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RSPA Extends RESIDUE Placard Date

September 19, 1986

Lack of RESIDUE placard supplies--creating difficulties in compliance with the October 1 change from EMPTY to RESIDUE in unloaded, unpurged rail tank cars--has led the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) to delay the effective date for Docket HM-180, "Placarding Tank Cars Which Contain Hazardous Materials Residue."

RSPA states in its notice, to be published soon in the Federal Register, that it has received "numerous telephone calls from shippers and carriers regarding the unavailability of RESIDUE placards from suppliers." The new effective date for required use of RESIDUE placards is March 3, 1987.

As a side note, RSPA personnel observe that the new implementation date may coincide with the implementation of RESIDU(E) placards in Canada, helping to ease operational difficulties arising from differences in placard requirements on transborder rail shipments. (See Courier V, 8 for more information on Transport Canada's RESIDU(E) placard.)

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