



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION III
Delaware, District of
Columbia, Maryland,
Pennsylvania, Virginia,
West Virginia

1760 Market Street
Suite 500
Philadelphia, PA 19103-4124
215-656-7100
215-656-7260 (fax)

DEC 20 2010

Mr. Stephen J. Del Giudice
Transit Bureau Chief
Division of Transportation
Arlington County Department of Environmental Services
2100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 900
Arlington, VA 22201

Re: Crystal City Potomac Yard Transitway Project
Update to 2007 Documented Categorical Exclusion due to Alignment Change

Dear Mr. Del Giudice:

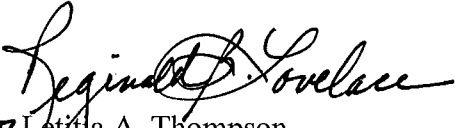
I am writing in response to Wendy Jia's letter of August 3, 2010 regarding Arlington County's submission of documentation in support of an update to the previously approved 2007 Documented Categorical Exclusion for the Crystal City-Potomac Yard project. Additional information requested by FTA and provided by the County in October 2010 has also been reviewed.

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) acknowledges that the updated report and technical memoranda satisfactorily document the absence of any significant environmental effects for Segments D and Modified Segment E of the project. We note that Segments D and Modified E are not likely to contain archeological resources. However, if archeological resources are discovered during construction, activity at the site must cease and the Virginia State Department of Historical Resources should be consulted. Further, it is required that the project sponsor adhere to all Federal, State and local requirements during final design and construction. Such requirements include, but are not limited to, erosion and sediment control and discharge of storm water for which permits are required. This requirement is specified in correspondence from Virginia's Department of Environmental Quality dated November 27, 2006, and other official correspondence contained in the administrative record. Finally, should any of the conditions described in your new submission change or decline substantially, or new circumstances relevant to environmental concerns related to the project surface, the FTA should be advised immediately.

Accordingly, the FTA concurs with WMATA that the proposed actions meet the criteria and standards for a Categorical Exclusion under 23 CFR Section 771.117(d).

If you have any further questions, please contact Ms. Melissa Barlow by telephone at (202) 219-3565 or by email at melissa.barlow@dot.gov.

Sincerely,


for Letitia A. Thompson
Regional Administrator

Cc: Melissa Barlow, FTA-DC Metro Office
Katie Grasty, FTA Office of Planning and Environment
Bee Buergler, Arlington County
Wendy Jia, WMATA
Mike Harris, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation
Tom Harrington, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit authority
Jim Ashe, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Jim Maslanka, Alexandria Transportation and Environmental Services Department