

2

7-1-08

**Ignacio Pessoa/Alex**  
07/01/2008 01:24 PM

To wmeuille@wdeuille.com, alexvamayor@aol.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, Councilmangaines@aol.com,  
rob@krupicka.com, smedbergpc@aol.com,  
cc Jim Hartmann/Alex@Alex, Michele Evans/Alex@Alex, Mark  
Jinks/Alex@Alex, Rich Baier/Alex@Alex, William  
Skrabak/Alex@Alex, Lalit Sharma/Alex@Alex, Jackie  
bcc

Subject Memo for tonight's meeting

Attached is a summary of the action taken last evening by the Mirant Community Monitoring Group, to recommend approval of the proposed agreement with Mirant.

Attached also is a copy of the power point presented to the Group last evening; we will have an updated version for today's council meeting.


Please let me know if you have any questions.



Memo MCMG Action.pdf Presentation\_to MCMC\_06\_30\_2008.pdf

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND  
MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** IGNACIO B. PESSOA  
CITY ATTORNEY 

**DATE:** JULY 1, 2008

**SUBJECT:** MCMG RECOMMENDATION ON MIRANT AGREEMENT

At yesterday's meeting, the Mirant Community Monitoring Group (MCMG) considered the draft of the Project Schedule and Agreement between the City and Mirant and the presentation by City staff and consultants. The members of the MCMG and public had the opportunity to question staff and consultants about the provisions of the agreement. In addition, Bruce Buckheit, member of the Virginia Air Pollution Control Board, presented his perspective strongly favoring the agreement, and responded to questions about the agreement and the Board's regulatory authority and processes.

After a full discussion, the MCMG members voted unanimously to recommend that City Council approve the agreement. On balance, the MCMG concluded that the following significant benefits to human health and the environment justify accepting this agreement. The agreement:

1. Requires the investment of \$34 million by Mirant on new pollution control technology for PM2.5 and PM10 emissions, including baghouses, enhanced ESPs, or a combination of modern technologies.
2. Gives City control over selection and implementation of these new technology controls.
3. Imposes a PM2.5 emission limit that complies with NAAQS.
4. Requires Mirant to drop its legal challenge to the sulfur dioxide (SO2) emissions limit of 3,813 tons per year, thereby locking in this limit.
5. Requires installation of carbon monoxide (CO) and particulate matter (PM) continuous emissions monitors (CEMs), on a defined schedule, thereby allowing enforcement of applicable limits.
6. Gives the City access to the plant during the design and installation of the new controls, and to critical monitoring data including PM hourly stack and ambient short-term SO2 5-emissions data.

7. Requires immediate installation of additional fugitive dust controls.
8. Requires installation and operation of an additional PM2.5 monitor.

The MCMG was persuaded that these benefits would likely not accrue to the City and its residents without the agreement. To address concerns about the short time frame available for public review and comment on the agreement, the MCMG included in its recommendation that the City undertake an extensive outreach effort to inform the community about the benefits of the agreement. In response to concerns raised in the public comment period about a process to assure continued public input and oversight during implementation of the agreement, the members also recommended that the MCMG continue to function as in its role as the designated forum for public participation.

The MCMG members, Mr. Buckheit, Bill Skrabak, Director of the City's Office of Environmental Quality, his staff and the City's consultants, and I will be available to answer any questions this evening.

