STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. 1-20-99

May 14, 1999

The following is offered in response to your letter in which you seek a formal interpretation with respect to whether R-2 or I-1 is the appropriate Use Group to be applied to an assisted living facility with 30 congregate housing units, 56 assisted living units and 24 units dedicated to persons with Alzheimer's disease. My response is based on the 1999 State Building Code which was adopted by the State of Connecticut on May 1, 1999.

As long as the individuals residing within the facility are "physically capable of responding to an emergency situation without personal assistance", either Use Group R-2 or I-1 would be acceptable. If six or more of the residents are under custodial care on a 24-hour basis and "are not capable of self-preservation", the appropriate Use Group would be I-2. It is possible with the type of facility you describe that a mixed use might be appropriate depending on the level of care provided to, and the physical condition of, the persons with Alzheimer's disease, but if they are all capable of self-preservation, either Use Group I-1 or R-2 would be appropriate and the choice would lie with the permit applicant.