Regulating Aggregate Quarries: Other States

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Issue
How do other states regulate aggregate quarries, to ensure that the aggregate they produce is suitable for structural uses, such as foundations?

For information on the regulation of aggregate quarries in Connecticut, see OLR Report 2019-R-0213.

Summary
It appears that no state subjects all quarries to requirements aimed at ensuring that the aggregate they produce is suitable for structural concrete. We reach this conclusion having consulted with the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association; the Connecticut Construction Industries Association; and the editor of Aggregates Manager magazine.

As is the case in Connecticut (see OLR Report 2019-R-0213), across the country, states subject aggregate quarries to various environmental and safety requirements. However, we have not identified a state that requires a geologic survey or related testing of an aggregate quarry before it can commence operation.

However, quarries seeking to sell their aggregate for use in state projects (e.g., bridge construction) may be required to undergo certification before their aggregate will be purchased. New York is an oft-cited example of a state having such a requirement. Aggregate used in state Department of Transportation projects must come from a quarry that has undergone “aggregate source
acceptance.” The acceptance process, outlined in Materials Method NY 29, involves aggregate testing and a geologic survey of the quarry. This process however, does not apply automatically to every quarry in the state; it is a process that quarries must undergo only if they want to provide aggregate for use in specified projects.

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