



17 May 2004

Our Ref:0200001830

The Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan  
Chairperson  
Bills Committee on Buildings (Amendment) Bill 2003  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central, Hong Kong

By Fax and By Post  
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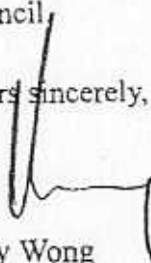
**Buildings (Amendment) Bill 2003**  
**Deletion of the Minor Works Control Regime**

We note with regret that the Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau has decided to delete the whole minor works control regime from the Buildings (Amendment) Bill.

All along, HKCA has been in support of the proposal with the prime objective of ensuring public safety. We consider such a control regime is necessary to ensure public safety in the carrying out of the myriad of minor building works, which have a notorious safety record. If the minor works regime is well received by the society and industry, it should be able to reduce significantly the number of malpractice associated with unauthorized building works and protect the building owners from exposure to common law liability should a serious accident happened in the process of carrying out the building works. The safety performance associated with minor works could also be monitored with improvement measures introduced as required.

We note the Bureau will re-introduce the minor works regime in the next Legislative Council session. In consideration of ensuring public safety, HKCA is prepared to continue our support with the proposal when it is reintroduced to the Legislative Council.

Yours sincerely,

  
Billy Wong  
President

c.c. Hon. Abraham SHEK Lai-him