

# **2014 Annual Report of the President**

## **Council of Industrial Boiler Owners**

**October 16, 2014**

**Santa Fe, New Mexico**

2014 – Another election year! Since CIBO’s founding in 1978, there have been 18 congressional elections and another one coming; and, 9 Presidential elections without another for two years. Through them all energy and environmental issues have played out somewhere in the dark background of the platforms and campaign rhetoric. I do not believe that is the case for this election coming in less than a month. As the President has said, “this election is about his policies each and every one of them.” Energy and environment are up in the top of those policies that directly impact the daily lives of the public – the voters – and each and every one of our members. Who would have thought, 36 years ago, this would be the case today. Who would have thought back then that the basis for CIBO’s founding and the foundations upon which it was set would be as perfect for our time as they are today.

As I said last year, and as it has proven even more accurate this year, politics is leading policy regardless of the science or technical justification. This has been further exasperated with a Senate controlled by the President’s party and able to stop any reasonable effort from moving forward and then blame it on the Minority Party. Thus the control of the Senate is the prize; and this has pitted the social issues that won the last elections against real energy implications of a real environmental agenda of this Administration – lost jobs and higher cost of electricity and anything. People are beginning to understand that it takes energy to make or do anything and the cost of energy impacts the cost of everything – a message we espouse in just about everything we say or do.

Because of our member participation and the excellent support we get from Bracewell & Giuliani LLC, our consultants and our work with multiple coalitions, we are on top of all these energy and environmental issues across the full range of their activity – regulatory (air, land and water), the courts to maintain, protect and promote reasonable provisions of the rules and in the legislative branch to balance the unreasonable perspectives of both the courts and current administration. It is interesting, in the past for all practical purposes, we had one issue happening at a time. Today they are all active at just about all levels. And, we are making progress. CIBO’s opinion is valued and sort after.

As our Mission Statement so well states, “CIBO is dedicated to ensuring that non-utility industrial, commercial and institutional energy producers can continue to provide safe, cost-effective and reliable energy to sustain a strong and globally competitive economy,” CIBO always looks for how it can be accomplished in the most economical way and provides a realistic representation of the implication of what is found. By bringing owners, operators, equipment suppliers, engineers and technical support people together to develop our information, positions and comments, we are able to provide a true picture of reality in a highly political world. Those with a particular personal or institutional agenda are sometimes not appreciative of what we bring to the table. They also sometimes do not like our questions. In that, CIBO can be a thorn in the discussion.

Again, as I said last year, we have been busy, I think, busier than last year, if that is possible; and, on all fronts. We have upgraded CIBO communications, IT, Website and Government Relations support to be able to provide a better platform for our staff and members to work more effectively to meet the increasing demand. Now that we are looking at MACT Implementation there is another dimension to our activity. Would you believe some people are just now realizing they actually have to do something by January 31, 2016? As such there is a growing sense of urgency on all fronts. Everything we do is interrelated. I think we will see that here in this meeting.

You know we do all of this magically. Gail, Candy and Tiffany are the magicians. They can usually get whatever our members need. Without them, CIBO could not do all that it does. They make it look easy. Bob Corbin, our membership consultant and Honorary Member, helps by providing direct support and assistance with member and non-member activities; and provides invaluable guidance and assistance to CIBO administration and operations. He also can help members understand, how to use CIBO capabilities to their maximum advantage.

As you have heard from our Chairman, Treasurer, and Membership Committee, CIBO is doing well in these uncertain and changing economic times. All in all, we have the ability to address the full range of issues facing our members and support the litigation needed to protect the flexibilities gained with our work on the Boiler MACT regulations. Like last year, we still have a long way to go on that front; and, we continue to be optimistic regarding the potential outcome. With the Administration's efforts to kill coal with assistance from every Executive office, branch or agency, led by the EPA with the latest Utility 111(d) rule (and energy rule not an environmental rule), that is designed to mandate industrial and institutional energy use by default, CIBO is again right where we should be.

Energy operations and performance, the foundation for CIBO's success at its formation in 1978 and in greater part the reason for our success today, will be the foundation for the future. How we do that may change; but, I doubt the basis will change. No one should have to reinvent the wheel. Networking, technology and technical information transfer, and operations and performance fundamentals education, especially regarding natural gas, energy efficiency, combined heat and power and the cost and impacts of environmental compliance will continue to be a focus of our conferences, committee activities and outreach in the next year.

CIBO's four Quarterly Energy and Environmental Meetings, the FBC/Stoker Conference in May, the Industrial Emissions Control Technology Conference and Natural Gas Conversion Workshop in August and the Annual Meeting in October will again help us accomplish our mission and objectives. Through these and our full range of activities for our members, we can address how someone can provide the energy it takes to make or do anything, survive and improve environmental performance at the same time? This is what CIBO does.

As I have begun to say over the last years as I close, I see CIBO's success, credibility and ability to do all that we do, to be so much more than the sum of our parts. The synergies, generated from our members, the best and brightest energy and environmental engineers and policy people in the country, your candid conversations, honest caring and hard work are the real basis for our achievements. It never stops amazing me on what we can accomplish when we work together. I believe CIBO is better than it has ever been. With your help, I see next year being even better  
Thank you!

**Robert D. Bessette**  
President