

THE COLUMBIA GAS SYSTEM, INC.
120 EAST FORTY-FIRST STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

CECIL E. LOOMIS
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

May 3, 1968

Mr. Walter J. Heacock
Snuff Mill Road
Greenville
Wilmington, Del.

Dear Mr. Heacock:

We have just received the letter of May 1, 1968, from Robert H. Bolling, Jr. and Mrs. Wallace Gordon regarding the proposed new executive office building for our corporate headquarters. We would like to set the record straight, so that you will be able to make up your minds on the basis of correct information.

We urge you to come to the public hearing on May 7th to find out the true facts first hand. We suggest that you will not find anything to support the claim that rezoning this land for this use will lead to "commercializing our area in a manner similar to what is so distasteful along the Kirkwood Highway and Concord Pike" as argued by those seeking your "active opposition". Instead, we believe you will find, for example, (a) that Columbia will build a two story office building of a design to improve the land and to harmonize with all the surroundings; (b) the building will occupy less than one tenth of the parcel, leaving the rest open and landscaped with lawn and trees, (which subdivided housing lots will not permit) and leaving the Farquhar's residence at "Rokeby"; (c) Columbia will voluntarily enter appropriate restrictions to limit this land to that type of use; (d) that the final highway plans call for a major limited access expressway with this property on the south (Wilmington) side of it. We also believe you will find that Columbia and its executives and staff will be the kind of neighbors you will want to welcome and that you will not want to speculate on what may be the use of this land without these safeguards.

Sincerely,

COLUMBIA GAS SYSTEM, INC.

Cecil E. Loomis

s/ Cecil E. Loomis
Chairman of the Board

John W. Partridge
/s John W. Partridge
President