



March 21st, 2012

Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes
Canadian Codes Centre
National Research Council Canada
Building M-23A, Montreal Road
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0R6

Dear Secretary,

I am writing in support of Safe-T-element's National Research Council (NRC) Code Change Submission regarding Cooking Stoves in High Risk Occupancies.

HSC is an independent non-profit corporation created by the Province of Ontario under the *Housing Services Act, 2011*; previously named Social Housing Services Corporation under the *Social Housing Reform Act, 2000*. Our legislated objectives include providing housing-related services for municipal service managers and social housing providers across Ontario. Our key foci is "to improve the quality of life of residents in housing for moderate and low-income households... and to improve the management, maintenance and long-term sustainability and viability of the physical assets of housing providers that provide housing for moderate and low-income households".

HSC's provincially-mandated insurance program insures more than 700 housing providers and more than 180,000 housing units and over 9,000 tenants. While a high percentage of fires and fatalities result from unattended stove tops, what is most alarming is that fires occur in subsidized units at a rate of more than three times that of non-subsidized dwellings.

Social housing is home to some of the most vulnerable individuals in our society and they are especially impacted by disruptions caused by cooking fires. It is because of the preventable nature of these fires that HSC is a firm supporter of Safe-T-element's National Research Council (NRC) Code Change Submission. HSC believes that the mandated use of temperature-limiting devices in high-risk occupancies, as proposed by Safe-T-element, would reduce the incidence of stove-top-related fires and most importantly, save lives.

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Sincerely,

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