



Natural Resources
Canada

CanmetENERGY
580 Booth Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0E4

Ressources naturelles
Canada

CanmetÉNERGIE
580, rue Booth
Ottawa (Ontario)
K1A 0E4

May 10, 2010

Mr. Victor Fiume
President
Canadian Home Builders Association
150 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 500
Ottawa, ON K1P 5J4

Dear Victor:

Re: CHBA support for Local Energy Efficiency Partnerships (LEEP™) Initiative

We would like to thank the CHBA for its contribution to the development of the Local Energy Efficiency Partnership (LEEP) Initiative. LEEP has been developed to support local builders in making their decisions on which new energy efficient and renewable technologies and practices best meet their needs. CanmetENERGY is currently working with EnerQuality on an expanded LEEP pilot in four Ontario cities. This will lead to 40 demonstration homes.

CHBA's support and advice has been crucial in the development of LEEP. We'd like to thank specific CHBA staff for their support:

- David Crenna reviewed the original LEEP proposal in November 2005. He provided some advice upon its development and used his own credibility to help CanmetENERGY forge a working relationship with the London HBA.
- Don Johnston requested that a presentation on the London LEEP implementation be made at CHBA's Technical Research Committee (TRC). It was the enthusiastic response across the TRC membership that made it clear that LEEP should have a broader application.
- Mr Johnston also contacted the editor of Home Builder magazine, suggested he run a story on LEEP, and introduced him to us. He was interested in the LEEP process and results, and followed up with a lengthy story. This showed that LEEP results could be communicated through national media to expand their market impact.
- CHBA's National Board of Directors passed a motion recommending '*... CHBA initiate discussions with Natural Resources Canada's CanmetENERGY to pursue expanded availability of an industry-led, technology commercialization process modeled on the London Energy Efficiency Partnership (LEEP) project.*' David Foster's letter notifying CanmetENERGY of this resolution helped enable decision makers to allocate the resources needed to develop an expanded LEEP pilot.
- Don Johnston and David Foster advised CanmetENERGY on potential partnership opportunities for delivering the expanded pilot. This led to the LEEP delivery partnership with EnerQuality. EnerQuality was able to expand the scope to also include a 40 home demonstration phase through garnering additional support from the Ontario Power Authority, Enbridge, and Union Gas.

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LEEP has the potential to be an important part of determining which new and innovative technologies are most market ready for specific local builder markets. We share CHBA's belief that '*LEEP's "bottom-up" methodology proved to be very successful in gaining new home builder participation, and in gaining support from municipal officials – both critical steps in the commercialization process.*'

While CHBA's board, committees and staff have spent very little time directly involved in LEEP, their efforts have played a substantial role in enabling LEEP to move forward and start to become effective. We are excited about its potential.

Thank you for your strong support.

Sincerely,

James Glouchkow
Housing Team Leader
CanmetENERGY

Cc: Karen Pero, Acting Director - Housing, Buildings, Communities and Simulation