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31 October 2003

Clerk of the Government Administration Committee
Select Committee Office
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Submission on the Building Bill
FROM
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FORUM

1) Our Name & Address

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Contact: John Blakeley, Convenor.

2) We do not wish to be heard in support of our submission.

3) Background on the Sustainable Energy Forum

- 3.1 The objective of the Sustainable Energy Forum is to facilitate the transition to sustainable energy. The Forum has about 150 individual and corporate members, including business people, academics and interested individuals.

4) Our Submission

- 4.1 The Sustainable Energy Forum (SEF) supports the addition of Clause 3(d) "buildings are constructed and used in ways that promote sustainable development."
- ◆ HOWEVER - this Clause should be strengthened by adding the word "environmentally" to make it clear that it is "environmentally sustainable development" that is required.
 - ◆ The inclusion of this clause is essential to build meaning into the Government's policy statements on energy efficiency and environmentally sustainable development.

- 4.2 SEF supports the inclusion of Clause 22 (l) that requires the "Chief Executive to take into account" ... "the need to facilitate the efficient use of energy and energy conservation and the use of renewable sources of energy in buildings."
- ◆ The inclusion of this clause is also essential to build meaning into the Government's policy statements and targets on energy efficiency and renewable energy, to keep New Zealand on a path to environmentally sustainable development.
 - ◆ It will be essential that the Chief Executive uses this direction to add 'sustainable development teeth' into the Building Code and other regulations that flow from this Bill.
- 4.3 SEF supports the inclusion of Clause 22 (e) that requires the "Chief Executive to take into account" ... "the costs of a building (including maintenance) over the whole of its life".
- ◆ The use of lifecycle costing will be essential to facilitate the inclusion of sustainable products and services that are harder to justify economically on short scale 'developer driven' time-scales.
- 4.4 SEF supports the inclusion of Clause 22 (m) that requires the "Chief Executive to take into account" ... "the need to facilitate the efficient use of water and water conservation in buildings."

END