October 5, 2010

EPPC Committee Members
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC

Dear members of EPPC Committee,

This letter provides needed justification for the Residential Construction Track in the Bachelor of Science in Construction Management program.

The Department of Construction Management at East Carolina University was awarded a $100,000 grant from the National Housing Endowment in 2005 to investigate the educational content competencies necessary for a “Model Residential Construction Concentration”. Upon completion of the study a course curriculum was proposed to the faculty and supported by the CMGT Industry Advisory Board.

The Construction Management Department at East Carolina University has been designated as the reference institution for all programs of study that wish to have the National Housing Endowment endorsement and support. Of the students who have elected to study in the Department of Construction Management, between 30–40% (from surveys conducted in an introductory class) have expressed an interest to pursue their careers in Residential Construction. The expectation is that this “concentration” will prepare them for more effectively understanding the residential construction process.

The CMGT advisory board has on several occasions expressed a desire to see this expertise developed in the undergraduate students. It is felt that students lack the necessary knowledge and techniques to better understand the land development and financing process associated with residential construction. The program assessment committee has also expressed a need for this concentration as reflected in the East Carolina University Unit Strategic Initiative Assessment Reporting Plan 2011-2012 developed for the Department of Construction Management.

Sincerely,

Syed M. Ahmed, PhD
Chair & Professor