Columbia University’s goal is to provide economical and reliable air conditioning on a 24-hour basis to its Morningside campus buildings. In order to meet growing cooling demands, the University has committed to undertake a major expansion of its central refrigeration plant located in the original powerhouse. The new refrigeration machines will provide an additional 5,600 tons of cooling. Project completion is anticipated by fall 2010.

Construction Activities for the Weeks of:
January 25, 2010 and February 1, 2010

Week of January 25, 2010
General Activities
- Floor removal in the powerhouse continues.
- Removal of abandoned piping in the powerhouse continues.
- Test probes will be made in the tunnel and powerhouse floors to support foundations.
- Work will begin on the Fairchild roof to expose structural steel members.

Week of February 1, 2010
General Activities
- Floor removal in the powerhouse continues.
- Removal of abandoned chillers in the Fairchild building begins.
- Relocation of utilities and equipment continues to make room for new piping.
- Foundations will be prepared for piping in coal tunnels.

Looking Ahead
- During the upcoming months, there will be much activity in the areas of the Grove and Fairchild buildings. New cooling towers will be rigged in place on the Fairchild roof, which will require the use of the largest mobile crane available in New York City.
- In addition, 30 inch diameter pipe risers will be erected along the east side of the Fairchild building. The pipe risers will provide the cooling water for the new refrigeration machines.

Need More Information?
- For questions or concerns, please e-mail projx@columbia.edu or call the Columbia University Facilities Services Center at 212-854-2222