

APPENDIX F

**COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT EIS AND
RESPONSES TO THOSE COMMENTS**

WRITTEN COMMENTS

The following comments were received at the public hearing for the Draft EIS. No other written comments were received during the public comment period from October 21, 2003 to December 22, 2003.

Name: Franz Backus (and Charles D. Palit)

Comment: Please build the parking structure over the railroad track in back of the UW Hospital. It is closer, less expensive, and could be better orientated to address traffic issues with ramps to/from University Avenue.

Response: It is the opinion of the University that this option would be more costly, take considerable time to negotiate with the railroad and not provide the adequate number of parking stalls needed even with existing spaces on the west campus.

Name: Franz Backus

Verbal Comment: Viewed concern about the soil under Lot 76 and whether it would be able to support a large parking structure.

Response: Soil testing for this project investigated several options for support of a building structure of this size and magnitude. The results of this testing concluded there were several foundation construction methods that could be implemented for this project. The construction engineers performed a value engineering analysis of the recommended methods to arrive at the chosen method of supporting the foundations on steel pipe piles.

Name: Charles D. Palit

Comment: Why are you building in an area that is so frequently subject to flooding. Remember when Nielsen was almost flooded away.

Response: Periodic flooding of this area has been minimized with the reconstruction and raising of University Bay Drive. Both this improvement and the future raising of Temin Path will provide a level of flood protection for all west campus facilities. Stormwater management is also being reviewed across the West Campus to minimize flooding concerns.

Name: Charles D. Palit and Dawn Palit

Comment: Please note that this hearing was held in a setting that the public could not come to. At 4 pm, parking at the WARF results in parking tickets. When you can park, the building is locked up. Also, most university representatives had left when we arrived at 6 pm. And why were the large scale maps, etc. removed before the posted end of the meeting?

Response: We typically note that EIS meetings such as this start at a specific time and the ending time is left flexible based on attendance. In this case, the meeting invitation gave an end time as well. Because the building locks at 6:00 PM, in hindsight it would have been better to have had someone posted at the door to allow access, if necessary, after that time. Parking is free after 4:30 PM in the WARF parking lot. In hindsight, this could have been noted on the meeting announcement as such. These changes will be incorporated into the announcement for the Final EIS public hearing.