



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Alaska Region
240 West 5th Avenue, Room 114
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

IN REPLY REFER TO:

8/12/04

To whom it may concern:

Reference:

Criterion General, Inc.
2820 Commercial Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3015

Criterion General was contracted by Denali National Park and Preserve's concessioner to construct new visitor services facilities at the park. The facilities included a Food Court, Sales Building, Dining Facility, Pizza Pub and related sitework. I was a liaison between the park, the contractor and the contract design team. I was in contact with the Criterion staff on an almost daily basis and assisted in construction management duties including submittal review, design clarifications and site inspections.

I found the Criterion staff, both in the office and in the field, to be extremely responsive to the needs and requests of the National Park Service. Criterion was particularly helpful and cooperative in providing Value Engineering services to suggest design alternatives to meet project requirements at reduced costs to help meet project budgets in an escalating construction cost market.

The execution of the contract work was complicated by the project management process placed on Criterion which required close communication with the concessioner's staff located at the park, in Anchorage and at Lake Powell National Recreation Area. In addition, Criterion and the concessioner were required to coordinate the project with National Park Service staff located in Denali and Anchorage. Criterion managed to keep all parties adequately informed and was able to maintain schedules in spite of frequent delays in decision making by the NPS/park concessioner project management team.

The quality of work on these high profile public use buildings was very good. These now completed structures have set the standard of design and construction for the related visitor facilities currently under construction in the park.

I very much enjoyed the professional relationship with the Criterion team and would look forward to the opportunity to work with them again.

Bradley A. Richie
Architect A7671