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## IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER

because of a very busy summer schedule. I've been out-of-town working and taking some vacation (you know, going to the beach to read the regulations and dockets). Anyway, this newsletter accounts for both June and July.

## WELCOME NEW READERS

to the monthly (or close to it) publication, *The Hazmat News Network*. This newsletter is absolutely free...without a single catch. Our goal at Regulatory Resources, Inc. is to provide information that may enhance your regulatory compliance efforts, such as docket actions, interpretations, and more.

**DOCKET ACTIVITY HAS NOT BEEN BORING!** And because so, this issue's space is being used to let you know the latest. Enjoy your reading adventure!

- May 28<sup>th</sup>: EPA published the final rule to the Phase IV LDR requirements. Most notable are the inclusion of TC metals into UHCs, the new treatment standards for soils, and newly listed radioactive mixed wastes. The final rule has various compliance dates but becomes effective overall on August 24, 1998. Get ready...this docket is 200+ pages!
- June 1<sup>st</sup>: RSPA published a notification (#98-6) that they are continuing the ticketing program for certain HM violations.
- June 2<sup>nd</sup>: The National Tank Truck Carriers, Inc. applied for a preemption determination regarding requirements imposed by the NY Department of Environmental Conservation on gasoline transport vehicles. Comments were due to DOT by 7/17/98 with rebuttals by 8/31/98.
- June 4<sup>th</sup>: RSPA published a notice of intent to establish a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee to develop recommendations for alternative safety standards for preventing and mitigating unintentional releases of hazmat during the unloading of cargo tank vehicles in liquefied compressed gas service. See the 7/16 RSPA docket.
- June 4<sup>th</sup>: RSPA published a formal interpretation on the HMRs concerning the responsibilities of a carrier when accepting HM for transport in commerce. Don't miss this one.
- June 5<sup>th</sup>: FHWA published a request for comment concerning the development of function specifications for performance-based brake testing machines purchased with MCSAP money. Comments are due to DOT by 8/4/98.
- June 8<sup>th</sup>: EPA issued a correction (minor) to the May 26<sup>th</sup> LDR final rule. That's all for this docket.
- June 8<sup>th</sup>: The FHWA published a correction to the Household Goods docket issued 5/15/98. That's all here too.

- June 9<sup>th</sup>: FHWA published a notice to provide a current listing (update) of all designated and restricted State routes for transporting HM that have been reported to the FHWA.
- June 11<sup>th</sup>: FHWA published a notice of final determination waiving certain Canadian electric utility motor carriers and drivers from the alcohol and controlled substance testing requirements in connection with certain limited emergency operations. The final determination was effective on 7/13/98.
- June 15<sup>th</sup>: The NRC published a final rule to amend their regs to add vitrified high-level waste contained in a sealed canister designed to transport the forms of plutonium which are exempt from the double-containment packaging requirements for plutonium. The effective date was 7/15/98.
- June 16<sup>th</sup>: FHWA published a NPRM concerning the marking of commercial motor vehicles and the submission of the Motor Carrier Identification Report that new motor carriers must submit to the FHWA. Comments are due by 8/17/98.
- June 18<sup>th</sup>: FHWA published a final rule to remove, amend and redesignate certain provisions of the FMCSR. Lots of stuff...get this one.
- June 19<sup>th</sup>: FHWA published a NPRM to amend the FMCSRs to require that motor carriers engaged in interstate commerce install retroreflective tape or reflex reflectors on the sides and rear of trailers manufactured before 12/1/93, have an overall width of  $\geq 80$ ", and have a GVWR of  $\geq 10,001$  pounds. Comments are due to FHWA by 9/17/98.
- June 29<sup>th</sup>: The EPA published a final rule that rewrites the PCB regulations of 40 CFR 761. The 90+ page docket amends, among other things, marking of "in-use" PCB items, disposal requirements, packaging requirements, sampling requirements, restoration activities, and more. The effective date of these changes is 8/28/98.
- July 10<sup>th</sup>: RSPA published a final rule, HM-166Y, regarding miscellaneous changes to the HMRs. Compliance to these changes is effective on 10/1/98.
- July 13<sup>th</sup>: FHWA published a extending the application period for, and requesting comments on the Motor Carrier Regulatory Relief and Safety Demonstration Project. Comments must be received by 8/12/98.
- June 16<sup>th</sup>: The Negotiated Rulemaking Committee is established and is to meet on 7/28 and 7/29/98 at DOT in DC.
- July 20<sup>th</sup>: FHWA published an ANPRM concerning the "North-American Uniform Out-of-Service Criteria". Comments are due by 9/18/98.
- July 20<sup>th</sup>: FHWA published an ANPRM to seek comments on the Safety Fitness rating program and its determinations. Comments are due by 9/18/98.