3267 O Street, SE
Washington, DC 20020
September 15, 2001

Ms. Jerrily R. Kress
Director
Board of Zoning
441 Fourth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Application #16753

Dear Ms. Kress:

I am writing to oppose the construction of a monopole in the rear of the Penn-Branch Shopping Center. I am a resident of 17 years in this community and reside within 200 feet of the proposed monopole site.

I'm very fearful that the electromagnetic radiation emitted from the monopole operating 24 hours and 365 days a year, pose a real health risk. I understand that to date, there are no conclusive studies to definitively RULE OUT health risks, short or long-term. I'm mindful of the inconclusive studies which were formerly associated with the drug thalidomide, tobacco use, & agent orange. We all know the harmful effects which have conclusively been associated with at least these three.

I'm already overwhelmned by an unhealthy environment. There is a tremendous volume of commuter traffic on Pennsylvania & Branch Avenues, SE, on a daily basis; the congested parking lot of Penn-Branch Shopping Center with vehicles of working employees & customers utilizing services at the Penn-Branch Municipal Center, the ROC-EAST - Metro. Police Dept., Depts. of Public Works & Motor Vehicles; helicopters flying over from Andrews AFB, all of which contribute to the emission of carbon monoxide.

Also, I am uncertain & concerned about the proposed trash compactor that appears on some of the drawings submitted by SBA. I have no information on its size, bulk, screening, noise, or operations. I believe that this aspect of the project has the potential to impact our community life. I would hope additional information will be presented at or before the hearing.

I'm greviously concerned about the threat to the homes which are near the site of the proposed monopole. Most homes in this community are built over underground streams and I do not believe that the soil will support a structure of this magnitude. It is mind boggling to imagine what devastation it would cause if a monopole would topple over.

I live in a beautiful, scenic community surrounded by lots of trees, shrubbery, wildlif & different species of birds, which the residents have worked very hard over many years to maintain. I believe this huge monopole would destroy both the aesthetics & decrease the property value in this community. Request the Board of Zoning to disapprove Application #16753.

Respectfully submitted,

Amos C. Thornton Sallie M. Thornton

cc Mayor Williams
All DC City Councilmembers

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16753
EXHIBIT NO.108
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