2136 Tetralin hydroperoxide, *technical pure. See* Organic peroxide, solid, n.o.s.

2160 1,1,3,3-Tetramethylbutyl hydroperoxide, *technical pure. See* Organic peroxide, liquid *or* solution, n.o.s.

2161 1,1,3,3-Tetramethyl butylperoxy-2-ethyl hexanoate, *technical pure. See* Organic peroxide, liquid *or* solution, n.o.s.

(49 U.S.C. 1803, 1804, 1808; 49 CFR 1.53, App. A to Part 1, and paragraph (a)(4) of App. A to Part 106.

Note.—The Materials Transportation Bureau has determined that the proposals in the notice, if implemented, would not result in a major economic impact under the terms of Executive Order 12044 and DOT implementing procedures (43 FR 9583) nor an environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act (49 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). A regulatory evaluation is available in the public docket.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on July 13, 1979.

Alan I. Roberts,

Associate Director for Hazardous Materials Regulation, Materials Transportation Bureau.

[FR Doc. 79-22370 Filed 7-25-79; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-60-M

[49 CFR Parts 172 and 173]

[Docket No. HM-159; Notice No. 79-12]

Forbidden Materials

AGENCY: Materials Transportation Bureau (MTB), Research and Special Programs administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This notice proposes to add the names of materials to the Hazardous Materials Table (49 CFR 172.101) that the MTB considers to be too hazardous to be permitted in commercial transportation. The proposed addition of materials to the Table has been modified in this notice based on comments received on the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published in the Federal Register on February 23, 1978 (43 FR 7449). Also, it is proposed that N-methyl-N'-nitro-N-nitrosoguanidine be listed in the Table as a flammable solid and a new § 173.179 be added prescribing the packaging requirements for this material. In addition, the MTB is proposing certain changes to §§ 173.21 and 173.51 pertaining to forbidden materials and packaging.

DATE: Comments must be received on or before October 18, 1979.

ADDRESS COMMENTS TO: Dockets Branch, Materials Transportation Bureau, Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles W. Schultz, Technical Division, Office of Hazardous Materials, Regulation, 2100 Second Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590, phone 202-755-4906.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On February 23, 1978, the MTB published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (43 FR 7449) concerning materials which are believed to be too hazardous to be permitted in commercial transportation. The Advance Notice included four lists of materials and requested that the public comment on the following three questions:

1. Should the Hazardous Materials Table be the consolidated central location for the listing of forbidden materials by chemical name or should that listing be placed in a separate section?

2. What, if any, additional materials should be identified in the regulations as forbidden?

3. Are there any materials listed in this notice which do not meet the regulatory criteria making them a forbidden material? If so, identify these materials and explain why they should not be considered forbidden materials.

A total of fifty-three comments were received and evaluated. Only one commenter was opposed to having a list of forbidden materials. The reasons for this opposition were that no list could be complete, the absence of a specific chemical from the list would imply that it is not forbidden, and there is no need for a list because the regulations provide criteria for prohibiting certain materials from being transported. The MTB disagrees and believes that all known materials considered to be too hazardous for transportation should be included in a list. This has been done previously, however, the list has not been as extensive as the list presently proposed.

All other commenters were in favor of incorporating forbidden materials in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR). Thirteen commenters stated that these materials should only be placed alphabetically in only 49 CFR 172.101 based on the fact that there should only be a single source list for all hazardous materials. Four commenters suggested that a separate list be provided in some other section of the regulations. This was based on the belief that a separate section would be easier to use and would more easily identify these materials. Five commenters stated that the forbidden materials should be put in both 49 CFR 172.101 and another section. The basis for this position is that the commenters felt that all materials should be included in the Table in § 172.101 but that the list of forbidden materials also be included in a separate section so that persons could more easily determine which materials are forbidden without a complete review of the Table in § 172.101. The MTB believes that placing the names of forbidden materials only in § 172.101 is better than the other two alternatives because: (1) A person using the regulations should start at the Hazardous Materials Table and if it is noted that a material is forbidden he does not have to look any further; (2) A person using the regulations could possibly overlook the forbidden materials if they were in a separate section; and (3) Placing the materials in both § 172.101 and another section results in unnecessary duplication of regulations, causes confusion, and does not contribute appreciably to safety.

Two commenters were concerned that if a material was shown as forbidden this would mean that solutions of that material or devices containing that material would also be forbidden. This is not the intent of the MTB and this is made clear in the proposed change to § 172.100.

