

Construction/Demolition Material Recovery/Recycling: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and LafargeHolcim Announce Cooperative Research Agreement



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The United States Corps of Engineers (“Corps”) and LafargeHolcim (“Lafarge”) announced on July 22nd a cooperative agreement research project (“Project”) to study:

... how construction and demolition (C&D) materials can be used for energy recovery and mineral recycling.

Lafarge’s subsidiary Geocycle will be involved in the Project.

A July 22nd Lafarge news release states that the Corps’ Engineer Research and Development Center (“ERDC”) will provide support for the conducting of a waste characterization study to demonstrate:

... how C&D debris from across U.S. military installations may be used to create alternative fuels, and alternative raw materials for the production of new, more sustainable construction materials.

ERDC will provide:

- Technical assistance
- \$3.4 million in funding

Lafarge resources expected to be utilized are stated to include:

- Geocycle’s Holly Hill Research Center (South Carolina)
- Holcim Ltd’s Global Innovation Center (Lyon, France)

The July 22nd Lafarge news release notes that the United States Environmental Protection Agency estimated in 2018 that approximately 600 million tons of construction and debris was generated in the United States. This is estimated to be twice the amount of generated municipal solid waste.

A copy of the news release can be downloaded [here](#).