cc: James Hartmann  
City Manger

Michele Evans  
Deputy City Manager

Mark Jinks  
Deputy City Manger

Richard Baier  
Director, T&ES

William Skrabak  
Director, OEQ

# **CITY OF ALEXANDRIA**

**Mirant Potomac River Generating Station**

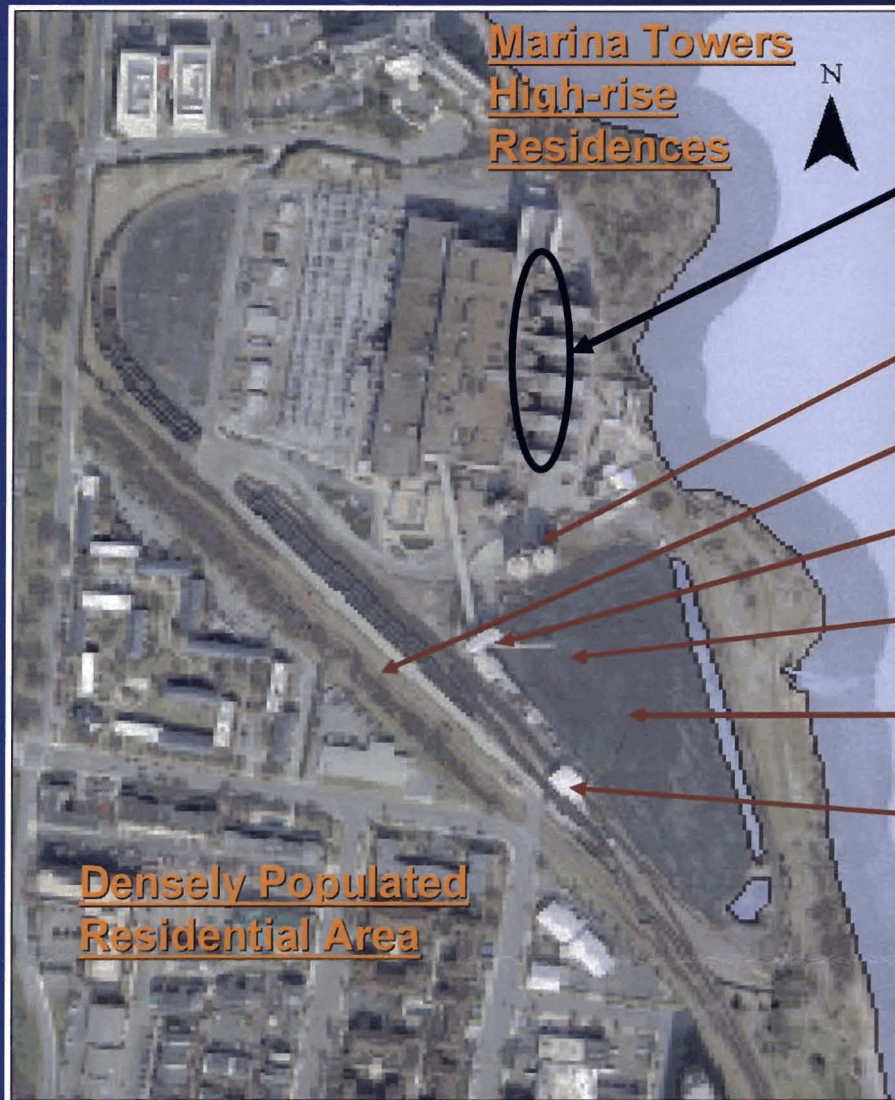
## **PROPOSED PROJECT SCHEDULE AND PROPOSED AGREEMENT**

**Presentation To  
Mirant Community Monitoring Group  
June 30, 2008**



***City of Alexandria***





**Stacks - tons (2003) :**

<u>SO<sub>2</sub></u> = 15,139	<u>HCl</u> = 609
<u>PM<sub>10</sub></u> = 606	<u>HF</u> = 76
<u>PM<sub>2.5</sub></u> = app. 400	<u>NO<sub>2</sub></u> = 5,750

- Ash silos
- Ash hauling
- Coal breaker
- Coal dump
- Coal pile
- Railcar dump

**Stack heights slightly exceed Marina Towers height.**





# TERMS

- **June 2007 SO2 Permit:** Issued by the Board, regulates SO2 emissions primarily
- **March 2008 VDEQ 2-Stack Draft Permit:** Held in abeyance by the Board
- **Agreement based proposed 2-Stack Permit:** Will become effective upon completion of Stack Merge
- **Final Permit limits for PM2.5:** After installation of the Project (Fugitive and Stack controls)





# SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AGREEMENT

- Mirant will invest **\$34 MILLION** on Pollution Controls
  - Capital improvements only (incl. Engineering Study)
  - Includes controls for stack and fugitive emissions
  - Of the \$34 million, \$ 2 million is allocated towards fugitive emissions controls
- Mirant will receive an agreement based **2-stack permit** from Board
  - Operate up to 5 boilers
  - Receive dispersion credit
  - Will contain limits that are more stringent than VDEQ Draft 2-Stack Permit
  - Requires installation of PM and CO CEMS in 12 months
  - Requires installation of one additional ambient PM2.5 monitor



# Agreement Based 2-Stack Permit

- Interim PM2.5 Limits
  - 0.016 lb/MMBtu, 207 tons/yr
  - NAAQS compliance based on:
    - Allowing dispersion credit
    - Expected reduction in background concentrations
    - EPA's AERMOD model with EBD
- Final PM2.5 Limits
  - Upon “Project” completion
  - PM2.5 stack tests
  - Technology based
  - NAAQS compliance via EPA and Board/DEQ approval





