

Via Facsimile and U.S. Mail
Mail Stop 6010

February 17, 2006

Craig Mense
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
CNA Financial Corporation
CNA Center
Chicago, Illinois 60685

**Re: CNA Financial Corporation
Item 4.02 Form 8-K
Filed February 16, 2006
File No. 001-05823**

Dear Mr. Mense:

We have reviewed your filing and have the following comment. Where indicated, we think you should revise your document in response to this comment. If you disagree, we will consider your explanation as to why our comment is inapplicable or a revision is unnecessary. Please be as detailed as necessary in your explanation. After reviewing this information, we may raise additional comments.

Please understand that the purpose of our review process is to assist you in your compliance with the applicable disclosure requirements and to enhance the overall disclosure in your filing. We look forward to working with you in these respects. We welcome any questions you may have about our comment or any other aspect of our review. Feel free to call us at the telephone number listed at the end of this letter.

Item 4.02(a)

1. Please expand the second paragraph of your filing to discuss the nature of the errors in accounting for the periodic results of the discontinued operations. Also please include additional information regarding the nature of the overstatement of net assets of discontinued operations. The current disclosure is generic and it is not clear to investors what caused these errors.

As appropriate, please amend your filing and respond to this comment within five business days or tell us when you will respond. You may wish to provide us with marked copies of the amendment to expedite our review. Please furnish a cover letter with your amendment that keys your responses to our comment and provides any requested information. Detailed cover letters greatly facilitate our review. Please understand that we may have additional comments after reviewing your amendment and responses to our comment.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes all information required under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that they have provided all information investors require for an informed investment decision. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

In connection with responding to our comment, please provide, in your letter, a statement from the company acknowledging that:

- the company is responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing;
- staff comments or changes to disclosure in response to staff comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

In addition, please be advised that the Division of Enforcement has access to all information you provide to the staff of the Division of Corporation Finance in our review of your filing or in response to our comments on your filing.

If you have any questions, please call me at (202) 551-3649.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Robertson
Staff Accountant