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The Honorable Edwin G. Foulke, Jr.
Assistant Secretary of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20210

RE: OSHA Requests Nominations for Employer, Employee and Public Representatives to Serve on the Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health [Docket No. OSHA-2007-0088]

Dear Assistant Secretary Foulke:

On behalf of the 235,000 members of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), I would like to again support Mr. Mike Thibodeaux's appointment as an employer representative to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health (ACCSH). As an interested stakeholder in the construction safety issues addressed by the ACCSH, NAHB would like to ensure that the home building industry has continued representation on this vital advisory committee.

NAHB's membership includes builders and remodelers of single-family homes, apartments, condominiums, and those engaged in other aspects of residential and light commercial construction. Over 80 percent of our members are classified as "small businesses" and our members collectively employ over eight million people nationwide. NAHB's builder members construct about 80 percent of the new housing units each year, making housing one of the largest engines of economic growth in the country.

Due to the breadth of issues addressed by the ACCSH and the fact that home building is distinctly different than heavy commercial construction and other sectors being regulated by OSHA, coupled with the number of regulatory activities currently being considered by OSHA that will impact our industry, having a representative on the ACCSH is critical to ensure that home builders' viewpoints and opinions are taken into account prior to OSHA issuing construction safety regulations.

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Mr. Thibodeaux has had a long affiliation with NAHB as member of our association and has more than 20 years experience in the home building industry. He brings the requisite skills and knowledge of the residential construction process and construction safety to the ACCSH. Currently he is a member of both ACCSH and NAHB's Construction Safety & Health Committee and we believe he is well qualified to represent the viewpoints of employers in the home building industry. NAHB is an association of employers and we believe that Mr. Thibodeaux is the right person to advise OSHA on residential construction safety issues.

NAHB believes that it is imperative for the employers in the home building industry to continue to be represented on this essential advisory committee; therefore we urge OSHA to again appoint Mr. Thibodeaux to the ACCSH.

If you have any questions about this recommendation or need any further information on this candidate, please do not hesitate to contact me at 202-266-8083 or Robert Matuga, NAHB's Assistant Staff Vice President of Labor, Safety and Health at 202-266-8507. Again, I would like to thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Best regards,

Gerald M. Howard
Executive Vice President
and Chief Executive Officer

cc: OSHA Docket Office Steven Witt, OSHA Director of Construction

Enclosure

GMH/rpm