## Agreement Based 2-Stack Permit Comparison (cont'd)

	Agreement Based 2-Stack Permit	VDEQ Draft 2-Stack Permit
<b>PM2.5</b>	0.016 lb/MMBtu	None
<b>PM2.5</b>	207 tons/yr	None
<b>PM10</b>	0.03 lb/MMBtu	0.03 lb/MMBtu
<b>PM10</b>	325 tons/yr	377 tons/yr
<b>SO2 (3hr)</b>	0.36 lb/MMBtu	0.39 lb/MMBtu
<b>SO2 (24 hr)</b>	0.3 lb/MMBtu	0.3 lb/MMBtu
<b>S Content</b>	0.9 % by wt. Quarterly Average	1.0 % by wt. Annual Average



## Agreement Based 2-Stack Permit (cont'd)

- Alternate sorbent requires permit modification
- Mirant to share data with City
  - PM & CO CEMS (at least one year)
  - 5-minute ambient SO<sub>2</sub> data





# “Project” Process

- Mirant’s stack merge schedule
  - Upon 2-stack permit issuance
  - Boilers 3, 4, 5 in Fall/Winter 2008
  - Boiler 1,2 in Winter/Spring 2009
- Escrow Account for \$34 Million
  - Upon start of stack merge, if no permit challenge
  - Interest to accrue in the account
- Mirant to drop its challenges
  - Jun 2007 SOP, Permit requirement for stack merge



## “Project” Process (cont’d)

- City decides how to spend \$34 MM
- City’s Involvement in “Project” with Mirant
  - Select Engineer
  - Evaluate engineering study
  - Select pollution controls
  - Recommend stack controls to Board for approval
  - Monitor “Project” implementation and testing
  - Mirant to allow access to City





## “Project” Process (cont’d)

- Engineering study to be conducted first
- “Project” schedule
  - Fugitive dust controls
    - Study by Nov 30, 2008
    - Controls expected by Nov 30, 2009
    - Up to \$2 MM on fugitive controls
  - Stack Controls
    - Draft study by Apr 15, 2009
    - Final study by July 31, 2009
    - Schedule for controls decided by Engineer
    - Penalty for delays cause by Mirant or City



## “Project” Process (cont’d)

- Possible Fugitive Dust Controls
  - Coal dust controls
  - Ash dust controls
  - Roadway dust controls
- Possible Stack Controls
  - Baghouses
  - ESP upgrades
  - Hybrid controls





## “Project” Process (cont’d)

- Upon “Project” completion
  - Stack test using EPA methods
  - Include filterable and condensible PM2.5
  - PM2.5 NAAQS compliance via EPA/DEQ approval
  - Final limits technology based and smaller of stack test or NAAQS compliance
  - Final PM2.5 limits in a revised permit
  - Mirant required to maintain and operate controls continuously



# Emissions Comparison (tons/yr)

Pollutant	2003 Actual	Jun 2007 SO2 SOP	Interim 2- Stack	Final 2-Stack
PM2.5	~ 400	None	207	≤207
PM10	~ 600	None	325	325
SO2	~ 15,000	3,813	3,813	3,813
NOx	~ 5,750	3,700 (NOx CD)	3,700*	3,700*

\* NOx CAIR limits come into effect in 2009, Approx. 1734 tons/yr for PRGS and approx 700 tons for Ozone Season





## Discussion and Questions

*Thank you very much.*



(revised)

