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Ms. Annette Bergeron  
President and Chair  
Ontario Society of Professional Engineers  
4950 Yonge Street,  
Suite 502  
Toronto, ON M2N 6K1

March 30, 2005

Dear Ms. Bergeron:

I write to inform you of the status of the changes to the *Building Code Act, 1992* and Building Code resulting from the *Building Code Statute Law Amendment Act, 2002* (Bill 124).

In preparation for the July 1, 2005 implementation date, the Ministry has participated in on-going consultation with stakeholders and I thank you for your contribution to this process. During the consultation, some stakeholders have made certain suggestions to improve the implementation of the new building regulatory system. In response to these suggestions, the Building Code has been further amended through Ontario Regulations 145/05 and 146/05, which were filed on March 29, 2005.

These most recent amendments to the Building Code:

- Make adjustments to existing qualification and registration categories for designers and building officials, including a broadening of the definition of “House” and a narrowing of the definition of “Complex Building”;
- Introduce new qualification and registration categories for designers and building officials: “Detection, Lighting and Power” and “Fire Protection”;
- Exempt certain building officials from qualification, including those responsible for signs and site servicing;
- Exempt certain designers from registration and in some cases qualification (for example designers responsible for site servicing would be exempt from both registration and qualification, while designers responsible for house plumbing systems would be exempt from registration, but not qualification);
- Clarify the wording of the insurance requirements;
- Revise the timeframe for the municipal review of stock house plans from five days to ten days;

- Allow building officials who have not met all Building Code qualification requirements to perform restricted duties provided that such individuals are enrolled in a Ministry-approved internship program and are supervised by a qualified building official; and
- Recognize the Ontario Association of Architects' establishment of a parallel qualification and registration system to evaluate Building Code knowledge.

Included with this letter is a copy of Ontario Regulations 145/05 and 146/05, a Fact Sheet and Questions & Answers on these changes to the Building Code. For further information you may wish to visit the Building Code website at [www.obc.mah.gov.on.ca](http://www.obc.mah.gov.on.ca).

We have also added new material to the website, including the forms to be used by municipalities and RCAs in issuing orders, designer registration and filing forms, RCA registration forms, a guide to the preparation of RCA quality management plans, a list of insurers and an expanded set of Questions & Answers.

If you should have any questions regarding the regulation please contact James Douglas, Manager, Code Development, Legislation and Appeals, Building and Development Branch at 416-585-7174.

Thank you for your input on the changes to Ontario's building regulatory system, I appreciate your continued contribution as we move forward with its implementation.

Sincerely,



David Brezer  
Director / A  
Building and Development Branch

Encl.

CC: Ms. Sharon Glover