



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
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September 16, 2021

Mr. Jay Howell
Executive Director
American Fireworks Standards Laboratory
5550 Friendship Boulevard, Suite 420
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Email: Jay.Howell@afsl.org

Subject: Information Request Regarding Cool Burning Sparklers

Dear Mr. Howell:

Recently, CPSC staff¹ became aware of a product described as a “cool burning sparkler,” which advertises multiple, functional differences than traditional sparklers. Notably, cool burning sparklers emit a shower of sparks that are described as “cooler to the touch” and do not appear to use the traditional steel wire support. The core material is consumed as it burns, leaving behind a handle that is a couple of inches in length.

CPSC staff seeks additional information about this new sparkler type to learn more about the potential to reduce common injuries caused by traditional sparklers, such as skin burns and incidents of clothing catching fire. Types of information we would find beneficial include:

- Chemical make-up of these devices;
- Temperature range of the device while burning, and of the sparks emitted;
- Instructions for the safe use of these sparklers; and
- Other pertinent information or data not specified above.

Finally, staff would like to know if revised sparkler requirements, or a new classification for this sparkler type, may be needed in AFSL 111. CPSC staff is requesting that the AFSL standards committee review this issue at an upcoming meeting and determine whether any revisions to the referenced standard would be beneficial. Staff is also seeking input from other fireworks standards organizations.

¹ This letter is from CPSC staff and has not been reviewed or approved by, and may not represent the views of, the Commission.

I look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rodney Valliere". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rodney Valliere, Ph.D.
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Division of Chemistry; Laboratory Sciences

Cc: Jacqueline Campbell, CPSC Voluntary Standards Coordinator
(VoluntaryStandards@cpsc.gov)