



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous  
Materials Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

APR 16 2015

Ms. Robyn Kinsley  
Director, Transportation  
The Chlorine Institute  
1300 Wilson Blvd., Suite 525  
Arlington, VA 22209

Reference No. 14-0229

Dear Ms. Kinsley:

This is in response to your November 18, 2014 letter requesting clarification of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180) relating to a tell-tale indicator on a combination pressure relief device for a rail tank car. You ask if, in accordance with HMR § 179.100-13(a) the outlet for a tell-tale indicator which has a threaded outlet must be closed with an approved screw plug during transportation.

The requirement to close a tell-tale indicator having a threaded outlet with an approved screw plug does apply. The requirements for pressure relief devices are found in HMR § 179.15. For a combination pressure relief system, § 179.15(e)(2) requires that a tell-tale indicator be closed during transportation. The combination pressure relief system designed with a tell-tale indicator must be in compliance with the AAR approved design when utilizing a screw plug in the closed position.

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

Sincerely,

Duane A. Pfund  
International Standards Coordinator  
Standards and Rulemaking Division