1249 Girard Street N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20017

September 26, 2001

Chairperson
Government of the District of Columbia
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street N.W., Suite 220
Washington, D.C. 20001

RE: Application No. 16758, B.P. Amoco
1300 Rhode Island Avenue N.E.
(Square 3956, Lot 801)

Dear Chairperson:

As homeowners and long-time residents of Brookland and residing two blocks from the site, we would like to voice our opposition to application number 16758 of B.P. Amoco Corporation for a special exception to construct a gasoline station at premises 1300 Rhode Island Avenue, N.E. (Square 3956, Lot 801).

The demolition of the old apartment building at this site was understandable. This vacant site provides a very unusual opportunity to develop two acres of vacant land within Brookland. The city has put so much effort into converting the old impound lot and storage facility into a unique shopping experience. With the real estate market heating up in Brookland and the neighborhood gaining a reputation as a place to frequent good restaurants, it saddens us to think that this unique opportunity is being squandered on a use that is not unique, does not serve the community, and is over-scaled for this community.

The Rhode Island Avenue corridor from Eastern Avenue to 4th Street N.E. has several former gas stations. Stations have been moving to larger and larger sites over the years without cleaning up their underground tanks. This has led to the proliferation of garages and used car lots. The parade of gas stations has not enhanced the character of Rhode Island Avenue. On 12th Street between Rhode Island Avenue and Otis Street, there have been four gas stations. At 12th and Franklin, next door to Noyes Elementary School, a gas station site was converted to a garage. Across the street, a gas station recently reopened, but has expanded over the years by buying and removing adjacent houses. A third site remains closed after 20 years, and the final station site is an active AMOCO station.

We agree with the letter from our neighbor, Mrs. Stothers, that this project will not enhance or improve our community character.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to our opinion.

Sincerely,

George W. Martin

Shirley J. Martin

cc: James D. Berry, Jr., ANC- 5C

BZA
Case No. 16758
Exhibit No. 34
Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16758
EXHIBIT NO.34

1249 Girard St. N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20017

facsimile transmittal

To:	Board of Zoning Adjustments	**Fax:**	202-727-6072
From:	George and Shirley Martin	**Date:**	09/26/01
Re:	B.P. Amoco #16758	**Pages:**	Two
CC:	James D. Berry, Jr., ANC-5C	202-832-1969	

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Notes: Please include this letter in the public file for application No. 16758, B.P. Amoco Corp.