



OHM Newsletter

Office of Hazardous Materials

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION / OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY / WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

VOL. II Number 11

May 1972

NOTICES AND AMENDMENTS PUBLISHED DURING APRIL

HM-99; Notice No. 72-3 (37 F.R. 6747 - 4/4/72). This Notice proposes that provision be made for the shipment of certain gases in large cylinders or tubes mounted on a motor vehicle. Comment period closes July 11, 1972.

HM-100; Notice No. 72-4 (37 F.R. 6871 - 4/5/72). This Notice is a proposal to authorize shipment of ethylene oxide in insulated portable tanks and to upgrade specifications of tank cars authorized for ethylene oxide. Comment period to close July 18, 1972.

HM-101; Notice No. 72-5 (37 F.R. 7104 - 4/8/72). This Notice proposes specific detailed marking requirements and placing the name on the car of certain hazardous materials being transported by tank car. Closing date for comments is July 25, 1972.

HM-57; Notice of Board Action (37 F.R. 8383 - 4/26/72). The amendment published in HM-57 gave the compliance date as October 1, 1972 with effective date of December 31, 1972. This Notice of Board Action changes the compliance date to "immediate compliance." The effective date remains the same.

The closing dates for filing comments in the following dockets fall during May:

HM-97; Notice No. 72-1 -- May 31, 1972
HM-98; Notice No. 72-2 -- May 23, 1972

Notice of Special Permits issued or denied during April 1972.
(37 F.R. 9409 - 5/10/72).

COMPRESSED GAS CYLINDERS

To retest a cylinder; to repair a cylinder; to rebuild a cylinder -- What do these terms mean?

RETEST: Section 173.34 (e)(1) of the Hazardous Materials Regulations states:

"...retest must include a visual internal and external examination together with a test by interior hydrostatic pressure in a water jacket or other apparatus of suitable form for the determination of the expansion of the cylinder. The test apparatus must be approved as to type and operation by the Bureau of Explosives. The internal inspection may be omitted only for cylinders of the type and in the service described under subparagraphs (9) and (10) of this paragraph." (Emphasis added by underscoring.)

REPAIR:

The definition is basically the same for all cylinders in the 3, 4 and 8 Series. Repair is made by welding or brazing. Repairs include attachment, replacement or removal of non-pressure parts* such as neck-rings, collars, foot-rings and carrying handles.

In the case of a cylinder originally manufactured by the welding process, the weld seam itself can be repaired by welding only. If the cylinder was originally of brazed construction, it must be repaired by brazing only. See section 173.34 (h) (DOT-3A, 3AA, 3B, 3C) and 173.34 (i) (DOT-4 series and DOT-8 series).

*Note: A non-pressure part is one that is not stressed in any way by the pressure of the cylinder contents.

REBUILD:

The only cylinders permitted to be rebuilt are DOT-4 series and DOT-8 series welded or brazed cylinders. Section 173.34 (L)(1) states:

"The replacement of a pressure part such as wall, heads, or bottoms of cylinders or the replacement of the porous filling material, shall be considered as rebuilding."

Compressed Gas Cylinders Cont.

It should be noted that from time to time it might be necessary to replace a valve spud, flange, or fitting. Since these are pressure parts, their replacement would be considered as rebuilding.

In the coming months, we will discuss: Who can perform retest, repair and rebuilding services, and how do you evaluate your supplier of the retest, repair, and rebuilding services.

NEW EXPLOSIVES--REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Shippers of explosives and related items are reminded of the requirements of 49 CFR 173.86, particularly the portion in paragraph (a) that reads:

"Except for shipments of sample quantities as provided for in this section, a written notification of the classification and approval accompanied by a supporting laboratory report or equivalent data must be filed with the Department before the new explosive or explosive device is offered for shipment."

A number of notifications have been received without all of the required data. The classification and approval letter, laboratory test reports, and copies of any referenced documents must be submitted. In the event no testing was involved, the entire package of data which was used in the evaluation to establish the DOT classification and description must be submitted.

SPECIAL PERMITS

In the April issue of the Newsletter, emphasis was given to the requirements in the DOT Regulations concerning relief devices. Since that time, two requests for approval, submitted to the Bureau of Explosives in accordance with 49 CFR 173.34 (d), have been denied. In one instance, the cylinder was being shipped under special permit; the other was a cylinder under consideration for a special permit. In both cases, the relieving device failed to prevent explosion of the charged cylinder in a fire.

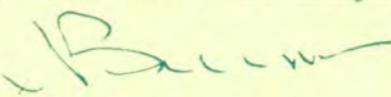
Shippers of compressed gases should make sure they have the Bureau of Explosives' approval on all safety devices being used.

RADIOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE DURING RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION INCIDENTS

For many years the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission has administered a highly effective program for making radiological assistance available to any person during incidents involving radioactive materials. A great number of instances in which assistance has been provided have involved the transportation of radioactive material. In its administration of this program, known as the "Radiological Assistance Plan," the AEC maintains a 24-hour response capability at eight of its regional operations offices. In many cases, through coordination by the AEC Field Office, the actual assistance may be provided by the nearest Department of Defense, State Health Department, or other local agency having a radiological monitoring capability.

