

April 26, 2021

Re: Description of Existing and Proposed Use for the New Hampshire Ave. Chiller Plant

The site, located at the corner of Rock Creek Church Road NW, Georgia Avenue NW and New Hampshire Avenue NW is home to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Greenbelt Route Chiller Plant. The existing facility holds a small cooling tower, chiller and electrical/mechanical equipment that serve to cool the nearby underground metro stations. Currently WMATA is working to remediate and treat the contaminated ground water and VOC vapors found at the site that were caused by leaking underground gas tanks placed by the previous property owner. The proposed treatment system will be a Dual Phase Remediation Treatment system. The equipment for this new remediation treatment system cannot be stored inside the existing building due to limited available space; therefore, a new addition will be provided to house the remediation systems equipment.

Because the site is designated as a historic landmark, the addition must meet the District of Columbia's Historic Preservation guidelines. During the design phase, the architect met with DC Historic Preservation office to discuss the design and building materials. DC Historic Preservation has approved the final design for the building addition. In addition to housing the treatment system equipment, the design intent for the new addition is to provide a structure that is consistent with the surrounding neighborhoods vernacular architecture. The addition will also function similarly to the existing building as an unoccupied space with weekly routine maintenance visits. The land surrounding the existing building and addition will be a combination of green space and paved surfaces with underground wells and trenches connected to the treatment systems. Although there will be no parking for the existing facility; a new driveway for maintenance access to the building will be provided.