



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

1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**AUG 18 2009**

Capt. Bruce Bugg  
Georgia Department of Public Safety  
Motor Carrier Compliance Division  
P.O. Box 1456  
Atlanta, GA 30371

Ref. No. 09-0166

Dear Captain Bugg:

This responds to your e-mail of July 16, 2009, that requests we compare our response made to a January 9, 2007 letter (Ref. No. 06-0271) with the response we made in response to a similar inquiry presented to this Office in a September 8, 2000 letter (Ref. No. 00-0256) regarding the shipping paper and placarding requirements for materials poisonous by inhalation under the HMR (49 CFR; Parts 171-180). Specifically, the inquiry pertained to whether the shipping paper requirements of § 172.203(m) and the subsequent placarding requirements of § 172.505 apply to the description "Hydrogen fluoride, anhydrous, UN1052."

Because anhydrous hydrogen fluoride meets the definition of a material poisonous by inhalation (PIH) in § 171.8, shipments of "Hydrogen fluoride, anhydrous, UN1052" must conform to specific shipping paper, package marking, and placarding regulations applicable to PIH materials. Thus, the shipping paper must include the words "Poison – Inhalation Hazard, Zone C" immediately following the shipping description prescribed in § 172.203(m). Further, the package must be marked "Inhalation Hazard" in accordance with § 172.313(a). Additionally, the transport vehicle or freight container must be placarded with a POISON INHALATION HAZARD placard in addition to any other required placards prescribed in § 172.505(a).

We apologize for the contradictory response in this matter. The original September 8, 2000 letter (Ref. No. 00-0256) regarding this matter is correct and remains valid. The specific hazard zone to which a material is assigned and its physical state are not relevant to whether the requirements of §§ 172.203(m) and 172.505(a) apply. Our January 9, 2007 letter (Ref. No. 06-0271) on this matter will be amended accordingly as soon as possible.

I trust this addresses your concerns satisfactorily. Please contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

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

