



October 16, 2015

Mr. Brian D. Gumm  
Center for Effective Government  
2040 S St NW, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Mr. Gumm:

Thank you for your interest in the American Chemistry Council's (ACC) Responsible Care® program. As you know, Responsible Care is the global chemical industry's hallmark performance initiative, now practiced in more than 60 countries around the globe. Since 1988, Responsible Care has helped American Chemistry Council (ACC) member companies significantly enhance their performance, discover new business opportunities, and improve employee safety, the health of the communities in which they operate and the environment as a whole, moving us toward a safer, more sustainable future.

ACC's Responsible Care initiative establishes several requirements for practicing companies, including: signing onto Guiding Principles; implementing and certifying to a comprehensive environment, health, safety and security management system, at both the HQ and facility levels; public reporting of performance information; and adherence to focal areas covered by Process Safety, Product Safety and Security Codes. Responsible Care companies go beyond regulatory requirements in meeting these program expectations.

Regarding the implementation and certification to a comprehensive environment, health, safety and security management system requirement, Responsible Care companies undergo field audits at their headquarters and facilities every three years using independent, third-party auditors. If the audit process reveals system non-conformances in any area of the certification technical specification – including regulatory compliance - the company must demonstrate that corrective actions have been taken to remedy the deficiency in order to achieve certification.

If a company fails to achieve certification, or any of the other program elements such as performance reporting or Code implementation, ACC executes a Board-approved "governance process." This process establishes a series of escalating steps to address the non-conformance, ultimately resulting in a company's removal from ACC membership if it fails to achieve the program's requirements. ACC's Board of Directors has fully executed this process on several occasions, removing companies from its membership that failed to meet program requirements.

ACC's objective, however, is to keep as many companies actively implementing the program and striving to continuously improve their performance as possible. All Responsible Care companies are required to

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have a system in place to manage, measure and verify their performance on specific environmental, energy, safety and accountability measures, and these results are reported and updated annually on the ACC website: <http://responsiblecare.americanchemistry.com/Performance-Results>. Metrics reported include: hazardous air pollutants released, SOx and NOx emissions, water consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficiency, number of process safety incidents, DOT-reportable incidents, and occupational safety incidents.

Through Responsible Care, ACC convenes a multitude of forums each year for companies to discuss performance challenges and gain insight from peers in addressing them. An ongoing topic of conversation within these gatherings is how Responsible Care requirements can be strengthened to address particular performance challenges and opportunities. The Process Safety and Product Safety Codes, new program elements that were approved in 2012, were a direct outgrowth of an identified need to strengthen performance in these areas.

Again, thank you for your interest in Responsible Care. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me in the future.

Sincerely yours,



Debra M. Phillips