713 7th N.E.
Washington, DC 20002

Dr. & Mrs. Pierre Rosseau

March 30, 2001

Mr. Robert Sockwell
Chair, Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 Fourth Street N.W.
Suite 210
Washington, DC 20002

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2001 APR -2 AM 11:58

Reference Case Number: 16648

Dear Mr. Sockwell

We would like to take this opportunity, as residents of NE Capitol in the H Street corridor community to express our deepest disappointments with the Zoning Board keeping on negotiating with BP Amoco corporation regarding their proposed expansion in the 300 Block of H Street Street N.E. As far as we are concerned they have dropped the ball.

Indeed, we trust that, as a public official, you are acting on our behalf and responded to the community that you represent by supporting the various neighborhood associations' requests. You will agree that we, as the community, have been very understanding and made very constructive comments, not the least, accepting the construction project under the condition of preserving of "the urban nature" of the site.

BP Amoco chose to ignore your request for revision. Instead, they presented a quasi identical proposal, taking YOU, Mr. Chairman, for a fool. I urge you not to put up with this, and exercise your authority to shut the proposal down. It seems to me that BP Amoco has had ample time to respond satisfactorily to the communities' request.

They will come back to you as "cry-babies" arguing that they have invested that much money, etc., all arguments that do not hold water. Any investment caries a certain amount of risk, we all know that too well looking at today's stock market performances, and the risk is that much greater when you don't do your homework. BP Amoco obviously did not to theirs, and in particular worked "against" the community instead of "with" the community, in partnership. True partnership will only be successful if it is mutually beneficial and mutually respectful of one another. The one that is being proposed here is obviously one-sided, and BP Amoco is not showing any sign or willingness to change that.

Be assured, Mr. Chairman, that the community will work with you to make the entrance of H Street corridor attractive. Daily, we see dozens of parents walking across that bridge with their children to visit the children museum, probably one of the most popular attractions in NE Washington. When

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they are done with their visit, they are exposed to "H Street at a glance", nothing but liquor stores to go to and where they expose their children to the best and most lucrative business H street has to offer today. Wouldn't that be a picture and an image that you want to change? And allowing a gas station and a convenience store, that is likely to sell more beer and liquor, will most certainly not embellish that picture.

There are alternatives besides a gas station that BP Amoco can invest in. If they are not interested, perhaps you can offer to facilitate the finding of an investor/developer, or group of investors/ developers that would be willing to buy the property from them. I am sure that the community will work with you to help you in that endeavor. The community has already demonstrated to the greatest extent possible their commitment to work with you and these potential developers to make such project socially acceptable and economically viable to benefit both district and neighborhood residents.

We, as individuals involved in the community, and the various community associations as a group would love to have the opportunity to make a difference in the development of H Street. Given the opportunity to work in partnership with you and the investors, we trust that the citizens in NE Washington, through their neighborhood associations will make NE Washington a proud section of town to live in.

Hoping that our modest contribution combined with others will make a difference, we remain,

Sincerely yours



Pierre & Eva Rosseau