77	1,819.92	1,925.67	2,162.96	2,802.91	3,003.82	3,188.41
ADPe	kg Sbc	2.15E-04	2.25E-04	2.47E-04	2.72E-04	2.87E-04	3.14E-04	2.61E-04	2.83E-04	3.05E-04
FFD	MJ Surplus	117.28	122.52	133.49	147.02	154.16	167.89	200.31	211.88	222.96

DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS DERIVED FROM LCA

Impact Assessment	Unit	A1	A2	A3	Total
Global warming potential	kg CO ₂ e	244	20.8	7.84	276
Depletion potential of the stratospheric ozone layer (COP)	kg CFC-11-eq	6.30E-6	1.00E-6	2.05E-7	6.51E-6
Acidification potential	kg N ₂ e	0.28	0.02	0.02	0.32
Acidification potential of soil and water sources (AP)	kg SO ₂ e	0.51	0.29	0.08	0.88
Formation potential of topographic ozone (FPO)	kg O ₃ e	9.39	7.50	2.17	19.1



EPD Software Tools

- EPDs developed utilizing pre-verified EPD software becoming more prevalent.
 - Athena
 - Climate Earth
 - GCCA / Quantis
 - One-Click LCA



Athena
Sustainable Materials
Institute

climate earth

gcca / Quantis

One Click LCA



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Concrete Industry EPD Process

1. Submitting Company Selects a Program Operator.
2. Choose Product and Related Product Category Rule (PCR) and Gather Data per PCR.
3. Conduct Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA) by In-House Staff or LCA Consultant.
4. Conduct Independent Review of LCA.
5. Develop Draft EPD by In-House Staff or LCA Consultant.
6. Submit the LCA Report and Draft EPD to Program Operator for Initial Verification.
7. Program Operator Engages Independent Verifier Who Reviews the LCA Report and Draft EPD.
8. Program Operator Certifies EPD for Submitting Company.



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Reproducibility and Alignment of LCA Models

- Concrete PCR v2 requires verification and validity of an EPD
- Two (of five) conditions state:
 - EPD calculations by software systems should be verified using similar procedures as verifying and EPD.
 - When EPDs are aligned to an industry average, there should be consistency of results between product specific EPDs and industry average.
 - Use same LCA software version and background data, or
 - *test representative samples of the regionally specific industry average benchmark data and include report of the maximum percent difference.*



Reproducibility and Alignment of LCA Models

Appendix A: Summary of Reproducibility Results

Results of alignment for the NRMCA Eastern Region Benchmark.

