

## SINGAPORE CIVIL DEFENCE FORCE

Your Ref :

Our Ref : CD/SB/C/A1/3

Date : 1 Jun 2001



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President, Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA)  
President, Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES)  
President, Association of Consulting Engineers, Singapore (ACES)

Dear Sirs,

### APPLICABILITY OF CIVIL DEFENCE SHELTER ACT

Since the implementation of the Civil Defence Shelter Act (CDSA) in May 1998, new houses and flats are required to incorporate civil defence shelters.

2 In the past 3 years, there have been frequent cases of QPs seeking clarification on the applicability of the CDSA for their developments. The purpose of this circular is to explain those situations where the CDSA shall, or shall not be applicable.

3 Under the CDSA, shelter would be required in a "new building" which means a building -

- a ***"which is constructed on vacant land or in place of a building which has been demolished;"***

The above covers houses/ flats that are constructed as new erection developments as well as existing houses/ flats that are completely demolished and rebuilt. Hence, proposals for addition-and-alteration works (AAW)/ reconstruction (except for total demolition and rebuilt cases) do not come under the CDSA.

- b ***"the plans in respect of which are submitted to or lodged with the competent authority under the Planning Act on or after the commencement of this Act;"***

This means that all first applications for new houses/flats submitted or lodged with URA on or after 1 May 98 would require shelters. If an application for written permission (if no outline permission application has been made) for a house/ building comprising flats

for private dwelling is made before 1 May 98, any subsequent submission for this same development will be deemed as re-submissions for the purpose of the CDSA, as long as any permission granted by URA arising from the said application has not lapsed or become invalid.

4 We would appreciate it if you could disseminate the contents of this circular to members of your Institution or Association.

Your faithfully,

CPT Ng Shu Heng  
OIC Shelter Development  
for Dy Director Fire Safety & Shelter Bureau  
HQ Singapore Civil Defence Force

cc

Senior Manager (CDSD), BCA

Manager (CDAS), BCA