



June 1, 2018

Chemical Safety Board: Nominate and Confirm, Without Delay, Two Board Members – At Least One of Whom Should Be a Certified Industrial Hygienist

Dear President Donald J. Trump and Members of the US Senate:

On behalf of the American Industrial Hygiene Association® (AIHA), I urge you to nominate and confirm, without delay, two members of the US Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, commonly known as the Chemical Safety Board. AIHA strongly recommends that one, if not both, of these nominees should be a Certified Industrial Hygienist® (CIH), as the expertise and skills of those who have earned the CIH are in line with the goals and work of the Board – to investigate and prevent chemical accidents at industrial facilities. Such expertise is essential, given that the Board’s deliberations and actions have far-reaching implications for businesses, workers, and the communities that surround facilities. For these same reasons, AIHA believes that providing the Board with a full complement of five members will improve the quality of its deliberations.

This letter is spurred by the impending resignation of the Board’s current Chairwoman, Vanessa Allen Sutherland. AIHA’s strong recommendation that at least one of the nominees should be a CIH is based upon the skills, knowledge, and expertise possessed by these individuals. Industrial hygienists anticipate health and safety concerns and design solutions to prevent them. They are the guardians of workplace safety, applying science to identify and solve health and safety problems. Industrial hygienists also unite management, workers and all segments of a company behind the common goal of health and safety. More than half of AIHA’s members have earned the CIH designation, and AIHA has chosen to support this professional credential because our members, and the businesses and organizations they work for, see its value to consumers and the market alike. This value flows directly from the paths certain professionals take to achieving this distinction. The CIH is known around the world as the most commonly recognized certification in the industrial hygiene profession, and is referenced in State regulations throughout the nation. The path to becoming a CIH is challenging; individuals must meet the requirements for education and experience as set forth by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene® (ABIH), adhere to a high standard of ethical conduct, and demonstrate, through the completion of a required examination, an acceptable level of skills and knowledge in a number of different areas, including¹:

¹ For additional information on the process for becoming a Certified Industrial Hygienist®, please visit <http://www.abih.org/about-abih/cih-caih>.

- Air Sampling & Instrumentation
- Analytical Chemistry
- Basic Science
- Biohazards, including Mold
- Biostatistics & Epidemiology
- Community Exposure
- Engineering Controls/Ventilation
- Ergonomics
- Health Risk Analysis & Hazard Communication
- Industrial Hygiene Program Management
- Noise
- Non-Engineering Controls
- Radiation – Ionizing and Nonionizing
- Thermal Stressors
- Toxicology
- Work Environments & Industrial Processes

Background on AIHA

AIHA and our members have the expertise to help prevent, mitigate, and respond to workplace hazards – including chemical accidents at industrial facilities. Our expertise is based upon solid credibility built from 79 years of service to the industrial hygiene and occupational and environmental health and safety communities. We also have a reach that extends to help protect millions of people. Specifically, AIHA has 8,500 members throughout the United States and its territories who represent a cross-section of industry, private business, labor, government, and academia. We have Local Sections throughout the United States and more than 50 volunteer groups. We also have formal and informal partnership agreements with governmental and nongovernmental organizations that represent the full spectrum of worker health and safety vocations.

Next Steps

AIHA and its members stand ready to assist you in identifying potential nominees. For additional information, please contact Mark Ames, AIHA's Director of Government Relations, at mames@aiha.org or 703-846-0730.

Sincerely,



Cynthia A. Ostrowski, CIH, FAIHA
President
American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)