Rear Admiral William S. Stokes  
Director, National Toxicology Program Interagency Center  
for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
P.O. Box 12233 (Mail Code K2-16)  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709  

Dear Admiral Stokes:

Thank you for your letter of June 10 to Secretary LaHood on behalf of Linda S. Birnbaum,  
Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences who forwarded toxicological  
test method recommendations to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) from the  
Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods  
(ICCVMAM). The DOT is one of several Federal agencies that received the toxicological  
test method recommendations for consideration. The letter was referred to the Pipeline and  
Hazardous Material Safety Administration, the agency within DOT responsible for  
regulating the transport of hazardous materials in commerce and participation in the  
ICCVMAM. Dr. Birnbaum requested that we send the DOT response directly to you.

We reviewed the test method recommendations for the LLNA: BrdU-ELISA and the  
LLNA: DA, two nonradioactive versions of the murine local lymph node assay (LLNA),  
and the expanded LLNA applicability domain. We recognize that these test methods can  
be used to assess the potential of chemicals and products to cause allergic contact  
dermatitis. However, the Federal Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR 49 CFR 171-180), administered by the DOT, do not include requirements to determine if a material  
causes allergic contact dermatitis. The HMR apply to materials that pose acute hazards  
when transported in commerce (e.g, toxic and flammable gases; toxic, flammable and  
corrosive liquids).

I hope this information is useful. If we can be of further assistance or answer any  
additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Dr. George E. Cushmac,  
Chemist for the Division of Research and Engineering, of the Office of Hazardous  
Materials Safety at 202-366-4493.

Regards,

/s/

Cynthia L. Quarterman