Comparison of the Two Methods

Selection Criterion	CSA A23.2-8B	CSA A23.2-3B
Primary focus	Water-soluble sulphates in construction materials	Sulphate conditions affecting concrete durability
Typical materials	Aggregates, recycled aggregates, granular materials	Soils, aggregates, fills and materials surrounding concrete
Main reported parameter	Water-soluble sulphate content	Sulphate content for durability and exposure assessment
Typical purpose	Material qualification and quality control	Concrete durability and exposure evaluation
Common projects	Aggregate qualification, recycled materials, acceptance testing	Foundations, infrastructure, durability studies, sulfate attack investigations
Suitable for recycled crushed-concrete aggregate	Yes	Possible, but generally not the primary application
Suitable for concrete exposure assessment	Limited	Yes
Main engineering question	Does the material contain elevated levels of soluble sulphates?	Could sulphate conditions affect the durability of concrete?