National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, D.C. 20594

Office of the Chairman

APR 0 1 2005

APR - 7 2005

Ms. Stacey Gerard
Acting Chief Safety Officer
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
400 7th Street, S.W., Suite 8410
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Ms. Gerard:

Thank you for the December 28, 2004, response to the National Transportation Safety Board, signed by Mr. Samuel G. Bonasso, Deputy Administrator, Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), regarding Safety Recommendation H-02-25, stated below. This recommendation was issued to RSPA as a result of an accident south of Ramona, Oklahoma, on May 1, 2001, involving a truck that went out of control and overturned; the truck had horizontally mounted cylinders filled with compressed gas.

H-02-25

> Revise the information about hydrogen in the North American Emergency Response Guidebook so that it specifically identifies the unique chemical and flammability properties of hydrogen.

The Safety Board notes that on September 4, 2004, RSPA published and distributed the 2004 North American Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) to all States for distribution to emergency responders. Because the 2004 ERG Guide 115 now contains information on the difficulty of detecting and extinguishing hydrogen-fueled fires, as recommended, Safety Recommendation H-02-25 is classified "Closed—Acceptable Action."

Thank you for your commitment to highway and hazardous material transportation safety.

Sincerely,

Mark V. Rosenker
Acting Chairman

cc: Ms. Linda Lawson, Director
Office of Safety, Energy, and Environment
Office of Transportation Policy