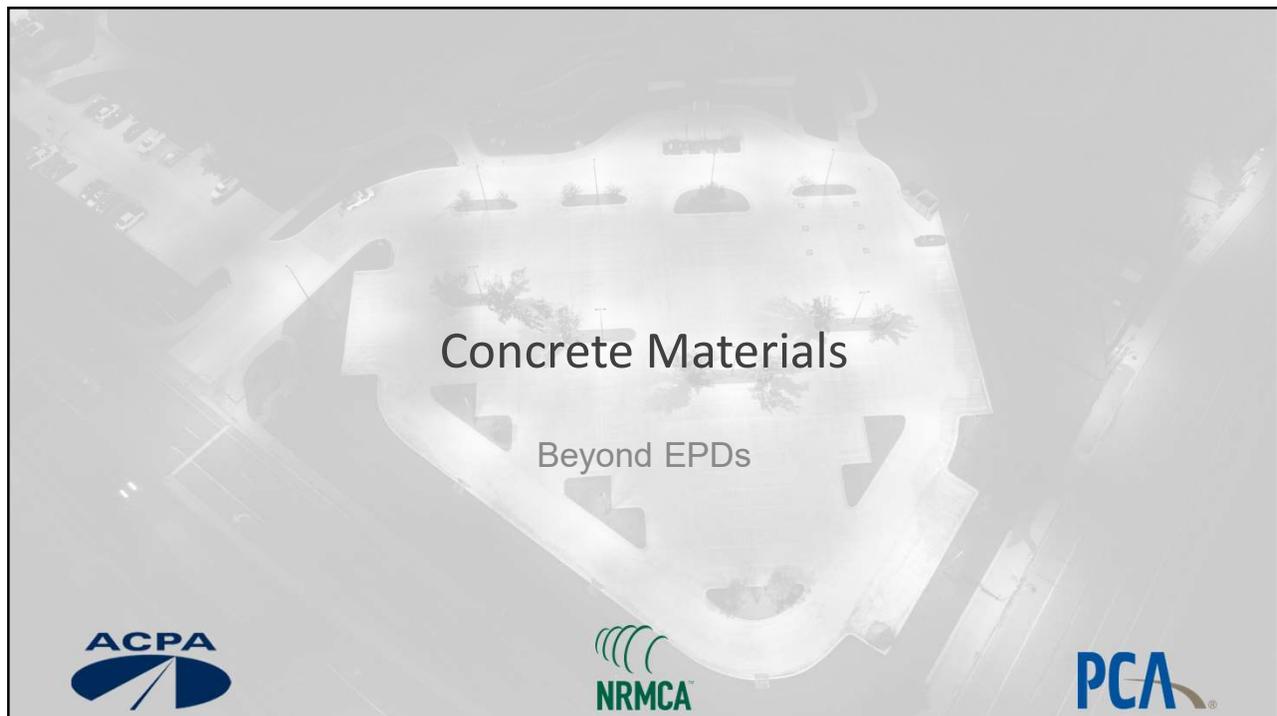
April 2021

Impact category	ABB	Athena	Climate Earth	Unit	Results		Difference
		Method Used	Method Used		Athena	Climate Earth	
Global warming	GWP	TRACI 2.1 V1.02	TRACI 2.1 v 1.04	kg CO2 eq	202.80	201.02	-0.88%
Ozone depletion	ODP	TRACI 2.1 V1.02	TRACI 2.1 v 1.04	kg CFC-11 eq	6.18E-06	5.98E-06	-3.28%
Eutrophication	EP	TRACI 2.1 V1.02	TRACI 2.1 v 1.04	kg N eq	0.29	0.2799	-2.79%
Acidification	AP	TRACI 2.1 V1.02	TRACI 2.1 v 1.04	kg SO2 eq	0.74	0.7245	-2.17%
Smog	SFP	TRACI 2.1 V1.02	TRACI 2.1 v 1.04	kg O3 eq	15.20	14.959	-1.57%



EPD Misunderstandings, Misconceptions, and Misuses and Other Considerations

- Comparing EPDs across categories is tempting but improper.
- Life-cycle inventory data quality is critical for accurate analysis and EPD results.
- EPDs can lead to a “how low can we go” mentality, unintentionally affecting other properties.
- There is more to environmental stewardship than green house gas emissions.
- Producer-contractor collaboration may not be fully realized when only considering EPDs.
- Whole pavement EPD would provide for better decision making.
- Individual EPDs do not account for uncertainty, but a collection of within category EPDs can.
- There are costs that could potentially inhibit some producers from bidding on projects.



Strategies BEYOND the Embodied Footprint



- Prioritizing means reducing our embodied carbon – in cement and in concrete – right now.
- The industry has embraced EPDs to benchmark and measure progress.
- The industry has made huge strides already... optimizing mixtures (PEM), reducing cement content, SCMs, PLC, ternary blends, etc.
- However... embodied carbon is only a PORTION of the carbon footprint.



How Concrete Properties Can Lower Use Phase CO₂

- **Durability and Resilience**
 - Concrete’s durability reduces future rehabilitation and reconstruction activities.
 - Concrete’s strength and resiliency allows it to better withstand natural disasters and their aftermath.
- **Improved Fuel Efficiency**
 - Fuel consumption of trucks on concrete is improved because concrete pavements are stiffer and stay smoother longer.
- **Highly Reflective**
 - Concrete’s light color lowers lighting requirements and UHI impacts; and increases Radiative Forcing that can offset 20% to 40+% of concrete CO₂ used to make the pavement (dependent on thickness)
- **Increased Carbonation**
 - Re-carbonation absorbs ~10-11% of the CO₂ emitted in the A1-A3 phase and 25% of the total potential CO₂ that could be sequestered.

Resilience and Sustainability:
Not having to rebuild after natural disasters saves CO₂



I-10 South of Beaumont, TX During Hurricane Harvey 2017
Source: Logan Wheat



Infrastructure Decision Making: Considering Sustainability and Resilience

Planning/Goals



Use scoring systems (i.e., INVEST) to evaluate a project's potential environmental impact and set specific sustainability goals.

Design



Use whole pavement, full life cycle to understand a project's cradle-to-grave cost and environmental impacts and select designs with the lowest impacts.

Procurement



Use environmental product declarations (EPDs) to set benchmarks and procure materials that meet sustainability goals.

Operation



Use life cycle cost and environmental modeling for asset management treatment optimization and selection. Network analyses will provide the largest CO₂ reductions.



Thank You

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