



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

188703
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RSDA - 1997 - 12599-3

August 15, 1997

Mr. David Core
Director, Technical & Regulatory Affairs
Steel Shipping Container Institute
1101 14th Street
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Core:

This is in reference to your May 20, 1997 application requesting an exemption from 49 CFR Section 178.601(g)(8) which specifies the changes in design elements which constitute a different drum design type requiring full design qualification testing.

Your application is returned for the following reason:

The subject of your application is not appropriate for consideration of an exemption because it involves a matter of such general applicability and future effect as to warrant being made the subject of rulemaking 49 CFR 107.113(i).

Your petition for rulemaking on the same subject has been placed in the public docket under P-1337.

Sincerely,

Alan I. Roberts
Associate Administrator for
Hazardous Materials Safety