



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Research and
Special Programs
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

APR 23 1998

Mr. Tom Metzner
Waste Bureau, Source Reduction
and Recycling Program
State of Connecticut
Department of Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Mr. Metzner:

This is in response to your inquiry regarding the applicability of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180) for the shipment of waste fluorescent light bulbs.

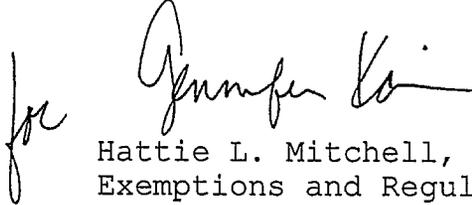
Specifically, you ask whether the shipping description "Hazardous waste, solid, n.o.s. (D009), 9, NA3077, PG III" or "Mercury contained in manufactured articles, 8, UN2809, PG I" is the appropriate shipping description for waste fluorescent light bulbs being transported by highway. For waste fluorescent light bulbs containing only trace amounts of mercury vapor, "Hazardous waste, solid, n.o.s. (D009), 9, NA3077, PG III" is the correct shipping description. "Mercury contained in manufactured articles, 8, UN2809, PG I" would apply as the shipping description for mercury meeting the corrosive definition in § 173.136. As indicated by the letter "A" in Column 1 of the Hazardous Materials Table, "Mercury, UN2809" is regulated only by air unless it is a hazardous waste or a hazardous substance (see § 171.8), in which case it is regulated by all modes. An exception in § 172.101(f) permits Packing Group III packagings for modes of transportation other than the mode indicated in Column 1.

With regard to the packaging requirements, "Hazardous waste, solid, n.o.s. (D009), 9, NA3077, PG III" must be packaged in accordance with the requirements specified in § 173.213. Packaging exceptions for limited quantities may be found in § 173.155. Packaging authorizations for "Mercury

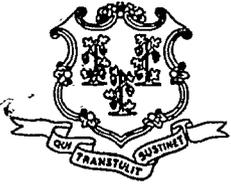
contained in manufactured articles, 8, UN2809, PG I" must be packaged in accordance with the requirements specified in § 173.164, and, as provided in § 173.164(c), are excepted from specification packaging if packaged in accordance with paragraph (c)(1). Packagings also must conform to the general requirements for transportation by aircraft contained in § 173.27.

I hope this information is helpful. If we may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hattie L. Mitchell".

Hattie L. Mitchell, Chief
Exemptions and Regulations Termination
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Mc Intyre
File: 172, App A
SC: 159,

August 15, 1996

United States Department of Transportation
Research and Special Programs
400 7th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Sir/Madam:

We are seeking clarification from your office as to the applicable U.S. DOT regulations concerning the transportation of hazardous waste mercury containing lamps. In particular we have several questions.

Common four and eight foot fluorescent lights as well as high intensity discharge lamps contain small amounts of mercury and when spent often qualify as a RCRA (EPA) hazardous waste. A typical four foot fluorescent lamp contains about 23mg of mercury and packages usually contain about 40 tubes. This Department has identified shippers that classify these lamps as "hazardous waste solid, n.o.s.", while others believe the lamps are more appropriately classified as "mercury contained in manufactured articles". Under 49 CFR, what is the appropriate hazard class for a mercury containing lamp being transported via motor carrier?

SEC

If classified as "mercury contained in manufactured articles", would the manufacturers original container for the lamps, if properly secured, be considered an acceptable package for the transportation of spent lamps i.e. 173.171(b), or is this only applicable to transportation by aircraft? If classified as a hazardous waste solid n.o.s., what packaging requirements of 40 CFR apply? 173.213?

? SEC/DHM-21.2

This information will help us with assistance to generators of mercury containing lamps seeking to recycle their lamps safely and in accordance with applicable regulations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (860) 424-3365.

Sincerely,

Tom Metzner
Tom Metzner

Waste Bureau, Source Reduction and Recycling Program