PITCHFORD AND ASSOCIATES

Arboriculture • Environmental Consultants

2213 40th Place, N.W., # 1, Washington, D.C. 20007
(202) 333-3851 (phone) • (202) 333-3859 (fax) • kpenvironment@mindspring.com

June 16, 2004

Mr. Alex Marshall
1519 P Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Marshall:

In response to your recent phone call regarding the large tree behind your house, I did look at this tree with your neighbor Eric Olsen. The tree is a tree of heaven, or *Ailanthus altissima*, and I estimate its diameter at approximately 24" at breast height.

You are correct when you say that it is listed in the proposed rulemaking that accompanies the D.C. Urban Forest Preservation Act of 2002 as a "species appropriate for removal." I recently spoke with a representative of the D.C. Urban Forestry Administration who assures me that they are not "encouraging" the removal of *Ailanthus*, but that the bill does recognize the invasive nature of this tree and, as such, there are no monetary penalties for their removal.

Attached are color photos and descriptions of several trees that could be good substitutes for this tree in the event that you cannot save it in your construction plan. Please call me if you would like to discuss these options in greater detail, or if you do decide to pursue tree protection of the *Ailanthus*.

Sincerely,

Keith C. Pitchford
ISA Certified Arborist, MA-0178

BZA
Case No. 17172
Exhibit No. 35

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17172
EXHIBIT NO. 35