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**By Fax & By Post**

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Hon. Secretary 義務秘書  
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Wing Fu PEI 費榮富  
Wilkie WONG 黃俊熙

Legislative Council  
8 Jackson Road,  
Central, Hong Kong.

**Attention: Joey Lo – Clerk to Bills Committee**

Your Ref.: CB1/BC/9/02

29<sup>th</sup> August, 2003

Dear Sirs,

**Re: Comments on Buildings (Amendment) Bill 2003**

Further to our previous letter of 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2003 regarding the captioned, we have the pleasure to provide herewith our comments on the captioned as follows: -

1. We understand that one of the main aim of the Bill in connection with Registered Contractor (RC) is to introduce a control system to minor works by setting up a new register of minor works contractors.
2. The other major amendment in the Bill which have significant affect to RC is the increase by 6 times of the maximum fines for offences involving substandard works or construction danger, i.e. from \$250,000.00 to \$1,500,000.00.
3. Having gone through the proposed Building (Amendments) Bill 2003, our views on it are summarized as below: -
  - a) Consultation to the construction industry should be made in regard of qualifications, resources and requirements in order for organizations to be registered as a Registered Minor Works Contractor. (RMWC).
  - b) The categorization of minor works should also be consulted with the industry for clarity.
  - c) One representative from Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association should be considered and invited to sit in the CRC and to interview applicants for Class A RMWC.
  - d) The proposed increase in fines for offences is not in proportion with the existing economic climate. A great number of contractors will be driven out from the market because of this increase and this can lead to market monopoly by the well resourced contractors.

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- e) We suggest the registration / renewal period for RGBC / RSC is 5 years to be in line with the AP / RSE.

Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association supports any act that will rationalize in the building control regime, strengthen safety requirements, facilitate law enforcement and improve service to the public. As responsible contractors, we are willing to participate in a key and proactive role in the formalization of this proposed Bills and we want to contribute in Hong Kong's construction industry and appreciate the opportunity given in this instance.

Should there be any further assistance that we can render, kindly contact us at your convenience.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Joseph K.S. Ng  
President 2003-2005  
Hong Kong General Building  
Contractors Association Ltd.

KSN/il

c.c. All Directors 2003-2005  
The Secretariat of HKGBCA