Berhanu Terrefe
Owner operator of Lowest Price Gas
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Washington, DC 20032
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May 29, 2005

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D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2005 MAY 31 PM 4:27

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Colombia office of Zoning
441 4th Street, N.W
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Application No. 17281

Dear Chairman and Members of the Board:

I came to this country in 1981 from Ethiopia, and started working my way up by doing Dish Washing, Park attending, Taxi Driving and other work for the last 24 years. Needless to say, with lots of struggle, I was able to pay my income tax proudly and save enough money to start this business at South Capitol Street. This is the money I invested in the construction cost after I was given an opportunity by Power fuel & Transport, LLC to own and operate the Gas Station which was approved by DCRA in June of 2004, a year ago.

After seeing the approved Plan and Permit to construct the Gas station, it never occurred to me that I will be forced to sustain the damage and losses for a mistake I did not do.

It has been very hard for me, my wife, my two sons and a few extended families to sustain our daily expense because of the delay I am facing which cost me substantial amount of money every day to stay in business without the planned Gas Station. This whole thing is caused by Mr. John Ray, one time, a D.C. councilman, now a Lawyer. This is the lawyer who Mr. Joe Mamo of Dag Petroleum LLC can afford to hire and to have Mr. Ray simply block competitive development in ward 8 with the profit he made from the same people who needs our service at the Lowest Price Gas Station. It is obvious a non-branded gas station like mine will bring competition to the area's gas price with lower cost to benefit the ward 8 community who constantly expressed their support for my station to have the Gas Station open. This was voiced loud and clear not only by the 20 or so supporters whom shown up at the February, 2005 hearing in favor for my Gas Station, but also was evident by the petition with over 200 signatures indicate their support of the Gas Station and filed as document for the Board Members to see the true supports of those who will be the benefited in having a Lowest Price Gas Station in their neighborhood in the ward 8 community.

BZA
Case No. 17281
Exhibit No. 44

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17281
EXHIBIT NO. 44

Dag Petroleum LLC who owned most of the Shell branded gas station in The District of Colombia and one other station owner who is not even located in the District of Colombia is the only other opposition against the opening and the completion of the construction of my Gas Station.

When opposition couldn't find anyone in the ward 8 community to oppose the Gas Station, they used Ms. **Margaret Gentry, assistant to Mr. John Ray** to write as a concerned citizen who choose to ignore the community majority voice and exploited them by keeping high price gas station environment in the Ward 8 area for her client, Dag Petroleum to operate without any competition, she truly does not care about the community one bit, she has no interest in the community except as a hired gun for Mr. Ray and Mr. Mamo of Dag Petrolem,LLC to do research for these two gentlemen.

Please let the American way of free enterprise to continue benefiting the Ward 8 Community and the District of Colombia so that each of us can grow steadily by the increasing amount of tax revenue can be collected for the DC Government from the Maryland commuters who will pass by the Lowest Price Gas station every day at South Capitol Street.

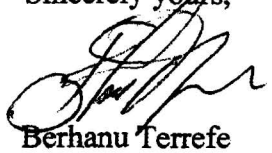
I am 47 years old, I have worked very hard all my life to get where I am .I don't believe such greed and obstruction of development brought forth by Dag Petroleum, LLc as shown in his behavior and proceeding against my Gas Station project in Ward 8 should not have any weights in convincing you, the BZA to stop the project and my livelihood which was achieved by my hard work.

I always have confidence on the justice system of this country that I am blessed to live in.

May God bless you all, this city and America.

Thank You for giving me the opportunity to express my worries in this letter and at the BZA hearing.

Sincerely yours,



Berhanu Terrefe