



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

Administrator

1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

FEB 15 2008

Rear Admiral William S. Stokes
Executive Director, ICCVAM
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
P.O. Box 12233 (Mail Code EC-17)
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Dear Admiral Stokes:

Thank you for the letter to Secretary Peters from Samuel H. Wilson, Acting Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences which forwarded toxicological test method recommendations to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) from the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM). The DOT was one of several Federal agencies that received the toxicological test methods for consideration. The letter was referred to the Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA), the agency within DOT responsible for regulations on the transportation of hazardous materials and participation in ICCVAM. Mr. Wilson requested that we send the DOT response directly to you by April 28, 2008.

The DOT administers the Hazardous Materials Regulations and regulates the transportation of hazardous materials in commerce (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180). The HMR include, among others, materials that meet the definition for corrosive material. "Corrosive material (Class 8) means a liquid or solid that causes full thickness destruction of human skin at the site of contact within a specified period of time." "A liquid that has a severe corrosion rate on steel or aluminum based on the criteria in 49 CFR 173.137(c)(2) is also a corrosive material" (49 CFR 173.136(a)). The HMR do not include requirements to test materials for ocular corrosion or severe ocular irritation.

Thank you again for writing. I hope this information is useful.

Sincerely,

/s/

Carl T. Johnson