

**Firchow, Kevin**

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**From:** Bidar-Sielaff, Shiva  
**Sent:** Monday, April 23, 2012 7:28 AM  
**To:** Firchow, Kevin  
**Cc:** John Schlaefer; gbrown@fpm.wisc.edu; Murphy, Brad  
**Subject:** West Campus Cogeneration Facility- Plan Commission 4/23/12 Agenda item #18

Dear Kevin,

Please distribute this to the members of Plan Commission. Thank you!

Dear Plan Commission members,

I am unable to attend the Plan Commission tonight (I will be at Board of Estimates.) I would like to express my support for the West Campus Cogeneration Facility alteration with all the conditions contained in the staff report. The Regent Neighborhood Association Board, UW Facilities and I have had several meetings to discuss this project and have agreed on the noise related conditions contained on page 3 of the staff report.

Thank you,

Shiva Bidar-Sielaff  
District 5 Alder  
(608) 220-6986

# JOINT WEST CAMPUS AREA COMMITTEE

## REPORT of ACTION

March 28, 2012

<b>Agenda Item / Project Name:</b>	<b>West Campus Co-Generation Facility Chiller Addition</b>
<b>Street Address:</b>	<b>515 Walnut Street</b>
<b>Project Contact(s)/Phone #'s:</b>	<b>Gary Brown, 608-263-3023</b>
<b>Date of JWCAC meeting(s):</b>	<b>March 28, 2012</b>
<b>JWCAC Members in Attendance:</b> Shiva Bidar-Sielaff (City of Madison Alder); Rob Kennedy (UW Madison Transportation Services); Nan Fey (City of Madison Plan Commission); Gary Brown (UW Facilities Planning & Management); Andy Howick (UW Hospital); Sherwood Malamud (Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association); Doug Carlson (Vilas Neighborhood Association); Laura Rose (Regent Neighborhood Association); Mark VanderWoude (UW School of Nursing); Liz Vowles (Sunset Village Neighborhood Association); Karl Frantz (Village of Shorewood Hills); Chris Schmidt (City of Madison Alder); Kelly Ignatoski (UW Housing-Eagle Heights Apartments) Connie Brachman (UW College of Engineering); Robbie Webber (Transportation Committee member); Sue Ellingson (City of Madison Alder).	
<b>Committee staff present:</b> Deb Hatfield	

**Brief Project Description:** The proposed project includes construction of the entire shell for a planned building expansion in the northwest corner of the existing West Campus CoGeneration Facility site on Walnut Street. Two chillers will be installed as part of this initial project with an additional 4 chillers planned for the future. The proposed expansion will match the existing building's architectural style. Windows will be incorporated into the design to open up the northwest corner and provide education opportunities for people passing by on the street. The glass in the windows will be tempered and will be able to withstand rocks and bullets. In addition, landscaping features such as boulders will be incorporated in front of the windows to minimize the potential for vandalism.

### Action or Recommendation by JWCAC:

**Action:** Motion by Sherwood Malamud and seconded by Robbie Webber that the Joint West Campus Area Committee recommend approval of the West Campus CoGen Facility Chiller Addition to the Plan Commission with the following conditions of the approval:

1. Sound testing before and after construction with no increase in noise after completion.
2. Neighborhood shall be notified prior to one time increased noise events.

**All in favor.** Motion approved unanimously with Shiva Bidar-Sielaff, Chris Schmidt, Sue Ellingson and Nan Fey abstaining.

## Firchow, Kevin

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**From:** BROWN, Gary [GBROWN@fpm.wisc.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 23, 2012 3:38 PM  
**To:** Firchow, Kevin; Rummel, Marsha; Murphy, Brad  
**Subject:** RE: #18 questions RE: Consent Agenda

Hi, Marsha... here's a quick summary of the water cycle for the Co-Gen plant operations:

- Lake water is pulled from Lake Mendota that feeds both the Charter Street Heating Plant and the CoGen Facility for the cooling towers that generate chilled water that cools the building across campus. Lake water has been drawn for the campus for decades and we actually have reduced our overall consumption of lake water for things like hand washing in our buildings (yuck!).
- The intake is north of Helen C. White Hall, north of the sailboat mooring field.
- Most of the water taken from the lake evaporates through the cooling towers and re-enters the overall water cycle.
  - We monitor how much water evaporates from the cooling towers and add water back into the Yahara Lakes system downstream at the Madison Municipal Sewage Plant. Credit is given for water being added back into the lake system. A well in that area also adds water back into the lake system and credited to the campus power plants.
  - A large bioswale at Odana Hills Golf Course also allows storm water to percolate back into the aquifer for recharge purposes. Credit from that process also relates back to the overall support of water coming out of the lake for the two heating plants.
- The additional capacity related to this project will not impact the amount of water drawn from the lake.
- Water coming out of the plant does not enter the lake system directly therefore temperature is not an issue.
- DNR has reviewed all of this information and a campus permit covers our use of lake water. This project will not impact that permit.
- To my knowledge, the county does not review the permit process.
- My understanding is that with both power plants running at full capacity under a full build-out condition (which neither plant is at today or will be in the near future), the level of Lake Mendota would be reduced by 1/4" on an annual basis.

If you are interested in the detailed information, you can find more details in our Environmental Impact Assessment that was completed for the project at:

<http://www.cornerstoneeg.com/project-docs/wccf-addition/>

Here's a clip from that document that talks about water usage in the plant related to this proposed addition:

“The facility’s water withdrawal from Lake Mendota was not expected to produce a significant impact on Dane County’s lakes and rivers except during times of extreme low flows, which occur every three to four years on average. These impacts (during low flow conditions) are acceptably mitigated through two-step process to offset the facilities water use was implemented. The first step is to pump groundwater for short periods in these low flow times to supplement the Yahara River (which happens at the MMSD plant). The second is to collect and infiltrate stormwater runoff to recharge the groundwater system (which happens at the Odana Golf Course). Details of this system are provided in the 2003 EIS document.”

Thanks,

Gary