

PRJ/TL/ci/2456L

16 November 2004

BY FAX & BY POST
(Fax No. 2869-6794)

The Hon KWONG Chi-kin
Bills Committee Chairman
Construction Industry Council (No. 2) Bill
c/o Legislative Council Secretariat
3 Floor Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road, Central
Hong Kong.

Dear Mr. KWONG,

**Bills Committee on Construction Industry Council (No. 2) Bill
Invitation of Submissions**

We refer to your letter dated 8 November 2004 ref. CBI/BC/1/04 and thank you for inviting us to express our views on the Construction Industry Council (No. 2) Bill.

Having perused the background information of the Bill retrieved from the relevant website, we support the idea of setting up a statutory industry co-ordinating body, the Construction Industry Council (CIC) and to have the function of the Construction Industry Training Authority (CITA) to be taken over by the Construction Industry Training Board under the CIC.

It is our understanding that the CIC will have many functions. To take over the role of CITA is only one of them. For the CIC to function effectively and successfully, it is important to have the support of the industry including clients, professionals, academia, consultants, contractors, suppliers and workers. After all, the CIC is supposed to be set up by the industry and for the industry.

We have one concern on the Bill with respect to the appointment of public officers and members of the CIC. We note that all public officers and other members of the CIC are to be appointed by the Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works. We would suggest that members of the CIC other than public officers are to be nominated by leading professional bodies, trade associations, labour unions, etc. With such, there will be better representations from the construction industry.

In general, we are in support of the main object of the Bill and hope that the mode of appointment of the CIC's members will be addressed prudently. As we have not much to comment on the other issues in the Bill, we do not see the need to attend the Bills Committee meetings.

Yours sincerely,
For and on behalf of
Hong Kong Housing Society

L C Wong (Miss)
Executive Director