EXHIBIT B



Susan.Raposa@cfa.gov

02/10/2005 03:42 PM

To: Cynthia Giordano/Atty/DC/ArnoldAndPorter@APORTER
cc:
Subject: Re: Minutes for WASA Digestors Project

Here are the minutes for the WASA Digestors Project reviewed by the Commission of Fine Arts 18 November. A copy of the letter with the CFA's recommendation can be found at http://www.cfa.gov/meetings/archive/2004/nov/20041118_08.html

Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Susan Raposa
Technical Information Specialist
Commission of Fine Arts

CFA 18/NOV/04-8, Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant, 5000 Overlook Avenue, SW. New egg-shaped digester facility. Concept. Mr. Lindstrom located the Blue Plains Treatment Plant on an aerial photograph and described the project as an anaerobic facility used to break down solid waste for the treatment plant. He said that at present the site was an empty pit about 30 feet deep into which these large digesters would be sunk, thus reducing their considerable height and their effect on the skyline. He introduced architect Suman Sorg to make the presentation.

Before beginning her presentation, Ms. Sorg introduced Cynthia Giordano from the law firm of Arnold & Porter to say a few words. Ms. Giordano said she just wanted to say that there were two officials from WASA present , as well as the chief engineers for the project if there were any technical questions. She added that upon completion, the project would achieve several goals: it would reduce the sludge output by nearly half, bring about a significant reduction in the truck traffic carrying the sludge out to the Virginia landfills, and produce a higher quality product.

Ms. Sorg opened her presentation by noting that the facility was about five miles from the Capitol and two-and one-half miles from Reagan National Airport, and it would have a significant impact on the skyline; she said she would show drawings made from the airport and from Alexandria. The facility would serve Montgomery County, Prince Georges County, and Loudon County as well as the District. She said the site occupied eight acres and, in addition to the eight egg-shaped digesters, would include four sludge silos, gas holding tanks, excess gas "flares", numerous other buildings, old and new, required for the operation, and in the future a cogeneration plant which would use the methane to produce electricity. Then she turned to the existing buildings, showing photos and describing them as buff brick buildings in the industrial Art Deco style of the 1930s with metal door trim. She also showed examples of egg-shaped digesters in different parts of the country and in Germany, saying that they were usually concrete or steel drums with an outside cladding.

For Blue Plains, Ms. Sorg said there would be a perimeter walkway connecting the eggs; she said she hope to design the bridges in a style reminiscent of the 19th century steel bridges seen in Washington, and she noted that the trusses would be structural as well as decorative. The walkway would be accessed by two stair towers which would repeat the kind and color of brickwork and metalwork seen in the older buildings. She showed a plan, noting two diamond-shaped buildings between the groupings of four digesters; one would be used for electrical equipment and the other would contain a visitors center where people could come and look as the operations. She also commented on the large, new Digester Gas Building, the stair tower and elevator design and showed drawings.

Turning specifically to the egg-shaped digesters, she asked engineer Tom Sadik from the Program Management Office to give the members some

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.04-19
EXHIBIT NO.37B

background information on the digesters. He said this method of dealing with solid waste had been understood for many hundreds of years, but it had evolved with time, and these digesters were state-of-the-art, a form that had been developed in Germany and widely used there. Ms. Sorg then described the concrete eggs, saying the concrete would be covered with insulation and waterproofing and finally with stainless steel in such a way that water would be able to penetrate the steel and drain down. The stainless steel panels would be diamond-shaped, since this shape could be bent to accommodate the double curve shape of the eggs. She showed samples of two different shades of grey steel that would be used to emphasize the pattern on the eggs, which recalled the Art Deco style of the old buildings. She also showed samples and colors to be used on the other buildings, including the brick and the aluminum trim, which also related to the old buildings. Ms. Sorg noted that the silos would also be clad in steel, like the eggs, but they would not be patterned.

