

13 March 2008

The President of the Voluntary Association

Dear Sir / Madam

REVIEW OF LEGISLATION GOVERNING THE COUNCIL FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (CBE) AND THE SIX PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

On 05 March 2008 ECSA received, from the CBE, a Policy Document on Proposed Amendments of the Statutory Regulatory Framework of the Built Environment Professions which was made available by the Minister of Public Works, Minister AT Didiza. In view of the strategic importance of the policy on regulation of the professions the Policy Document was immediately placed on the ECSA website for information and distributed to recognised VA's.

ECSA Council met on 06 March 2008 and, in recognition of the importance of the matter and urgency imposed by the timeline leading an envisaged change in legislation, initiated a process for responding in a well considered and thorough manner. As a first step a request for extension of the period in which comments may be submitted will be requested from the Minister to allow Council to prepare detailed and well thought out comments on the proposed amendments. This process will include consultation with recognised Voluntary Associations, with other Societies and Associations in the engineering environment and with the five sister Professional Councils in the Built Environment.

Statutory regulation of the professions in the Built Environment and the engineering profession in particular, is justified primarily by public health, safety and other interests but inevitably affects the individual professionals in a direct way. The management and administration of the legislation is therefore of real interest to individuals.

As a first step in the consultative process you are respectfully requested to also publish the attached documentation on your website and to solicit views on this matter from your members and other interested parties. It would be appreciated if you could collate all views which could be incorporated into either a combined response from the profession or separate responses from societies or associations. As an alternative you could ask persons to respond directly to response@ecsa.co.za. It would however be preferred if persons could identify in which capacity they are responding eg, member of SAICE or concerned member of the public.

Your co-operation will be appreciated



PROF RAVI NAYAGAR
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER