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September 5, 2001

Ms. Jerrily R. Kress
Director, Board of Zoning
One Judiciary Square
441 – 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Reference Application 16753

Dear Ms. Kress:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that we strongly object to the proposed construction of a cell tower in the rear of the Penn-Branch Shopping Center. My family and I have lived in the community for 38 years. The address for our home is 3244 0 St, SE, and our house is approximately 200 feet from the proposed site.

Our first concern is that there have been no formal studies regarding the impact of the amount of radiation this device would emit. For example, what about would be the short and long-term effects on the older children and adults who live in the community? What federal agency, (the Environmental Protection Agency for example) will assume responsibility for investigating these risks? How will the residents be made aware of these findings? This information needs to be collected before the tower structure begins. I do not feel that the people in our community have been well informed about this proposal, and they have not been given an ample opportunity to voice their concerns and opinions.

Second, the structure will obstruct the aesthetic view of our area and the city. It would not compliment the neighborhood and many residents believe this will depreciate the value of our residential property. My family and others in the neighborhood have worked very hard to own and maintain our homes and can not image how this feature will be an asset to our historical community. Many homeowners in this community and myself suggest the zoning board use an existing cell tower or relocate to a nonresidential area instead.

Furthermore, there is no space to adequately place the cell tower. The parking lot has already been obligated to the local municipal services and the area is congested with the Department of Public Works vehicles. A cell tower would not serve this community's needs or benefits, and should be abandoned!

Respectfully,

Adele M. Banks

Adele M. Banks

Cc: Mayor Williams
Councilmember Kevin Chavous
All councilmembers – DC City Council

BZA
Case No. 16753
Exhibit No. 78

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16753
EXHIBIT NO.78

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