Two commenters stated that certain triazoles have properties which would indicate they are forbidden but other triazole compounds do not have such properties. Pending further detailed investigation into these chemicals, triazoles are being removed from the proposed list. The same situation exists with triazones which were also deleted from the proposal.

One commenter submitted reports form the Bureau of Explosives (B of E) which classed the material, Bis 2-fluoro-2,2-dinitro ethylformal, (FEFO), as a Class A explosive. The MTB is in agreement with the report and, therefore, this material has been deleted from this proposed list as a forbidden material.

One commenter suggested that the material, nitroisobutanetriol trinitrate, be added to the list and another commenter stated that the material, t-butoxy-carbonylazide, should be added. Based on the information submitted on each of these materials, they have been added as forbidden materials. Two commenters recommended that the concentration of ketone peroxides be expressed in terms of active oxygen, rather than percentage of peroxide, and that the active oxygen content of these materials be limited to 9 percent. The MTB agrees with the data submitted and has incorporated such changes in this notice.

Twenty-five commenters opposed forbidding the transportation of N-methyl-N'-nitorsoguanidine because it is a very important reagent in cancer and mutagenic research. The MTB does not believe that the product should be shipped under § 173.65(d) which provides essentially no regulation. A proposal has been made for shipping limited amounts of this chemical in packagings recommended by the B of E. The MTB is proposing to class this material as a flammable solid when packaged in accordance with B of E recommended packagings.

In the Advance Notice it was proposed to list by name the forbidden explosives now appearing in § 173.51. The MTB has reconsidered this proposal and is now proposing to include two new entries in § 172.101 which are referenced to 173.51. These are "Forbidden Explosives" and "Explosives, forbidden." In this proposal, 173.51 has been rewritten to make it clearer and concise. The major proposed changes in this section include: the inclusion of most of the fireworks with explosives because fireworks are classed as explosives; the revision of the present entry "fireworks containing copper sulfate and a chlorate" to include any acidic metal salt and a chlorate due to the fact that the hazard of spontaneous combustion is not limited only to copper sulfate and a chlorate; and the inclusion of devices in an effort to be consistant with other sections of 49 CFR governing explosives which also include devices.

"Forbidden materials," with a reference to § 173.21, is a proposed new entry which did not appear in the Advanced Notice. Section 173.21 would be amended for clarification. This section applies to any material considered to be forbidden and is not limited to materials falling within established hazard classes. Included in the proposed revision of this section is a prohibition against the offering of packages that evolve a dangerous quantity of flammable gas or vapor released from a material not otherwise subject to the regulations, e.g. the release of flammable blowing agent vapors from a manufactured product in such quantities that an explosive mixture would be created within the transport vehicle. It is also proposed that each refrigeration method, when used as a means of stabilization, be approved by the Associate Director for Operations and Enforcement. This change is in accord with the approval withdrawals presently being handled by amendments published under Docket HM-163.

This proposed rulemaking, which would prohibit the transportation of certain materials known to be susceptible to accidental detonation in a fire (other than an explosive), is responsive to Recommendation No. 3 in the National Transportation Safety Board's report (No. NTSB-RAR-76-1) on the explosion which occurred in Wenatchee, Washington on August 6, 1974.

The principal drafters of this document are Charles W. Schultz and Delmer F. Billings, Office of Hazardous Materials Regulation, and George W. Tenley, Jr., Office of the Chief Counsel, Research and Special Programs Administration.

In consideration of the foregoing, it is proposed to amend Parts 172 and 173 of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, as follows:

PART 172—HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TABLE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COMMUNICATIONS REGULATIONS

1. In § 172.100 paragraph (d) would be revised to read as follows:

§ 172.100 Purpose and use of the table.

* * * * *

(d) Column 3 contains a designation of the hazard class corresponding to each proper shipping name or the word "Forbidden." A material for which the class entry is "Forbidden" may not be offered or accepted for transportation. The prohibition against the transport of chemicals and mixtures thereof applies to commercial or research grade material. This prohibition does not apply to these materials when diluted, stabilized or incorporated in devices, if they are classed in accordance with the definitions of hazardous materials contained in Part 173 of this subchapter. When re-evaluation of test data or new test data indicates a need to modify the hazard class or labels specified for a material specifically identified in § 172.101, these data should be reported to the Associate Director, Office of Hazardous Materials Regulation.

