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**From:** Journal of Development Economics [<mailto:jde@yale.edu>]

**Sent:** Tue 4/29/2008 7:21 AM

**To:** socholz@ust.hk

**Subject:** Your Submission JDE-07-439

Ref.: Ms. No. JDE-07-439

The Unbalanced Growth Hypothesis and the Role of the State:

the Case of China's State-owned Enterprises

Journal of Development Economics

Dear Prof. Holz,

We have now received referee reports on your paper, The Unbalanced Growth Hypothesis

and the Role of the State:

the Case of China's State-owned Enterprises.

Both editors find the paper to be an intriguing contribution to the literature based on a solid knowledge of a complex topic area (Chinese SOEs). Naturally, they both provide suggestions and I believe revising to respond to those suggestions will strengthen the paper (particularly including a bit of the older methodology and newer data papers the referees mention).

For my part, as editor, if you could strengthen the motivation a bit. I personally am a big fan of Hirschman, but to many people the "backward linkages" literature might seem, well, quaint. If you could devote a paragraph or two showing the relation to the more modern treatments of the same concept in different guises (such as the recent discussions of "industrial policy" as a development strategy) I think that would improve the reception of the paper.

If you are prepared to undertake the work required, I would be pleased to re-consider my decision.

For your guidance, reviewers' comments are appended below.

If you decide to revise the work, please submit a list of changes or a rebuttal against each point that is raised when you submit the revised manuscript.

To submit your revision, go to <http://ees.elsevier.com/devec/> and log in as an Author. You will see a menu item call Submission Needing Revision. You will find your submission record there.

Yours sincerely

Lant Pritchett

Co-Editor

Journal of Development Economics

Reviewers' comments: [omitted]