

2010 Annual Report of the President

Council of Industrial Boiler Owners

**October 21, 2010
Williamsburg Lodge
Williamsburg, Virginia**

It is CIBO's 32nd Annual Meeting. There are days when it seems it was only a year or so ago, in 1994, when I came to CIBO to take over from Bill Marx, our founder, in 1995 as he retired. In these last 15 years I cannot think of any time when we, the industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) energy users and producers, have been accosted by so many extreme environmental regulations from every possible direction – water, earth and air – trying to put out our fire.

Within the last two years, this Administration has thwarted any sense of, or desire for reasonableness and energy, economic and environmental balance within the environmental regulatory development process that was generated over the 22 years of the Bush, Clinton and G.W. Bush administrations. So much so, it now threatens the very real survival of many of our facilities and the jobs of thousands of employees in this time of lingering/stagnating recession.

If there is any reason to be here, this is it; and I am glad I am here with you, the best and brightest energy and environmental engineers, technical, marketing and management people across all industries and institutions within the country. I have seen, and I believe this EPA now knows, that as small as CIBO may be, when CIBO members come together on an issue, we are a force to be reckoned with. How we develop that force, focus our efforts is why we are here. I am optimistic, more so than usual. Good things can happen when we work together for energy, environmental and economic survival, growth and sustainability.

To date, as I said last year, participation is up in all areas of CIBO activity; and we are doing even more than last year. Again as you have heard from the Membership Committee and our Treasurer, we continue to hold our own and do better than could be expected considering the financial state of the country and the regulatory uncertainty impacting energy and environmental

projects. Because of the core technical knowledge and support of our members and consultants, CIBO continues to hold a strong and highly credible leadership position on all the major energy and environmental issues.

We have their attention. As we increase our efforts and pursue activities and litigation to maintain and achieve positive results, the cost of holding their attention grows. CIBO dues alone are never enough to fund this activity and it is carried out with voluntary contributions from those that have the most to gain (or lose) depending on the outcome. The need for your help and consideration, at this time, for these efforts, cannot be overstated.

CIBO staff: Candy and Gail are great. We could not have better people handling CIBO's committee, membership, meeting and office administrative needs. It never stops amazing me how much they can do. I cannot describe how much I appreciate their effort, attitudes and support. I say every year, you tell us what you would like to see or do, and we will do everything we can to make it happen. They are the ones who really make it happen.

Next year's meetings are set. The quarterly meetings are again at the Radisson Crystal City; the FBC Conference is in Hershey, Pennsylvania; the Industrial Emissions Control Technology Conference is, again by popular mandate, back at the Holiday Inn in Portland, Maine; and, the Annual Meeting will be in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Last year we had to turn away presentations at the conferences because members did not let us know they wanted to make or suggest a presentation until it was too late. We will do our best to get everyone in without going to multiple tracks or adding days to the meetings.

CIBO consultants and outside support: Looking at this year, the number and magnitude of our comments on EPA issues, the number of Hill visits and advocacy efforts, and the number of new members, 95% of that would not have been possible without them: Lisa Jaeger and the support people at Bracewell & Giuliani – I do not think I can count the number of pages of beyond excellent comments and support at meetings; Bob Corbin, his working with Candy to bring membership and member services where they are today is beyond the call of duty; and, Karen Neale, her patience and tenacity in putting together great Hill visits and getting our information into the hands of appropriate staff is amazing.

The linkage of energy and environmental issues, technology and operations is our strength. With the barrage of survival threatening environmental rules and regulations coming out of this administration, our strength and knowledge, alone, may not be enough. We will have to find a way to work with others for energy, environmental and economic survival, growth and sustainability. What better place to be to start this than here, the place where Patrick Henry gave his famous speech “Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death,” spurring Virginia to join the Union to eventually defeat the British.