



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Research and
Special Programs
Administration**

The Administrator

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

MAR 14 2002

The Honorable Marion C. Blakey
Chairman
National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, DC 20594

Dear Madam Chairman:

This letter provides an update on a National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Safety Recommendation issued to the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA). The recommendation was issued following investigation of a multi-vehicle chain-reaction accident in Calhoun, Tennessee, on December 11, 1990.

Recommendation I-92-2:

Revise requirements for pressure-relief venting on U.S. Department of Transportation specification 57 portable tanks used to transport dicumyl peroxide and other products with similar rapid decomposition characteristics to ensure that the pressure-relief systems prevent overpressure rupture of tanks from a rapid product decomposition reaction.

RSPA Action:

In a final rule published June 21, 2001, (HM-215D; 66 FR 33434) (copy enclosed), in Section 173.225(e)(3), RSPA amended the Hazardous Materials Regulations to revise the pressure relief device and emergency relief device requirements for portable tanks, including DOT specification 57 portable tanks. These changes satisfy the requirements of the safety recommendation and based on RSPA's final rulemaking we request this safety recommendation be classified as "Closed Acceptable Action." We thank you for consideration of our request.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Ms. Suzanne Te Beau, Associate Administrator for Policy and Congressional Affairs, at (202) 366-4831.

Sincerely yours,

Ellen G. Engleman

Enclosure

