

Minister  
of Natural Resources



Ministre  
des Ressources naturelles

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0E4

**APR 16 2008**

Mr. Richard Lind  
President  
Canadian Home Builders' Association  
150 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 500  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5J4

Dear Mr. Lind:

Thank you for your letter of March 11, 2008, regarding the concept of expanding the R-2000 designation to include homes that have undergone renovation.

We would be pleased to explore this option further with your association and the many stakeholders who have long supported and been part of the R-2000 program. To that end, I have asked departmental officials to contact the Canadian Home Builder's Association to explore this option. Certainly, interest in "green renovation" is high and this is a timely concept.

It is fortunate that we have many of the resources and structures in place, both within my department and in the housing industry, to implement such a project. The EnerGuide Rating System, the benchmarking tool for energy performance rating of both new and existing houses, could serve as the basis for the timely expansion of R-2000 to cover renovation projects. Of course, the R-2000 standard itself would have to be revised so that it could realistically apply to the retrofit of all vintages of existing houses. I am sure you will agree that the R-2000 standard has been the premium energy efficiency label for the new housing industry in Canada and that its reputation must be maintained if the R-2000 brand is expanded to cover renovations.

Your suggestion is particularly pertinent at this time because of the existence of the ecoENERGY Retrofit – Homes program that offers up to \$5,000 in tax-free grants for energy retrofits.

Canada 

I appreciate your input and the continued collaboration of the Canadian Home Builders' Association and its members.

Again, thank you for writing on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Lunn". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

The Honourable Gary Lunn, P.C., M.P.