

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:  
R-19J

Samuel W. Speck, Director  
Department of Natural Resources  
1930 Belcher Drive  
Columbus, Ohio 43224-1387

Dear Mr. Speck:

I am pleased to provide a summary of the *U.S. Recycling Economic Information Study*, which quantifies the economic impact of recycling and reuse on the U.S. economy. The report states that this industry supports over 56,000 establishments employing 1.1 million people and grossing in excess of \$236 billion annually. This proves what many of us already knew - recycling is not just good for the environment, it creates jobs and is a significant factor in our economy.

The study establishes an important benchmark, laying the groundwork for future tracking of growth and trends. We believe that sharing the results is crucial to the continued growth of reuse and recycling. To that end, we hope that you will promote these results to public and private lenders, elected officials, and economic development groups throughout your state. The enclosed Fact Sheet provides an overview of the study and a summary of key findings. A toolkit is available online at <http://www.epa.gov/jtr>, which provides ready-to-use outreach materials which can be tailored to your state.

Please pass along my thanks to Donna Stusek and Tom Davis of your staff for their active involvement in this project. Please feel free to contact Mary Setnicar at 312/886-0976 for additional information.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom", is written over the typed name of Thomas V. Skinner.

Thomas V. Skinner  
Regional Administrator

Attachment