* * * * *

2. Section 172.101 would be amended by adding the following entries in alphabetical order in column 2, followed by the word "FORBIDDEN" in column 3. All entries would be in italics to indicate that they are not proper shipping names. Also, following the proposed list of forbidden materials is an entry "N-Methyl-N'-nitro-N-nitrosoguanidine which is to be added in bold type in alphabetical order with the described information in the appropriate columns:

§ 172.101 Hazardous materials table. [Amended]

Acetyl acetone peroxide with an available oxygen content exceeding 9 percent by weight.
Acetyl benzoyl peroxide, solid, or in solution exceeding 40 percent by weight.
Acetyl cyclo hexane sulfonyl peroxide wetted with less than 12 percent water by weight or a solution exceeding 32 percent by weight.
Acetylene (liquid).
Acetylene silver nitrate.
Acetyl peroxide, solid, or in solution exceeding 25 percent by weight.
Aluminum or magnesium dross, wet or hot.
Ammonium azide.
Ammonium bromate.
Ammonium fulminate.
Ammonium nitrite.
Antimony sulfide and a chlorate, mixtures of.
Arsenic sulfide and a chlorate, mixtures of.
Ascaridole (organic peroxide).
Azaurolic acid (salt of), (dry).
Azidodithiocarbonic acid.
Azidoethyl nitrate.
Azido guanidine picrate (dry).
5-Azido-1-hydroxy tetrazole.
Azido hydroxy tetrazole (mercury and silver salts).
3-Azido-1,2-Propylene glycol dinitrate.
Azotetrazole (dry).
Benzoxidiazoles (dry).
Benzene diazonium chloride (dry).
Benzene diazonium nitrate (dry).
Benzene triozonide.
Benzoyl azide.
Biphenyl triozonide
2,2-Bis(t-Butylperoxy) butane exceeding 55 percent by weight in solution.
2,2-Bis(4,4-ditertiary butylperoxy cyclohexyl) propane exceeding 42 percent by weight with inert solid.
Bis(1-hydroxytetrazole) (dry).
Bromine azide.
4-Bromo-1,2-dinitrobenzene (unstable at 59° C.).
1-Bromo-2-nitrobenzene (unstable at 59° C.).
Bromosilane.
1, 2, 4,-Butane triol trinitrate.
t-Butoxy carbonyl azide.
t-Butyl diperphthalate exceeding 55 percent by weight in solution.
n-Butyl peroxydicarbonate exceeding 52 percent by weight in solution.
t-Butyl hydroperoxide exceeding 90 percent by weight in water.
t-Butyl peracetate exceeding 76 percent by weight solution.
t-Butyl perisobutyrate exceeding 77 percent by weight in solution.
Cabazide.
Chlorine azide.
Chlorine dioxide (not hydrate).
Coal briquettes, hot.
Copper acetylide.
Copper amine azide.
Copper tetramine nitrate.
Cyanuric triazide.
Cyclotetramethylene tetranitramine (dry) (HMX).
Diacetone alcohol peroxide with an available oxygen content exceeding 9 percent by weight.
Diazodinitrophenol (dry).