The Chairman and the other members complimented Ms. Sorg on her design, but there was unanimous agreement that the bridges, in spite of the sophisticated design of the splayed trusses, were too reminiscent of 19th century Victorian design, and should instead recall the 1930s industrial design of the existing buildings at Blue Plains. The pattern on the eggs might also be simplified and the elevators clad in steel rather than buff brick, like the silos, to give the effect of one piece of sculpture. The Chairman suggested that she look at such examples as Hoover Dam and the rear area of the Newark train station, often called the "Dragon's Belly", and he said the Commission was looking forward to seeing the project again soon.

Cynthia_Giordano@
aporter.com

02/10/05 03:36 PM

To: sraposa@cfa.gov

cc:

Subject: Minutes for WASA Digestors Project

Hi . I would really appreciate your help in emailing the above-referenced minutes. thank-you. Cynthia

---

This communication may contain information that is legally privileged, confidential or exempt from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, please note that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. Anyone who receives this message in error should notify the sender immediately by telephone or by return e-mail and delete it from his or her computer.

Cynthia Giordano
Arnold & Porter LLP
555 Twelfth Street, NW

Cynthia_Giordano@aporter.com
Telephone: 202-942-5840
Fax: 202-942-5999

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

6 December 2004

Dear Mr. Johnson:

During its 18 November 2004 meeting, the Commission reviewed the concept designs for the proposed new egg-shaped digester facility at the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant. The members applaud the Authority for their forward-looking planning to incorporate such a facility into the wastewater treatment process at the Blue Plains Plant. The long term benefits for the metropolitan area and the environment that this new installation will provide are many. Overall, the Commission approved the project's location and the concept design for the layout of the facility. However, the members made several recommendations to improve the design of the facility's decorative features.

There was a consensus that the "Victorian" looking supports of the bridging at the top of the digesters were not of the right stylistic period. It was recommended that the bridges should be modified to reflect a more modern 1930's industrial Deco style. This image would be more in keeping with the character of the existing older buildings in the plant and with the industrial nature of the facility. In this regard, the members also suggested the elevator towers, associated with the digesters, be clad in the same metal as the large tanks instead of yellow brick veneer. In addition, the members suggested that the final selection of the metal for the cladding of the egg-shaped tanks be carefully chosen. The idea is to not render the pattern with closely associated or contrasting colors. The fear is that the contrast of colors in the pattern may be too strong and the effect will be garish and too assertive. Perhaps only one color of metal should be used and allow the pattern to be rendered by the joints and seams. This would create the very subtle effect desired.

With these comments taken into consideration, the concept design for the facility should be modified and resubmitted, with material samples, when ready. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday the 25th of January 2005, with a submission deadline on the 6th of January. As always, the staff is available should you require additional guidance.

Sincerely,

Frederick J. Lindstrom
Acting Secretary

Mr. Jerry N. Johnson
General Manager
DC Water and Sewer Authority
5000 Overlook Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20032

RECEIVED
DEC 06 2004
SORG AND ASSOCIATES

cc: Avis M. Russell, DCWASA
Cynthia Giordano, Arnold and Porter
Suman Sorg, Sorg Associates

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

4 January 2005

Dear Ms. Sorg:

Because the Commission did not hold a December meeting, we circulated your proposed revised designs for the cladding and walkways on the Egg-shaped Digester facility at WASA Blue Plains Waste Water Treatment Plant to the members for comments. All the Commissioners responded and unanimously thought the new simplified scheme to be an improvement, being less "retro" and more appropriate for this type of facility. This is a direction for the design that they hope will be further developed. The members encourage you to submit these revisions to the Commission by the 6 January 2005 deadline for a formal review at their next meeting on 25 January. In addition, a recommendation was made to include in the submission a three-dimensional or perspective rendering of the facility to illustrate the revised design. If you have any additional questions or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the staff.

Sincerely,

Frederick J. Lindstrom
Acting Secretary

Suman Sorg, AIA
Sorg and Associates, P.C.
2000 S Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20009

202 544 0859