



Access to Information and
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PROTECTED

October / , 2005

Mr. John Cummins, M.P.
House of Commons
Room 548 Confederation Bldg.
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

RE: Access to Information Request
Our File No. AF-2005-0038 / cf

Dear Mr. Cummins:

This is further to your request under the *Access to Information Act* ("the Act") dated September 19, 2005 which arrived in our Office on September 21, 2005. You asked for:

"Copy of all letters that CMHC President R.V. Hession wrote to counterparts at Energy Mines and Resources (now Natural Resources) in the period August-December 1981 with regard to "Moisture Induced Problems in Housing". This request includes any talking points, media lines or communication strategy developed as part of the release of these documents under the Access to Information Act."

Pursuant to and in accordance with the Act, you will find enclosed copies of the records held at CMHC which fit the description of your request at the date your request was received by this Office.

Please be advised that you have the right to make a complaint to the Information Commissioner with regard to this request. Complaints must be made within one year of the request being received by CMHC and must be forwarded to the Office of the Information Commissioner, 112 Kent Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1H3.

Should you have any questions regarding your request or the *Access to Information Act*, please do not hesitate to contact this Office.

Sincerely


D. V. Tyler
Coordinator
Access to Information and Privacy Office

enclosures

November 13, 1981

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Mr. M.A. Cohen,
Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and
Resources,
580 Booth Street,
Ottawa, Ontario.
K1A 0E4

Dear Mr. Cohen:

Thank you for your letter of September 29, in which you expressed your concern about having energy conservation associated with moisture problems arising from various forms of house construction.

I agree that we must avoid creating the impression that conservation measures will necessarily entail excessive moisture problems or indeed other construction or occupancy problems. Nevertheless, I feel it equally important for us to collectively face up to the reality that construction practices associated with energy conservation measures do, in fact, increase the hazard of moisture induced structural damage. We must, therefore, in the interest of conservation measures, continue to explore how to diminish this hazard.

I look forward to continuing the good working relationships established between our staffs. This will facilitate the exchange of information and experience which will be most important to our mutual interest in encouraging sound energy conservation practices.

Yours sincerely,

R.V. Hession,
President.

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McDermott/CMC/rg
Docket 9581
Typed November 12, 1981

McDermott
C. H. M.

August 27, 1981

Mr. M.A. Cohen,
Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources,
580 Booth Street,
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0E4

Dear Mr. Cohen:

Re: Moisture Induced Problems in Housing

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of a situation we believe requires your attention. It has become evident to the Corporation that there has been a significant increase in the incidence of moisture induced damage in frame construction. The problem is most commonly encountered in single family housing and the damage appears to be occurring in the exterior walls.

I have had the opportunity of discussing this matter with senior technical staff at the Corporation and the reason for writing to you at this time is the apparent close relation between various energy conservation attempts and high levels of moisture accumulation. I have attached a brief technical description of the problem as we see it and the action we propose to follow in seeking measures to prevent its occurrence.

The information we are passing along will not be new to some of your staff, as they were involved during our earlier investigations. I did, however, want you to be aware of the situation because of your interest in seeing energy conservation methods made compatible with other housing performance considerations. As well, your proposed demonstration program may well offer opportunities for methods of avoiding this moisture problem.

I have brought this matter to the attention of the Provincial Deputy Ministers of Housing and to the Chairman of the Associate Committee of the National Building Code. Their support and action in their respective fields of responsibility will be, in my view, an important factor in eliminating this undesirable situation.

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I have committed substantial CMHC resources, both staff and funds, towards seeking measures which will reliably prevent the problem in the future. We will continue to work closely with your staff and to keep you informed of our progress.

Yours sincerely,

R.V. Hession,
President.

MMH
gjt
GWAYNEMURCHISON/HC/jb
Docket P517
Typed August 20, 1981

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