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**Canadian
Home Builders'
Association**



**Association canadienne
des constructeurs
d'habitations**

April 1, 2010

The Honourable Christian Paradis
Minister of Natural Resources
Natural Resources Canada
580 Booth Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0E4

Dear Minister Paradis:

I am writing to you concerning the Government's announcement of March 31, 2010 concerning the winding-down of the ecoENERGY Retrofit – Homes program.

I note that the ecoENERGY Retrofit – Homes program has been very popular with Canadians and, more recently, it has also been a successful component of Canada's Economic Action Plan. In addition, the program has engaged other levels of government and the private sector in efforts to improve the energy efficiency of Canada's existing homes.

The federal government's leadership has been appreciated by the CHBA and its members across Canada, particularly in terms of its impact in raising the awareness of Canadian homeowners regarding the importance and the benefits of home energy efficiency.

The Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA) believes that the winding down of the ecoENERGY Retrofit – Homes program presents an important opportunity for the federal government, moving forward. The CHBA looks forward to working with you to develop new federal initiatives for improving the energy efficiency of existing homes. We believe that these initiatives should be based on a sustainable, long-term strategy that incorporates "house-as-a-system" building science.

Canada's existing housing stock represents an asset of enormous value, and prudent measures to increase home energy performance further will deliver significant economic and environmental benefits.

Over the last two decades, the energy efficiency and environmental performance of Canada's residential sector has improved greatly. The federal government's continued leadership in this area is critical to maintaining this momentum.

I would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you, in the near future, to discuss the federal government's long-term plans for pursuing continued improvements in the energy performance of existing homes in Canada.

Yours truly,

Victor Fiume
President

cc: CHBA Executive Board