



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

1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

OCT 21 2010

Mr. Aubrey Campbell
Senior Transportation Specialist
Baker Petrolite Corporation
12645 West Airport Boulevard
Sugar Land, TX 77478

Ref. No.: 10-0184

Dear Mr. Campbell:

This responds to your August 31, 2010 request for clarification of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180). According to your letter and subsequent telephone conversation with a member of my staff, you transport coiled tubing containing residual amounts of a Class 3 material, in Packing Group III. You indicate that the tubing holds 10 gallons at the most, but the tubing and spool weigh over 1000 pounds. Specifically, you ask if the completed package would meet the requirements of § 173.6.

Based on the information provided, the gross weight and capacity of the completed package is above the limits for MOTs provided in § 173.6(a)(1)(ii) (66 pounds or 8 gallons). Therefore, you may not use the MOTs exception.

You may wish to pursue transporting the packaging configuration you describe under § 173.29.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Supko".

Ben Supko
Acting Chief, Standards Development
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards

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\$173.6
MOT
10-0184



Baker Petrolite

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Sugar Land, Texas 77487-5050
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August 31, 2010

Office of Hazardous Materials Standards
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration,
Attn: PHH-10
U.S. Department of Transportation
East Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Re: Letter of Interpretation

Dear Office of Hazardous Materials Standards:

Baker Petrolite Corporation (BPC) requests a letter of interpretation regarding the packaging provisions in Title 49 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 173.6(b) Materials of Trade (MOT).

BPC operates as private motor carrier under US DOT # 312743. During well drilling operations, we flush Flammable liquid, n.o.s., PG III through metal tubing into the wellhead (see photo of coiled tubing). After operations, we retrieve the tubing from the well and coiled it on a spool. The coiled tubing contains residual amounts (approximately three gallons) of the product. Presently, we have no means to completely flush the product out of the coiled tubing.

We reviewed the MOT provision as a means to transport the coiled spool with residual flammable liquid back to our facilities for disposal of the product. Our concern is the MOT packaging provision, where it states, "Each material must be packaged in the manufacturer's original packaging, or a packaging of equal or greater strength and integrity."

We ensure the metal tubing is leak-proofed by capping both ends with shut off devices and we believe the metal tubing is of equal or greater strength and integrity of original packaging.

Please provide us an interpretation regarding this issue to help us promote the safe transportation of hazardous materials by highway.





