CAR GIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF TERRESTRIAL MAGNETISM
5241 BROAD BRANCH ROAD N W
WASHINGTON, D C 20015-1305

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Hatem Atallah
Ambassador
The Embassy of Tunisia
1515 Massachusetts Avenue, N W.
Washington, D.C 20005

Re: Z.C Case No. 04-12
The Carnegie Institution of Washington
5241 Broad Branch Road, N W., Square 2288, Lot 813 (the "Property")

Dear Ambassador Atallah,

We have received from our counsel a copy of your May 27, 2004 letter to the Zoning Commission opposing our above-referenced application based on your concern for maintaining the quality of the neighborhood Having occupied our property since the early 1920s, we share this concern with you It is our hope that once you understand the nature of the proposed modifications, which are very minor, you will support the application.

It has been Carnegie's objective during its eighty (80) years at the Property to maintain the park-like setting of the eight-acre campus, both for the benefit of the students and scientists of Carnegie, as well as for the surrounding community As I am sure you are aware, the Carnegie campus is open for the community to enjoy for walking, jogging, exercising their dogs, sledding in the winter, or simply sitting and taking in the scenery

With regard to the proposed modifications to the Experiment Building, the proposed new construction is for two (2), one-story additions to the existing Experiment Building totaling 2550 square feet of new construction. The first addition will be used for a new seminar/exhibit area with bathrooms and is approximately 950 square feet. The second addition will be for a new one story conference room of 1600 square feet These minor additions will allow the reuse of a building that has sat largely vacant for many years and provide Carnegie with much needed space and will house a new kitchen and lunch room, a seismology lab on the lower level and the existing carpentry shop (which is currently located in the Experiment Building)

Of high priority in designing the proposed additions was the preservation of the surrounding trees and greenery and preserving the campus's tranquil, park-like setting Much thought and consideration was put into modifying this building so as to create as little disturbance to the environment and surrounding community The resulting design is that the proposed construction will expand the footprint of the building eastward in the

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direction of the other existing buildings on the campus, rather than in the direction of the undeveloped grassy area to the west The few trees and bushes that will be removed during the site preparation for the new foundation will be replaced. An open colonnade and courtyard with brick pavers will link the renovated Experiment Building to the historic Van de Graaf Generator tower and provide an attractive setting for outdoor activities

You will be pleased to know that we are not proposing any increases in population at the campus or reduction in parking Thus, there will be no impact on the community by way of increased traffic or noise

For your review and consideration, I am enclosing a copy of the prehearing statement we have filed with the Commission, which further explains the minor nature of these improvements, as well as our work here at the Campus. Additionally, we would welcome the opportunity to have you or your staff visit us to review the plans and so that we can give you a tour of the campus

We look forward to hearing from you and welcome your questions and comments

Very truly yours,

Roy Dingus,
Facility Manager

Enclosure (as stated)
cc Jeannine Rustad, Esq
Carol Mitton, Chairperson, Zoning Commission