

150 Laurier Avenue W.
Suite 500
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5J4

T. 613 230 3060
F. 613 232 8214
E. chba@chba.ca
W. www.chba.ca

**Canadian
Home Builders'
Association**



**Association canadienne
des constructeurs
d'habitations**

January 11, 2008

Mr. Bruce Clemmensen
Chair, Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes
National Research Council / Institute for Research in Construction
1200 Montreal Road, Building M-23A
Ottawa, ON K1A 0R6

Dear Mr. Clemmensen,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA) with regard to the national code development process and its application to energy efficiency regulations.

This matter has become a central concern for the CHBA given the variety of initiatives that are being taken provincially and municipally to introduce and augment requirements for energy efficiency in new home construction. We believe that new requirements would benefit from Canada's coordinated codes and standards process, which is based on disciplined scientific research, cost-benefit analysis and consultation with all affected parties.

This approach has served Canadians extremely well in developing a Model National Building Code that has a high level of acceptance, achieves desired results and does not discourage innovation in the marketplace. Applied to energy efficiency, this approach will ensure that proposed new requirements will receive rigorous analysis, particularly with respect to their impact on the overall performance of new homes and the health and safety of occupants.

Given the above, the CHBA has concluded that it is now highly desirable to define the energy performance of new homes and requirements for achieving energy efficiency objectives through Canada's coordinated codes and standards development process. Accordingly, we are requesting that the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes undertake to refurbish the Model National Energy Code for Houses as a progeny document to the Model National Building Code.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Richard Lind
President