MARSHALL HEIGHTS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION, INC.
3939 Benning Road, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20019
(202) 396-1200
(202) 396-4106 - Facsimile

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January 14, 2000

Ms. Sheila Cross-Reid
Chair, Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th St. NW, Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
00 JAN 18 P3:50

RE: BZA Application #16546 and Large Tract Review
Relating to Pepco, Benning Rd. Office Construction

Dear Ms. Reid:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Marshall Heights Community Development Organization (MHCDO), I would like to express the support of our organization on behalf of the application submitted by Pepco to BZA for its proposed office building at the Benning Rd. Pepco Plant.

MHCDO is an organization whose board is comprised of over 70 members representing civic associations, ANC's, churches, local businesses, and Ward 7 residents. MHCDO is dedicated to the rebuilding and restoring of the Ward by building hope for its residents through the building of affordable housing, promoting homeownership, engaging in human development activities, and facilitating commercial development that brings retail, commercial and industrial activity and jobs to Ward 7. MHCDO has reviewed the plans presented by Pepco for the proposed office building at the Benning Rd. Plant and is convinced that this office building would be an economic plus for the Ward and the City.

The project as proposed addresses more than adequately issues related to traffic, environmental impacts, design, and locational impact vis-à-vis neighboring properties. Furthermore MHCDO sees the proposed office building generating additional economic activity along the Minnesota Ave. commercial corridor and potentially along Benning Rd. where today there is a dearth of quality retail activity. This is exactly the type of office development that is needed in the east of the river communities to support efforts to attract higher quality retail businesses to the commercial corridors.

MHCDO is pleased to have this opportunity to express our full support for this project and this BZA application. Pepco has been a good corporate neighbor in the past and MHCDO looks forward to Pepco's continued good work in the Ward 7 community.

Sincerely,

Richard Hamilton

Richard Hamilton, Sr.
Chairman, Board of Directors

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16546
EXHIBIT NO.16

#16