STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PETE WILSON, Governor

AIR RESOURCES BOARD
2020 L STREET
P.O. BOX 2815
SACRAMENTO, CA 95812

August 18, 1993

Larry Wohlford
Quality Manager
Richards Industries
Route 3, Box 45
Rockwood, TN 37854

#93-17

Dear Mr. Wohlford:

Approval of the Richards VA-51 Breakaway Coupling

You requested California Air Resources Board (CARB) approval of the Richards Industries VA-51 Safe-T-Gard Breakaway Coupling.

The Richards Industries Model VA-51 Safe-T-Gard inverted coaxial non-swiveling aluminum emergency breakaway coupling consists of a male spud and a double female body assembled within a sleeve. Each spud and body contains an integral fluid check valve. Separation occurs when the coupling assembly is subjected to a pull force not exceeding 275 pounds. Once separation occurs preloaded steel balls are forced against a stainless steel spring, thus releasing the male spud. The Model VA-51 breakaways are for use with gasoline dispensing devices having vapor recovery capabilities and working pressures not exceeding 50 psi. The device is used between two gasoline hose assemblies to safeguard against abnormally excessive pull forces on the hose assembly and dispenser.

As required by the Air Resources Board certification procedures, you requested the approval of the Division of Occupational Safety and Health, the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Measurement Standards. The necessary approvals have been obtained from these agencies.

I find that the use of the VA-51 breakaways, when installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, will not adversely affect the performance of vapor recovery systems on which they are installed. Therefore, the Richards Industries VA-51 Safe-T-Gard inverted coaxial breakaway couplings are certified for use on vacuum assist Phase II vapor recovery systems with an inverted coaxial hose and bootless nozzle configuration.

If you have any questions, please call Basharat Iqbal at (916) 324-7343 or Laura McKinney at (916) 327-1525.

Sincerely,

James J. Morgester, Chief
Compliance Division

cc: Vapor Recovery Technical Committee