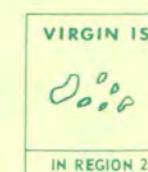
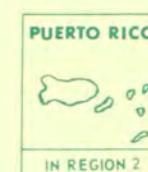
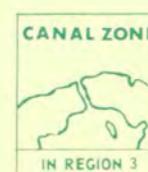
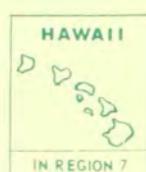
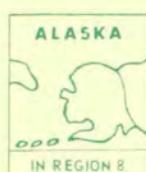
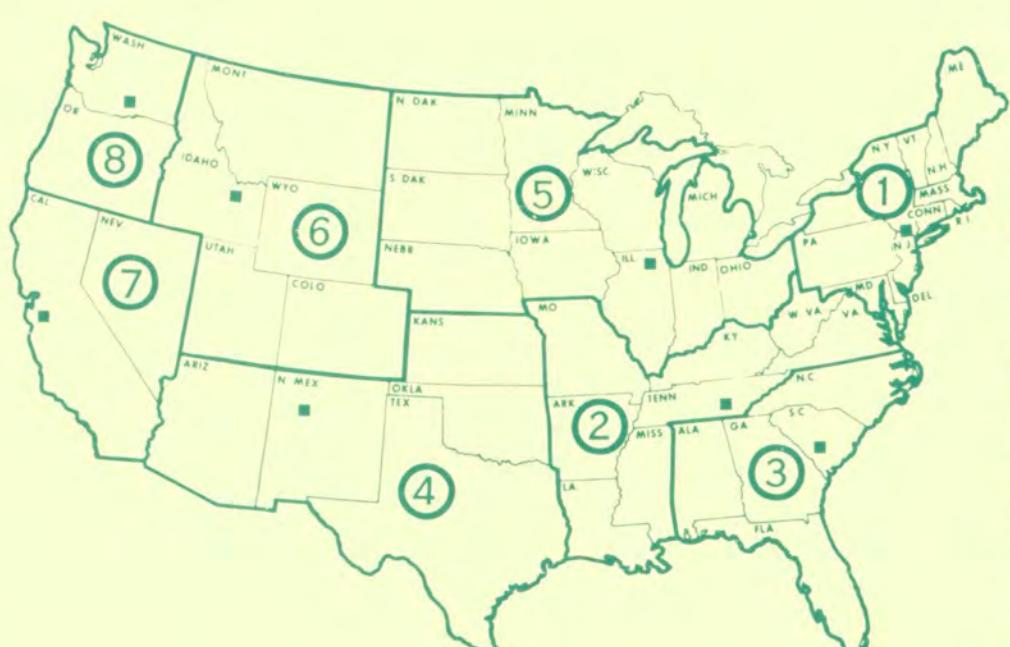
Although a great many of our readers may already be familiar with this AEC Radiological Assistance Plan, we are including a copy of the latest map of the AEC Regional Coordinating Offices and their geographical areas of responsibilities as well as their telephone numbers. We suggest that this map be distributed throughout your organization.

Your attention is invited to a recent OHM rule making in 49 CFR 171.15 and 171.16, Docket No. HM-36, (36 F.R. 2100), November 4, 1971, in which the transportation incident reporting requirements for radioactive materials were clarified. In the explanatory discussion published with those amendments, it was emphasized that the DOT requirements for immediate telephone and written reports of transportation incidents involving radioactive material (§§ 171.15, 171.16) were not intended to replace or affect in any way the existing AEC Radiological Assistance Plan. That system continues to function as a means whereby any person may obtain qualified radiological monitoring assistance in emergencies. The DOT reporting requirements as yet do not serve as a direct means of providing emergency assistance or response.



W. J. Burns

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
REGIONAL COORDINATING OFFICES
 FOR
RADIOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE
 AND
GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS
OF RESPONSIBILITY



REGIONAL COORDINATING OFFICE	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	TELEPHONE for ASSISTANCE	DDD AREA CODE
1 BROOKHAVEN AREA OFFICE	UPTON, L. I. NEW YORK 11973	924-6262 *	516
2 OAK RIDGE OPERATIONS OFFICE	P. O. BOX E OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37830	483-8611, Ext. 3-4510	615
3 SAVANNAH RIVER OPERATIONS OFFICE	P. O. BOX A AIKEN, S. C. 29801	N. AUGUSTA, S. C. 824-6331, Ext. 3333	803
4 ALBUQUERQUE OPERATIONS OFFICE	P. O. BOX 5400 ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87115	264-4667	505
5 CHICAGO OPERATIONS OFFICE	9800 S. CASS AVE. ARGONNE, ILLINOIS 60439	739-7711 Ext. 2111 duty hrs. Ext. 4451 off hrs.	312
6 IDAHO OPERATIONS OFFICE	P. O. BOX 2108 IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 83401	526-0111 Ext. 1515	208
7 SAN FRANCISCO OPERATIONS OFFICE	2111 BANCROFT WAY BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94704	841-5121 Ext. 664 duty hrs. 841-9244 off hrs.	415
8 RICHLAND OPERATIONS OFFICE	P. O. BOX 550 RICHLAND, WASHINGTON 99352	942-7381	509

*After June 4, 1972, this number will be: 345-2200.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, D.C. 20590

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