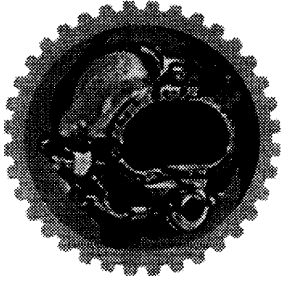


42770



**National Association of
Commercial Divers**

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKET SECTION

P.O. Box 915, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902-0915

<http://www.naoed.org>

tele 804 974-7751

fax 215 227-1505

98 SEP 11 AM 11:06

September 3, 1998

Commander Mark Prescott
USCG HQ (G-MSO-2)
2100 2nd Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20593

RE: 46 CFR 197 (USCG-1998-3786)' 12

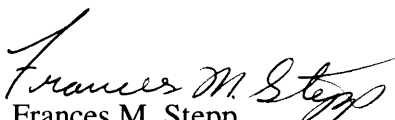
Dear Commander Prescott:

The regulations concerning commercial diving operations have more of an impact on the divers than any other concern in the commercial diving industry. Therefore, it is important that the USCG receive as much feedback from this segment of the industry as possible. This will facilitate the USCG's ability to revise the current regulation with a well rounded knowledge of all areas of the industry.

Summer is the peak working season for commercial divers and most of them are either working off-shore or traveling between job sites. This makes it difficult to canvass a substantial amount of our membership and other divers for their input regarding revisions to the current regulations.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the period for public comment on this review process be extended 90 days past its current closing date of September 24. I urge all haste in the consideration of this matter so that we can plan our proposals to the USCG accordingly.

Sincerely,


Frances M. Stepp
President, NAOCD

cc: Docket Management Facility