Subject: Chemistry Building Area
Tunnel and Chamber Replacement

Action Requested: Approval to Proceed with Project

Background:

This project will replace a section of the utility tunnel and chamber located at the southeast corner of the Chemistry Building. The chamber is essentially an underground vault where two tunnels intersect. This section of tunnel and associated chamber are approximately seventy years old. Over time, salt applied for de-icing sidewalks and roads accelerates the deterioration of the steel and concrete components of the tunnel. The tunnel system is evaluated for structural integrity and sections are repaired until replacement is required. The roof of this section of the tunnel is currently braced to maintain the structure, and replacement is now required to continue the safe operation of this section of tunnel and chamber. The scope of the project includes the architectural, mechanical, electrical and civil work necessary to rebuild the tunnel chamber, and build a replacement tunnel adjacent to the deteriorated section. The utility piping will then be rerouted through the new tunnel and the old tunnel properly abandoned and filled with lean concrete to prevent a future collapse. Utility service to the buildings served by this section of tunnel will be maintained throughout the project except for scheduled shutdowns. There will be no impact on parking from this project.

The estimated cost of the project is $2,250,000. Funding will be provided from Utility resources. The construction cash flow may be provided, all or in part, by increasing the commercial paper issuance under the commercial paper program, secured by a pledge of General Revenues, and authorized by the Regents. The University of Michigan, Plant Extension – Architecture, Engineering and Construction will design the project. Construction is scheduled to be completed in Winter 2006.

We recommend that the Regents approve the Chemistry Building Area – Tunnel and Chamber Replacement project as described, and authorize issuing the project for bids and awarding construction contracts providing that bids are within the approved budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy P. Slottow
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

March 2005

APPROVED BY THE REGENTS ON
MAR 17 2005