

December 12, 2011

To the Honorable Members of the
Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee
City of Milwaukee
City Hall, Room 205

Dear Committee Members:

File No. 110626 relates to the change in zoning from General Planned Development to a Detailed Planned Development known as Forest County Potawatomi Legacy District, Phase II, to facilitate future development, on land located on the south side of West Canal Street, west of West Potawatomi Circle, in the 8th Aldermanic District.

This zoning change will facilitate the development of a biogas generation facility on a portion of the existing surface parking lot at 2301 West Canal Street. The proposed biodigester development in Milwaukee is the country's first biodigester being developed for its environmental and energy potential, instead of as a means to mitigate a disposal problem. This facility will convert the organic byproducts of the region's food processing industries into energy.

The proposed biogas generation facility will be one story tall with an internal mechanical mezzanine. The top of the building will be approximately 35 feet above grade. The biodigester tanks with sidewalls and roof will be approximately 60 feet tall. The exhaust stacks for the engine generators will be 80 feet tall above grade and 16 inches in diameter. Other site features include a shielded biogas back-up flare and a twenty foot diameter feed tank. For comparison, the existing casino and parking structures are approximately 65 feet tall. The generation facility will be masonry construction. The digester tanks will be steel construction with exterior insulation covered with metal panels, and the tops of the tanks will be conical or semi-spherical in shape.

On December 12, 2011, a public hearing was held and at that time nobody spoke in opposition. Since the proposed Detailed Planned Development is consistent with the recommendations of the Menomonee Valley Area Plan, the City Plan Commission at its regular meeting on December 12, 2011 recommended approval of the subject file.

Sincerely,

Rocky Marcoux
Executive Secretary
City Plan Commission of Milwaukee

cc: Ald. Robert Donovan