



April 6, 2010

Dorothy Dougherty  
Director  
Directorate of Standards and Guidance Room N-3718  
Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Ms. Dougherty:

The American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) is pleased to offer our support for the nomination of James R. Thornton to serve on the Maritime Advisory Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (MACOSH). Mr. Thornton is highly qualified to participate on MACOSH by virtue of his experience, knowledge and expertise in the Maritime industry.

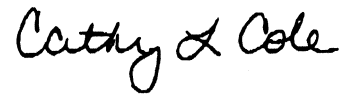
Mr. Thornton is a Past President of the AIHA, a Past President of the Academy of Industrial Hygiene, is a Certified Industrial Hygienist and a Certified Safety Professional. In addition to Mr. Thornton's service as President of AIHA, Mr. Thornton has served in numerous other capacities within the organization, spending countless hours to not only improve the health and safety of workers but improve the profession of industrial hygiene. These past and present efforts will be a tremendous asset to MACOSH.

Mr. Thornton has over 30 years experience in managing an OSHA VPP STAR site program. Northrop Grumman Newport News is the largest VPP site in the U.S., and the only private shipyard in the program. Mr. Thornton has worked closely with multiple unions at Northrop, was awarded the OSHA IMPACT Award for his service on the predecessor of MACOSH, and served on a blue ribbon panel to evaluate health and safety programs in the branches of service at the Dept. of Defense, including the U.S. Navy.

AIHA is pleased to support the nomination of Mr. Thornton and he has committed to avail MACOSH with the necessary time to this important effort. Not only does AIHA support his reappointment to, but AIHA also recommends that Mr. Thornton be reappointed as Chairman of MACOSH. Based upon our conversations with various stakeholders, media, etc., there is considerable support for the leadership provided by Mr. Thornton as Chairman of this Committee.

If you require additional information, please contact me. As requested, his resume is attached and his specific contact information is provided below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathy L. Cole". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cathy L. Cole, CIH, CSP  
AIHA President

Contact Information:

James R. Thornton  
Director, Environmental, Health and Safety  
Building 500-1, Department K08  
Northrop Grumman Newport News  
4101 Washington Avenue  
Newport News, Virginia 23607