

Executive Summary

The Thesis Proposal expands on the topics for the semester long thesis research class leading up to the Thesis Presentation. This proposal will go into detail of my three selected analysis topics as well as my research topic. I will discuss why each topic was chosen and describe the critical issue with each as well as provide background. After this I will illustrate the steps that will be taken during my research. A general synopsis of my building will also be presented.

From the issues that were identified as a result of the PACE Roundtable, I chose to look into an issue that directly affected my project for my industry research topic; WBE/MBE solicitation. This is the process whereby all contractors who wish to bid on any DGS project need to solicit bids for subcontracted work from minority and women owned businesses. I intend to find out whether requiring this is deemed fair by prime contractors, if they increase their bids due to being forced to provide this extra work, and if there are any other issues with respect to the solicitation process.

After a visit to my building and talking to the workers and key player for the project, several issues were brought up. Those issues were narrowed down and there were chosen to be used for my three technical analyses. These consisted of adding a windmill to the roof of my building to generate electricity, adjusting the cladding system for the building from a metal panel siding to either the brick or glass panels which clad the remainder of the building, and structurally redesign of the skylights to remove the steel joist that runs through the center of it.