



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Research and
Special Programs
Administration**

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

NOV 7 2000

Ms. Stephanie Williams
Regulatory Affairs Engineer
Chemtech Finishing System
23177 Commerce Drive
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335

Ref. No. 00-0306

Dear Ms. Williams:

This responds to your letter, dated October 31, 2000, concerning transportation of lithium hydroxide under the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180). Specifically, you ask if you may rename a technically pure shipment of lithium hydroxide as a lithium hydroxide mixture or a corrosive solid mixture, n.o.s., in order to protect a trade secret.

The answer is no. As defined in the HMR, a "mixture" means a material composed of more than one chemical compound or element (see § 171.8). Technically pure lithium hydroxide is not a mixture and may not be so described on a shipping paper. Further, generic shipping names, such as corrosive solid, n.o.s., are to be used only for hazardous materials not specifically listed by name in the Hazardous Materials Table. As your letter notes, lithium hydroxide, solid, is listed in Column (2) of the table. Thus, the shipping description for technically pure lithium hydroxide is: Lithium hydroxide, solid, 8, UN 2680, PG II.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Thomas G. Allan
Senior Transportation Regulations Specialist
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards



00-0306

172.101



23177 Commerce Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48335
Phone: 248.478.5200 x 235
FAX: 248.478.6810

Gorsky
\$ 172.101

Proper Shipping Name
00-0306

October 31, 2000

Mr. Edward Mazullo
Director for the Office of Hazardous Material Standards
United States Department of Transportation/ Research & Special Programs Administration
400 7th Street SW
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter in order to get clarification on the definitions of mixture and solution. As defined in 49 CFR 171.8 (Rev. as of 10/01/99) the following definitions are used:

Mixture means a material composed of more than one chemical compound or element

Solution means any homogenous liquid mixture of two or more chemical compounds or elements that will not undergo any segregation under conditions normal to transportation.

The following scenario is what has occurred at my place of employment;

We have a product that is a repack and relabel of a raw material, lithium hydroxide. This compound is listed on the 172.101 Hazardous Material Table. The proper shipping name would be:

Lithium hydroxide, solid, 8, UN2680, PG II

What we would like to know is the following:

1. Is there an alternative way to name this technically pure material, such that it does not reveal a trade secret and still stay DOT compliant?

For example:

- a.) Lithium hydroxide solid mixture, 8, UN2680, PG II
- b.) Corrosive solid mixture, 8, UN2680, PG II (Contains Lithium hydroxide)

An answer as soon as possible would be greatly appreciated in order to keep a customer.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Williams
Regulatory Affairs Engineer