



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS

JUN 20 1994

Mr. Gary C. Rosenfield  
President, AeroTech, Inc.  
1955 South Palm Street, Suite 15  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89104

Dear Mr. Rosenfield:

This is in response to your letter dated May 5, 1994, to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms requesting a clarification regarding rocket motors that are exempted under 27 CFR 55.141(a)(8). The exemptions contained in 27 CFR 55.141 lists those items specifically exempted by law in 18 U.S.C. section 845 and those other items that do not constitute a public safety threat. ATF coordinates the definitions of devices and items exempted with other Federal agencies, including the Department of Transportation and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

We intended to exempt only those items that meet all of the requirements we listed in our letter to you dated April 20, 1994, including the requirements of the CPSC. We did intend to include in the exemption the rocket motors that are classified as 1.4S UN 0349, and that have been assigned a proper shipping name of Articles Explosives, N.O.S.

We are currently coordinating with the Federal Aviation Administration and are closely following the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) development of NFPA standard 1127. We also had representatives attend the Tripoli Sanctioned, Battle Park 94 rocket launch in Culpepper, Virginia, on May 21 and 22. When we have concluded these activities, we will be better able to address your questions regarding how the assembly of high-power rockets that contain more than 4 ounces of propellant will be regulated under the Federal firearms laws contained in 18 U.S.C. chapter 44 and 26 U.S.C. chapter 53.

Mr. Gary C. Rosenfield

If you need further technical assistance, please contact Explosives Enforcement Officer Roy Parker at (202) 927-8030.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James L. Brown", with a large, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

James L. Brown  
Chief, Explosives Division