CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
WITH THE STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2007

5:30 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL WORK ROOM

AGENDA

I. Welcome and Comments
   Mayor William D. Euille

II. Discussion of Legislative Package Proposals
    Mayor William D. Euille
    Legislative Director Bernard Caton
    (See "ADOPTION OF CITY LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE FOR THE 2008 GENERAL
    ASSEMBLY SESSION" docket memorandum for November 27 Council meeting, pages 1-5, for
    a listing of proposals)

III. City Council Discussion of Legislative Package

IV. Determination of Delegation Sponsors and
    Comments by Members of the General Assembly
    Delegation
    Delegate Adam Ebbin
    Delegate David Englin
    Delegate Brian Moran
    Senator Richard Saslaw
    Senator Patsy Ticer

Individuals with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate in the City Council Work Session may call the City Clerk and Clerk of Council's Office at 838-4500 (TTY/TDD 838-5056). We request that you provide a 48-hour notice so that the proper arrangements may be made.
Honorable Mayor Euille
Members of the City Council

The City Council's meeting tonight with the Alexandria delegation to the General Assembly offers an opportunity for the Council to register the City's interest in preserving the independence and permitting authority of the State Air Pollution Control Board (APCB).

As many of you undoubtedly know, the APCB has become the leading state level advocate of measures to ensure clean air for Alexandria. Unfortunately for Alexandria, however, the Air Board's future is under serious threat in the Assembly. Legislation passed last session and signed by the Governor, would (subject to action by the coming Assembly) consolidate the Air Board (and other citizen environmental boards, e.g. water) into and under the Director of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.
If this legislation is re-enacted in the coming Assembly session, the Air Board will lose its independence and its permitting authority. This would constitute a serious setback for Alexandria's efforts to clean up the Mirant Plant. We witnessed at the VDEQ hearing on November 19, the VDEQ, in contrast to the APCB, appears consistently to positions itself on the Mirant Corporation's side of issues.

I urge you to raise the preservation of the Air Board's authority as a priority issue with the General Assembly delegation in your meeting today. Failure to do so would certainly be misinterpreted by the delegation and would, indeed, be inconsistent with the strong support that so many of you have given to the cause of clean air. With the recent declarations of support over the Mirant plant from the Arlington and Fairfax boards of supervisors, it is doubly important that our delegation to the Assembly take strong and united position on this issue.

Yours respectfully,

Richard M. Moose
317 South St. Asaph Street
Alexandria
22314

(also on behalf of Ernest Lehman, also of Alexandria)
To <alexvamayor@aol.com>, <timothylovain@aol.com>,
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Subject: COA Contact Us: Meeting with Legislative Delegation

Meeting with Legislative Delegation
Mayor Euille and Members of Council,

Having seen Dick Moose's letter regarding the proposed consolidation of the Air Board and it's potential loss of regulatory and enforcement power, I just want to add my voice in favor of impressing on all members of the legislative delegation the opposition of Alexandria's citizens to such a merger.

I saw Justin Wilson's response note, which guided us to the text of the legislative package, so this is just by way of reinforcing that this is very important to many of us.

Comments:
One last point: On the DEQ site it says the enforcement position for the Air Board is vacant. I e-mailed DEQ's Michael Dowd this morning to inquire whether it was still vacant, and if so, how long it had been vacant. He responded that the position has been vacant for 10 months and remains so, but that recently people have been interviewed and that he
hoped to fill it soon. I'd like our legislators to push for filling that position. Regulations are meaningless if there is no one to enforce them.

Sincerely,
Christa Watters