p-Diazidobenzene.
1,2-Diazidoethane.
1,3 Diazopropane.
1,1' Diazoaminonaphthalene.
Diazoaminotetrazole (dry).
Diazodiphenylmethane.
Diazonium nitrates (dry).
Diazonium perchlorates (dry).
Dibenzyl peroxdicarbonate exceeding 87 percent by weight in water.
Dibromoacetylene.
Dichloracetylene.
N,N'-Dichlorazodicarbonamidine (salts of), (dry).
2,4-Dichlorobenzoyl peroxide wet with water exceeding 75 percent by weight of peroxide.
2,6-Dichloro-4-nitrophenol.
Diclopentylidene peroxide.
Diethanol nitrosamine dinitrate (dry).
Diethylgold bromide.
Diethyl peroxydicarbonate exceeding 27 percent by weight in solution.
1,8-Dihydroxy-2,4,5,7-tetranitroanthraquinone (chrysamminic acid).
Diidoacetylene.
Diisopropyl benzene hydroperoxide exceeding 75 percent by weight in solution.
2,5-Dimethyl—2,5-dihydroperoxy hexane exceeding 82 percent by weight in water.
Di(1-naphthoyl) peroxide.
Dinitro-7,8-dimethylglycouril, (dry).
1,3-Dinitro-5,5-dimethyl hydantoin.
1,3-Dinitro-4,5-dinitrosobenzene.
1,1-Dinitroethane (dry).
1,2-Dinitroetane.
Dinitroglycoluril.
Dinitromethane.
Dinitropropylene glycol.
2,4-Dinitroresorcinol (heavy metal salts of) (dry).
4,6-Dinitroresorcinol (heavy metal salts of) (dry).
3,5-Dinitrosalicylic acid (lead salt) (dry).
2,2-Dinitrostilbene.
2,4-Dinitro-1,3,5-trimethylbenzene.
Dinitrosobenzylamidine and salts of, (dry).
1,4-Dinitro-1,1,4,4-tetramethylolbutanetetranitrate (dry).
Di(beta-nitroxyethyl) ammonium nitrate.
a,a'-Di(nitroxy) methylether.
1,9-Dinitroxy pentamethylene-2,4,6,8-tetramine, (dry).
Ethanol amine dinitrate.
Ethylene diamine diperchlorate.
Ethylene glycol dinitrate.
Ethyl hydroperoxide (explodes above 100° C.)
Ethyl perchlorate.
Explosive forbidden, see § 173.51.
Forbidden Explosives, see § 173.51.
Forbidden Materials, see § 173.21.
Fulminating gold.
Fulminating mercury.
Fulminating platinum.
Fulminating silver.
Fulminate of mercury (dry).
Fulminic acid.
Galactsan trinitrate.
Glycerol-1,3-dinitrate.
Glycerol monogluconate trinitrate.
Glycerol monolactate trinitrate.
Guanyl nitrosamino guyanylidene hydrazine (dry).
Hexamethylene triperoxide diamine (dry).
Hexamethylol benzene hexanitrate.
Hexanitroazoxy benzene.
2,4,6,2',4',6' Hexanitro-4,4'-dihydroxyazobenzene (dry).
2,4,6,2',3',4',-Hexanitrodiphenylamine.
2,4,6,3',4',6',-Hexanitrodiphenylether.
N,N' (hexanitrodiphenyl) ethylene dinitramine, (dry).
Hexanitrodiphenyl urea.
Hexanitroethane.
Hexanitrooxanilide.
Hydrazine azide.
Hydrazine chlorate.
Hydrazine dicarbonic acid diazide.
Hydrazine perchlorate.
Hydrazine selenate.
Hydroxyl amine iodide.
Hyponitrous acid.
Iodoso and iodoxy compounds (dry).
Initiating explosives (dry).
Inositol hexanitrate (dry).
Inulin trinitrate (dry).
Iodine azide (dry).
Iridium nitratopentamine iridium nitrate.
Iso thiocyanic acid (polymerization hazard).
Lead azide (dry).
Lead mononitroresorsinate (dry).
Lead picrate (dry).
Lead styphnate (dry).
Mannitan tetranitrate.
Mercurous azide.
Mercury acetylide.
Mercury iodide aquabasic ammonobasic (Iodide of Million's base).
Mercury nitride.
Mercury oxycyanide.
Metal salts of methyl nitramine (dry).
Methazoic acid.
Methylamine dinitramine and dry salts thereof.
Methylamine nitroform.
Methylamine perchlorate, (dry).
Methylene glycol dinitrate.
Methylethyl ketone peroxide with an available oxygen content exceeding 9 percent by weight.
a-Methylglucoside tetranitrate.
a-Methylglycerol trinitrate.
Methyl isobutyl ketone peroxide with an available oxygen content exceeding 9 percent by weight.
Methyl nitrate.
Methyl picric acid, (heavy metal salts of).
Methyl trimethylol methane trinitrate.
Monochloroacetone (unstabilized).
Naphthalene diozonide.
Naphthyl amineperchlorate.
Nickel picrate.
Nitrated paper-(unstable).
Nitrates of diazonium compounds.
N-Nitroaniline.
m-Nitrobenzene diazonium perchlorate.
6-Nitro-4-diazotoluene-3-sulfonic acid, (dry).
Nitroethylene polymer.
Nitroethyl nitrate.
Nitrogen triiodide.
Nitrogen triiodide monoamine.
Nitroguanidine nitrate.
1-Nitro Hydantoin.
Nitro isobutane triol trinitrate.
Nitromannite, (dry).
N-Nitro-N-methylglycolamide nitrate.
2-Nitro-2-methylpropanol nitrate.
m-Nitrophenyldinitro methane.
Nitrosugars, (dry).
1,7-Octadiene-3,5-diyne-1,8-dimethoxy-9-octeadecynoic acid.
Pentanitroaniline, (dry).
Peracetic acid in excess of 40 percent concentration by weight.
Pentaerythrite tetranitrate (dry).
m-Phenylene diaminediperchlorate (dry).
Phosphorous (white or red) and a chlorate, mixtures of.
Potassium carbonyl.
Propionyl peroxide exceeding 28 percent by weight in solution.
Pyridine perchlorate.
Quebrachitol pentanitrate.
Selenium nitride.
Shaped charges (commercial) containing more than 8 ounces of explosives.
Silver acetylide (dry).
Silver azide (dry).
Silver chlorite (dry).
Silver fulminate (dry).
Silver oxalate (dry).
Silver picrate (dry).
Sodium picryl peroxide.
Sodium tetra nitride.
Sucrose octanitrate (dry).
Sulfur and chlorate, loose mixtures of.
Tetra azido benzene quinone.
Tetra ethylammonium perchlorate (dry).
Tetra methylene diperoxide dicarbamide.
Tetra nitro diglycerin.
2,3,4,6-Tetra nitrophenol.
2,3,4,6,-Tetranitrophenyl methyl nitramine.
2,3,4,6-Tetra nitrophenylnitramine.
Tetra nitro resorcinol (dry).
2,3,5,6-Tetra nitroso nitrobenzene (dry).
2,3,5,6-Tetra nitroso-1,4-dinitrobenzene.
Tetrazine (dry).
Tetrazolyl azide (dry).
Trichloro methyl perchlorate.
Triformoxime trinitrate.
Trimethylene glycoldiperchlorate.
Trimethylol nitro methane trinitrate.
1,3,5,-Trimethyl-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene.
Trinitro acetic acid.
Trinitroacetonitrile.
Trinitro amine cobalt.
2,4,6-Trinitro-1,3-diazobenzene.
Trinitroethanol.
Trinitroethylnitrate.
Trinitromethane.
2,4,6-Trinitroso-3-methyl nitraminoanisol.
1,3,5-Trinitronaphthalene.
2,4,6-Trinitrophenyl guanidine (dry).
2,4,6-Trinitrophenyl nitramine.
2,4,6-Trinitrophenyl trimethylol methyl nitramine trinitrate (dry).
2,4,6-Trinitro-1,3,5-triazido benzene, (dry).
Tri(beta-nitroxy ethyl) ammonium-nitrate.
Trinitrotetramine cobalt nitrate.
Tris, bis-bifluoroamino diethoxy propane (TVOPA).
Vinyl nitrate polymer.
p-Xylyl diazide.

