

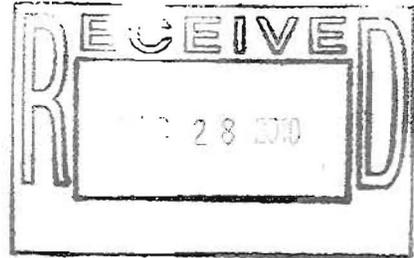


U.S. Department of Transportation
Pipeline and Hazardous Material
Safety Administration

Administrator

1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

DEC 20 2010



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 (ICCVAM). 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 ICCVAM. 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