



May 17th, 2012

Mr. Cal Dooley
President
American Chemistry Council
700 Second St. NE
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Mr. Dooley,

For years the American Chemistry Council has claimed that the chemical industry adheres to the highest possible ethical standards, practices science with great integrity, and conducts itself with transparency and accountability to the general public.

The ACC has underscored these claims with its Responsible Care program, which you describe as mandatory for all members. Part of Responsible Care is adhering to its "Guiding Principles." The first of these is "To lead in ethical ways that increasingly benefit society, the economy and the environment." Other principles address health and safety matters and communicating forthrightly within the supply chain, with workers, and with governments and communities about chemical risks.

As you know, the recent Chicago Tribune series, *Playing With Fire*, has documented a number of practices by ACC member companies that can only be described as deeply unethical, completely lacking in scientific integrity, and deliberately misleading of policy makers and the general public. The practices uncovered by the reporters include:

- Deliberately misrepresenting the science around flame retardant chemicals before state legislatures and regulatory agencies.
- Repeatedly hiring an expert for testimony who made up a story of a child dying in a fire.
- Creating and funding a front group to counter the concerns raised about flame retardant chemicals by professional firefighters, health organizations, and others.

On behalf of over 300 health and environmental organizations, labor unions and businesses that belong to Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families, I'm writing to ask that you do one of three things:

- 1) Expel Albemarle, Chemtura, and ICL Industries for violating the guiding principles of Responsible Care, or
- 2) Dispute the accuracy of the Chicago Tribune reporting in detail, or

3) Explain how the behavior documented in these stories comports with Responsible Care and chemical industry standards of conduct.

The credibility of the American Chemistry Council and its member companies cannot survive if you consider the unethical behavior documented in this series to qualify as Responsible Care.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Igrejas". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Andy Igrejas
Director
Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families