For the material N-Methyl-N'-nitro-N-nitrosoguanidine, the following entries would be added to the Table: in Column 1, no entry; in Column 2, *N-Methyl-N'-nitro-N-nitrosoguanidine (not exceeding 25 grams in one outside packaging)*; in Column 3, Flammable solid; in Column 4, Flammable solid; in Column 5(a), none; in Column 5(b), 173.179; in Column 6(a) Forbidden; in Column 6(b),

Forbidden; in Column 7(a), 4; in Column 7(b), 5; and in Column 7(c); no entry.

* * * * *

PART 173—SHIPPERS—GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SHIPMENTS AND PACKAGING

3. Section 173.21 would be revised to read as follows:

§ 173.21 Forbidden materials and packages.

(a) Unless otherwise provided in this subchapter, the offering for transportation of the following is forbidden:

(1) A hazardous material in the same packaging, freight container, or overpack with another hazardous material, the mixing of which would be liable to cause a dangerous evolution of heat or gas, or produce corrosive materials, except as provided in §§ 173.152(a) and 173.242(a) and (b).

(2) A package containing a material which is liable to decompose or polymerize at a temperature of 130° F. (54.4° C.) or less with an evolution of a dangerous quantity of heat or gas unless stabilized or inhibited in a manner that will preclude such dangerous evolutions. Refrigeration may be used as a means of stabilization only when approved by the Associate Director for OE.

(3) Packages which evolve a dangerous quantity of flammable gas or vapor released from a material not otherwise subject to this subchapter.

