



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Pipeline and  
Hazardous Materials Safety  
Administration**

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

OCT 18 2006

Mr. Keith K. Park  
President  
Prometheus International, Inc.  
6231 Bandini Boulevard  
Commerce, CA 90040-3113

Ref. No. 06-0209

Dear Mr. Park:

This responds to your letter regarding the applicability of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180) to a new model, refillable butane gas lighter. You provided in your letter a drawing of a "traveling" lighter design that contains three separate components that, when attached to each other and fueled, work as a standard gas lighter. You ask whether the top and bottom components may be carried aboard an aircraft separated from each other and without the fuel reservoir.

The answer is yes. A lighter that contains no fuel or residue thereof and does not contain any other hazardous material is not subject to the HMR. It appears that your lighter design would meet this requirement.

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA), the agency responsible for security in all modes of transportation, including civil aviation, has the authority to restrict passengers from carrying materials perceived as security threats. Therefore, TSA officials may confiscate materials that they believe to be security risks even if the materials are not classified as hazardous under the



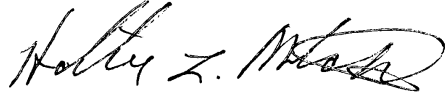
060209

171.8  
173.308

HMR. To be sure that your separated lighter components will not be confiscated, you should contact TSA concerning your device.

I trust this satisfies your inquiry. Please contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hattie L. Mitchell". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Hattie L. Mitchell  
Chief Regulatory Review and Reinvention  
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards

**Prometheus**

Stevens  
\$ 173.308  
\$ 171.8  
Lighters  
OB-0209

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Keith K. Park  
President  
Keith.Park@prometheuskkp.com

September 11, 2006

Mr. Kenny Herzog  
US Department of Transportation  
400 7th Street SW  
Room 8100-B  
Washington, DC 20590-0001

HAZMAT SAFETY  
DOT/RSPA  
06 AUG 12 AM 11:45

Dear Mr. Herzog,

I am writing you to ask for a clarification on our new butane gas, refillable lighter, Prometheus Traveler.

The unique feature of the Prometheus Traveler lighter is that the butane gas tank of the lighter can be easily removed from the upper and lower cases of the lighter. Once the gas tank is removed, it is impossible for the upper and lower cases to generate flame on their own. In other words, once the gas tank is removed, the upper and lower cases are not a lighter any more, and cannot function as a lighter. Please see the enclosed drawing.

We would like to know whether a traveler can carry the upper and lower cases of the Prometheus Traveler lighter (not assembled, but separately) into an airplane (of course, without their gas tank). Carrying the upper and lower cases of the Prometheus Traveler lighter into an airplane will be like carrying two metal pieces.

If you need any further information from us, please let us know.

Your prompt assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Best regards,



Keith K. Park