December 2, 2000

Chairperson Sheila Cross Reid
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

DC DEC -4 AM 10:39

Re: BZA Application No. 16648
Hearing Date: December 19, 2000

BZA
Case No. 16648
Exhibit No. 35

Dear Ms. Reid:

I am writing as a resident of 723 4th Street, NE to oppose the BP Amoco proposal to expand the gasoline station at 3rd and H Streets, NE.

The current gasoline station operated by BP Amoco is an unsafe eyesore and has been poorly operated for years. My home is within sight of H Street, NE, and yet I travel several blocks away to purchase gasoline on Massachusetts Avenue at 15 cents more per gallon. I have never felt safe at the current gasoline station at 3rd and H Streets, NE, and I cannot support rewarding BP Amoco's past failures in operating the station with an expansion to cover the entire block.

Furthermore, the proposed expansion is obviously targeted to serve the commuters from outside the District that travel the H Street corridor. Those of us who live in the neighborhood want the development on H Street to serve those of us who have planted our roots here and committed ourselves to the District – not those who pass through it a few minutes each weekday.

The BP Amoco proposal affects the immediate neighborhood in many negative ways, including:

- Tremendous increases in traffic volume and diminished pedestrian access to H Street
- Increases in odors, fumes, and ambient air pollution
- Encroachment upon the homes in the 800 block of 3rd Street, NE and inadequate emergency access for these citizens
- Threats of surface run off into the neighborhood streets and ultimately into the Anacostia River
- Constant lighting and late night car and stereo noise to disturb the neighbors

I believe the near blocks of H Street, NE should be developed with urban commercial buildings that will encourage a permanent business presence in the neighborhood and

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preserve the urban character of the area. Already the area immediately behind Union Station and stretching to Eckington is becoming revitalized by this type of development. Approving this proposal for expansion of the gasoline station will send a message to those interested in H Street development that the District supports the vision of H Street as a corridor to serve commuters. H Street is on the verge of being New York Avenue all over again, and approving this proposal will seal H Street's fate.

Neighborhood organizations and individuals are working on plans for more positive development of this block and the adjacent near blocks of H Street, NE. Please reject this BP Amoco proposal and allow us to continue our efforts to turn H Street into a pleasing commercial area that will serve the people who have chosen to live here.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kathleen McEnerny

Kathleen McEnerny
723 4th Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002