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Georgia Department of Motor Vehicle Safety

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Commissioner

July 8, 2003

Dockets Management System
U.S. Department of Transportation
Room PL-401
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590-0001

RSPA-2003-15327-3

SUBJECT: RSPA-03-15327 (HM-206B)

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter responds to the rulemaking notice on Wednesday, June 11, 2003. In general, the Department of Motor Vehicle Safety supports the proposed changes to the regulations, with one exception. We believe that most of the changes will improve hazard communication, and enhance the safety of responders, enforcement officers, inspectors, and the general public.

However, the DMVS opposes the proposed revision to §172.400a(a)(i) that would allow toxic gases (Division 2.3) to bear a smaller warning label. While we recognize that the alternative marking and labeling for non-toxic gases has generally been an effective system, our experience is that many of these markings are often faded, torn, abraded, or otherwise deteriorated in use, and generally suffer from the same problems as labels.

Allowing toxic gases to bear a smaller label does not enhance communication and does not improve safety. The Department strongly feels that any material with either a primary or subsidiary hazard of Division 2.3 should be required to bear the full-sized toxic gas label. The CGA C-7 Appendix A marking would, however, be an acceptable addition to the standard labeling.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this rulemaking. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Capt. Bruce Bugg at 678.413.8825 or by e-mail at obbugg@dmvs.ga.gov.

Sincerely,

Neal B. Childers
Commissioner

NBC/bbm

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