



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

REGION III  
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Pennsylvania, Virginia,  
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**APR 10 2007**

Mr. Nat Bottigheimer  
Director, Office of Planning and Project Development  
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority  
600 Fifth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Environmental Categorical Exclusion for the Crystal City/  
Potomac Yard Transit Improvements Project

Dear Mr. Bottigheimer:

I am writing in response to Ms. Wendy Jia's letter of January 26, 2007, requesting a Class II Categorical Exclusion (CE) determination under 23 CFR Section 771.117(d) for improvements to the Crystal City/Potomac Yard Corridor (Segments D and E).

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) acknowledges that the report and technical memoranda satisfactorily document the absence of any significant environmental effects for Segments D and E of the project. We note that Segments D and 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 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).

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call Deborah Burns, Washington, DC  
Metropolitan Office, at 202-219-3565.

Sincerely,

  
for Herman C. Shipman  
Acting Regional Administrator

✓ cc: Ms. Wendy Jia, WMATA  
Mr. Jim Ashe, WMATA