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Department of
Building and Housing
Te Tari Kaupapa Whare

Level 6, 86 Customhouse Quay
PO Box 10 729, Wellington
Tel +64 4 494 0260
Fax +64 4 494 0290
www.dbh.govt.nz

7 November 2011

Canterbury Earthquakes Royal Commission
PO Box 14053
Christchurch Mail Centre 8544

Attention: Justine Gilliland

Forsyth Barr building - additional information

In the second paragraph of section 5.2.2 on page 24 of the Forsyth Barr report of 26 September 2011, the statement is made "The engineers have advised that they were told to exclude the stairs from consideration". This statement was included following the referral of the draft report to Holmes Consulting Group as a selected party. It was added based on advice given by them to Beca on 20 September 2011.

Subsequently, in a letter dated 13 October 2011, Holmes advised the Department that, in fact, they had been briefed to include the stairs in their investigation (letter and e-mails attached).

The Department and the Expert Panel has considered the information supplied by Holmes Consulting Group and concludes it does not materially affect the conclusions reached. However, the Department intends to include a statement in its Final Report advising that the Forsyth Barr report of 26 September 2011 should be modified by deleting the words "The engineers have advised that they were told to exclude the stairs from consideration" from section 5.2.2. No amendments are needed to the Panel's Stage 1 report.

Yours sincerely

Dr David Hopkins
Project Manager
Christchurch Building Technical Investigation
Department of Building and Housing
PO Box 10729
Wellington 6143

