colors specified by ANSI and described above. Thus, the proposed label will not change the present requirement that the label shall be in a "color sharply contrasting with the background" and that the borderline shall be "heavy." Examples of color combinations that the Commission's staff considers to be sharply contrasting, in order of expected visual efficiency, are: black on white; black on yellow; white on black; dark blue on white; white on dark red, green, or brown; black on orange; dark green and red on white; white on dark gray; and black on light gray. [9] Examples of colors that may not be considered sharply contrasting are: black on dark blue or dark green, dark red on light red, light red on reflective silver, and white on light gray or tan. See 16 CFR 1500.121(d).

Processing Safety Messages. To make the label easier to read and understand, the Commission proposes that the messages be presented concisely and in an outline form, be presented in a horizontal format, be left-justified with a ragged right margin, be in upper and lower case lettering, be in the appropriate point-type, have an acceptable strokewidth-to-height ratio, and have sufficient space between lines of text. [6, Tab E(1)]

Type Size. The Commission's Human Factors staff determined that in order for the label's type to be legible and conspicuous, 18-point type would be required. [6, Tab E(1)] Thus, the proposed revision specifies 18-point type (3/16 inches) as the minimum allowable type size for the safety messages. The signal word shall be in at least 27-point type (9/32 inches).

Label Šize. When the minimum specified type sizes are laid out in the configuration specified in the proposed revised label, the label is 2 inches high. Accordingly, this is the minimum allowable height of the label, and this size is suitable for the smallest-size bags of charcoal presently marketed (2.5 lb.).

An industry member raised the question of whether the label can or should be proportionately larger for larger-size bags. The Commission recommends that larger bags use larger labels to the extent feasible. The Commission solicits comment on whether it should, in the final rule, require that labels be proportionately larger for larger bags. If the Commission requires proportionately larger labels, it could require larger type sizes for specified ranges of the area of the front and back panels of the package. Comment is solicited on the appropriate parameters and on the potential economic effects of larger labels on larger bags.

The proposed revised label is taller than the currently required label. The current label is required to be at least 2 inches from the top seam. In order to maintain this required distance, the bottom edge of a taller label would have to be lower on the bag. This could interfere with existing graphics, which would then have to be redesigned. This could require additional modifications to printing plates and increase the cost of the proposed label revision, without providing any identifiable safety benefit. Therefore, the Commission is proposing to change the minimum allowable distance from the top seam to the label from 2 inches to 1 inch. This would allow the taller label to be printed without affecting other printing lower on the bag

The Commission proposes to retain the current requirements that the label must be on both the front and back panels of the bag and in the upper 25% of the panels.

## F. Economic and Product Information [6, Tab G]

Charcoal is a solid carbon material made from wood subjected to extremely high temperature. It is available in lump, briquet and powdered forms. To produce charcoal briquets, charcoal is ground, mixed with other ingredients, and pressed into pillow shapes. Lump and briquet charcoal is used as a fuel in cooking and in specialized scientific, industrial and horticultural applications. Recreational cooking consumes approximately 80–90% of charcoal production. Specialized uses account for the remainder of charcoal consumption.

Nearly 800,000 tons of charcoal briquets were sold in 1992. Charcoal briquet sales doubled between 1967 and 1977, were relatively flat during the 1980's, and have shown a slight rise since 1991. The popularity of gas grills may explain the flattening of sales during the 1980's. Charcoal briquet sales account for approximately 80–90% of the annual production of charcoal. Imports comprise less than 1% of the domestic sales of charcoal.

Supermarkets and hardware, discount, drug, and garden supply stores sell charcoal to consumers in a variety of types and packages. Three major types of charcoal briquets are available. One is the standard briquet. Another is the "instant-light" briquet, which is impregnated with a flammable substance. The third is a "flavor additive" briquet which is produced with an aromatic wood such as hickory or mesquite. Standard briquets generally are sold in multi-walled (multi-layered) 5, 10, 20 and 40-pound paper bags. The

instant-light briquets are available in similar  $2^{1/2}$ , 4, 5, 8, and 15-pound bags. Briquets are also available in single use, wax impregnated, "light-the-bag packages. Lump charcoal, which is pure charcoal, is marketed as a natural product and is available in packaging similar to briquets. Charcoal also may be sold in other sizes of bags or in corrugated boxes depending upon marketing considerations. Based on an informal study of the Washington, D.C. area market, the retail price of charcoal ranges from approximately \$.25 to \$.75 per pound depending on package size, although the retail price of some specialty charcoal may be higher.

Approximately 10 companies manufacture lump and briquet charcoal in the United States. Several companies import charcoal. According to industry representatives, the top five domestic charcoal manufacturers control an estimated 90–95% of the market, with the leading company controlling approximately 50%. Manufacturers provide lump charcoal and charcoal briquets under an estimated 150 different brand names, most of which are private or "store" brands. Relatively few are nationally or regionally marketed brands.

An estimated 47.5 million households own charcoal grills. Based on a survey conducted by the Barbecue Industry Association, the number of "barbecuing events" more than doubled over a 10year period, with an estimated 2.3 billion occurrences in 1991. [5] Based on ownership and usage data obtained through this survey, an estimated 800 million of these barbecuing events used charcoal. These data indicate that there was an estimated average of 17 charcoal barbecuing events per year per household that owned a charcoal grill. It is also estimated that, on average, each of these households uses the equivalent of 3.4 10-pound bags of charcoal per year.

There are approximately 26 deaths and 400 CO-related emergency roomtreated injuries associated with the use of charcoal each year. Thus, there was approximately one death for every 1.8 million households owning charcoal grills and one CO injury for every 118,750 households owning charcoal grills. Additionally, there were an estimated 160 million bags of charcoal briquets sold in 1992. Thus, there was approximately one death for every 6.2 million charcoal briquet bags (0.16 deaths per million bags) and one CO injury for every 0.4 million bags (2.5 injuries per million bags).

The Commission estimates that changing the labeling requirements for packages of charcoal has the potential