(4) Packages containing materials (other than those classed as explosives) which will detonate in a fire.

(5) Any package containing a cigarette lighter or other similar device with fuel and equipped with an ignition element, unless the design of the device and its packaging insofar as they affect safety in transportation have been examined and approved by MTB. (An approval which was issued by the B of E remains valid to the same extent as if it had been issued by MTB.) For lighers containing gases, also see § 173.308.

4. Section 173.51 would be revised to read as follows:

§ 173.51 Forbidden explosives.

(a) Unless otherwise provided in this subchapter, the transportation of the following explosives is forbidden:

(1) Explosive compounds, mixtures or devices which ignite spontaneously or undergo marked decomposition when subjected to a temperature of 167° F. (75° C.) for 48 consecutive hours.

(2) New explosive compounds, mixtures or devices except as provided for in § 173.86.

(3) Explosive mixtures or devices containing an ammonium salt and a chlorate.

(4) Explosive mixtures or devices containing an acidic metal salt and a chlorate.

(5) Leaking or damaged packages of explosives.

(6) Nitroglycerin, diethylene glycol dinitrate or other liquid explosives not authorized by § 173.53 (e) or (h). (For shipment by motor vehicle other than by common carriers, see § 177.822(b) of this subchapter.)

(7) Loaded firearms.

(8) Fireworks that combine an explosive and a detonator or blasting cap.

(9) Fireworks containing yellow or white phosphorous.

(10) Toy torpedoes, the maximum outside dimension of which exceeds ⅞-inch, or toy torpedoes containing a mixture of potassium chlorate, black antimony, and sulfur with an average weight of explosive composition in each torpedo exceeding four grains.

5. A new § 173.179 would be added to read as follows:

§ 173.179 N-Methyl-N'-nitro-N-nitrosoguanidine.

N-Methyl-N'-nitro-N-nitrosoguanidine must be packaged as follows: Quantities may not exceed 25 grams and must be placed in a polyethylene bottle which is tightly closed and the closure secured in place with pressure sensitive tape. The bottle must be sealed in a polyethylene bag constructed of polyethylene at least 4 mils thick. The bag containing the bottle must be cushioned in a hermetically sealed can with non-combustible cushioning material. There must be at least one inch of cushioning material between any part of the bag and any inner surface of the can. The metal can must be cushioned in a DOT 12B fiberboard box constructed of at least 350 pound test fiberboard. There must be at least one inch of cushioning material between any surface of the can and any inner surface of the fiberboard box.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 1803, 1804, 1808; 49 CFR 1.53, App. A. to Part 1, and paragraph (a)(4) of App. A. Part 106.

Note.—The Materials Transportation Bureau has determined that this document does not contain a major proposal requiring the preparation of an economic impact statement under Executive Order 12044 and DOT implementing procedures (43 FR 9582), nor an environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act (49 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). A regulatory evaluation is available for review in the Docket.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on July 13, 1979.

Alan I. Roberts,

Associate Director for Hazardous Materials Regulation, Materials Transportation Bureau.

[FR Doc. 79-22371 Filed 7-25-79; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-60-M

[49 CFR Parts 171, 172, and 176]

[Docket No. HM-171; Notice No. 79-11]

Use of United Nations Shipping Descriptions

AGENCY: Materials Transportation Bureau, Research and Special Programs Administration, DOT

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This notice proposes to amend the Hazardous Materials Regulations to authorize the optional use of United Nations shipping descriptions and identification numbers for certain hazardous materials in place of the descriptions required by existing Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations. This proposal is intended to facilitate the international transportation of hazardous materials and to minimize the economic burdens imposed on shippers by the multiplicity of package markings and shipping paper descriptions now required to comply with both the domestic and international standards. In addition, the proposal would provide optional stowage locations for hazardous materials when transported by vessel. The optional stowage locations authorized are those provided for the particular hazardous material in the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code published by the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO).

DATE: Comments by October 18, 1979.

ADDRESS COMMENTS TO: Dockets Branch, Materials Transportation Bureau, Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590. Comments may be reviewed in the dockets Branch, Room 6500, Trans Point Building, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: LCDR Edward A. Altemos, USCG, International Standards Coordinator, Office of Hazardous Materials Regulation, Materials Transportation Bureau, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, D.C., 20590, 202-426-0656.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In recent years increasing worldwide recognition has been accorded the IMCO IMDG Code as the basic standard governing