



**THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NY & NJ**

*Engineering Department*

September 24, 2007

Ms. Fatma M. Amer, P. E.  
Deputy Commissioner Technical Affairs  
& Chief Code Engineer  
NYC Department of Buildings  
280 Broadway, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Re: World Trade Center – Tower 1(Freedom Tower) - Restaurant and  
Observation Deck

Dear Commissioner Amer:

Thank you for meeting with the Port Authority representatives and the design team on September 10, 2007 to discuss the design and the exit facilities of the Restaurant and the Observation Deck floors in the World Trade Center Tower 1(Freedom Tower). The following were discussed and agreed upon.

- The restaurant will be located at the 100<sup>th</sup> and 101<sup>st</sup> floors and the observation deck will be located on the 102nd floor.
- The two restaurant levels are open to each other with openings at four corners. These openings are also interconnected by 3-foot wide slits along the perimeter. For the 1B construction classification of the building, 2-hr fire rated separation between the floors is required by the code. However, the code permits unprotected openings between two floors for communicating stairs, and for the IB construction, fully sprinklered buildings, the code allows for unlimited floor area per floor if the two floors are to be considered one.
- The addition of draft curtain and closely spaced sprinklers at the edge of the openings, in conjunction with an early smoke detection system with beam type detectors and a smoke control system, would be acceptable safety measures to maintain the openings.
- A supplemental enclosed stair to the 93rd floor is provided in the design to facilitate evacuation from these floors. This stair, however, cannot be considered as a required vertical exit nor allowed to be used as a supplemental exit to an area of refuge on the 93<sup>rd</sup> floor from the restaurant or the observation deck for exit reduction purposes.

*Gateway 3  
100 Mulberry Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07102*



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- The design also provides a separate enclosed stair that runs for the full height of the building for firemen's use during emergency. The Department of Buildings will accept the use of this stair as an exit from the restaurant and the observation deck floors. The Port Authority will coordinate with the Fire Department on the use of this stair.
- With the two main stairs and the use of the firemen's stair for exit from these floors, maximum occupancy will be limited to 460 persons on each restaurant floor (occupancy F4) and 600 persons on the observation deck (occupancy F3).
- The occupant load on the restaurant floors, as well as the observation deck, would be higher based on the occupant-area ratio table in the code. The occupant load needs to be controlled with posting and time ticketing and/or other acceptable methods. The Port Authority needs to document this and put this requirement in the restaurant and observation deck leases. When actual measures of occupancy control are established, the PA shall make such measures available to DOB for review.

If you find the above to be a fair and accurate summary of our meetings and concur that the design meets the code requirements, I would appreciate your signing and returning a copy of this letter to me.

Very truly yours,

Saroj Bhol, P. E.  
Manager, Construction Design Standards

Concurred:

Fatma M. Amer, P. E.  
Deputy Commissioner Technical Affairs  
& Chief Code Engineer