# **CITY OF ALEXANDRIA**

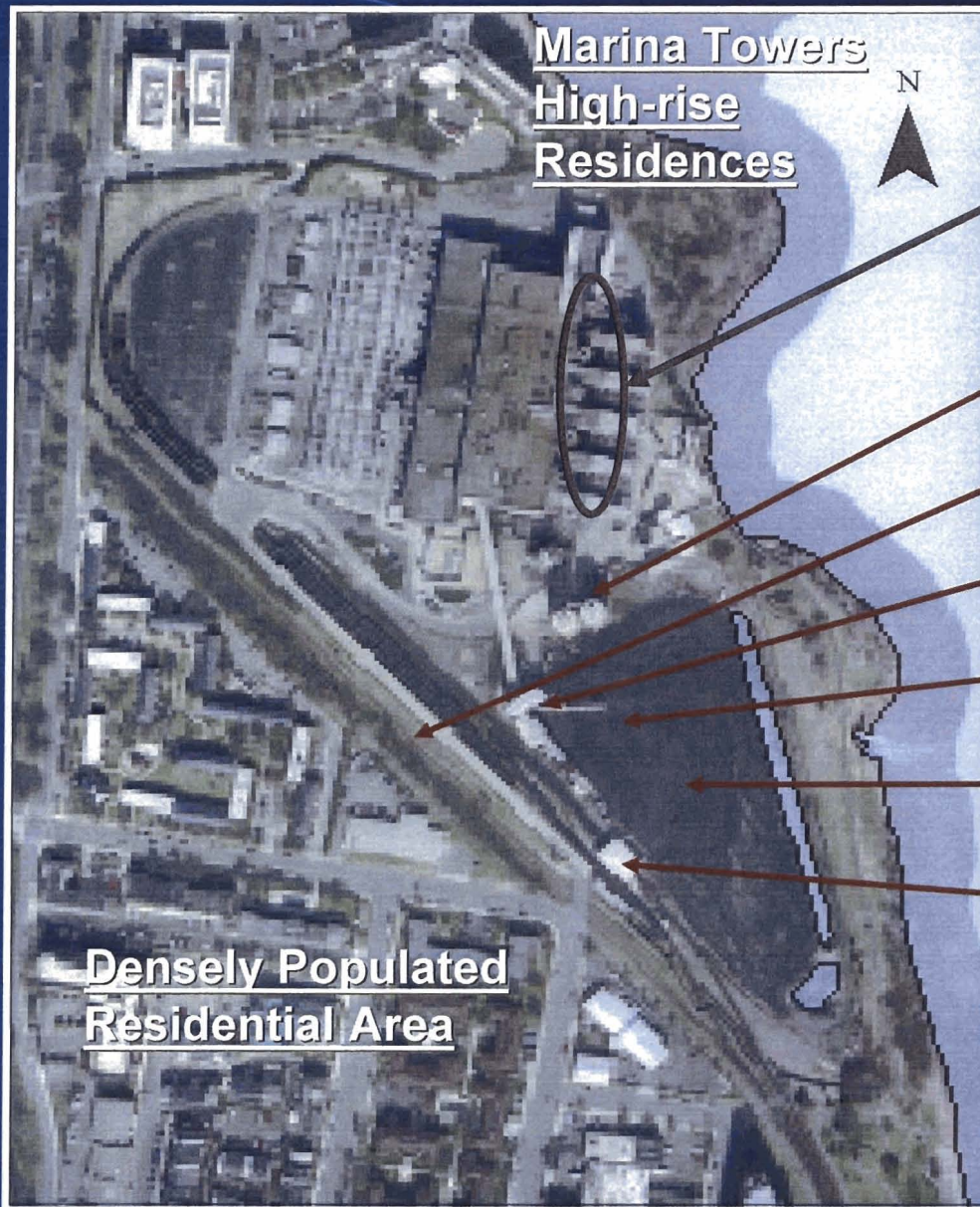
## **Mirant Potomac River Generating Station**

### **PROPOSED PROJECT SCHEDULE AND PROPOSED AGREEMENT**

**Presentation to  
City Council  
July 01, 2008**







**Stacks - tons (2003) :**

<u>SO<sub>2</sub></u> = 15,139	<u>HCl</u> = 609
<u>PM<sub>10</sub></u> = 606	<u>HF</u> = 76
<u>PM<sub>2.5</sub></u> = app. 400	<u>NO<sub>2</sub></u> = 5,750

Stack heights slightly  
exceed Marina Towers  
height.





# SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AGREEMENT

- ☐ Mirant will invest **\$34 MILLION** on Pollution Controls
  - ☐ Capital improvements only (incl. Engineering Study)
  - ☐ Includes controls for stack and fugitive emissions
  - ☐ Of the \$34 million, \$ 2 million is allocated towards fugitive emissions controls
- ☐ Mirant will receive an agreement-based 2-stack permit from Board
  - ☐ Receive dispersion credit
  - ☐ Operate up to 5 boilers
  - ☐ Will contain limits that are more stringent than VDEQ Draft 2-Stack Permit
  - ☐ Requires installation of PM and CO CEMS in 12 months
  - ☐ Requires installation of one additional ambient PM2.5 monitor





# Agreement Based 2-Stack Permit

## ☐ Interim PM2.5 Limits

- ☐ 0.016 lb/MMBtu, 207 tons/yr
- ☐ NAAQS (National Ambient Air Quality Standard) compliance based on:
  - ☐ Allowing dispersion credit
  - ☐ Expected reduction in background concentrations
  - ☐ EPA's AERMOD model with EBD

## ☐ Final PM2.5 Limits

- ☐ Upon "Project" completion
- ☐ PM2.5 stack tests
- ☐ Technology based
- ☐ NAAQS compliance via EPA and Board/DEQ approval





# Agreement Reduces PM2.5 Impacts

- ❑ With Agreement - interim phase – modeling shows NAAQS compliance.
- ❑ With Agreement – final phase – modeling will set a permit limit that is NAAQS compliant and technology-based, whichever is lower.





# Agreement Based 2-Stack Permit Comparison (cont'd)

	Agreement Based 2-Stack Permit	VDEQ Draft 2-Stack Permit
PM2.5	0.016 lb/MMBtu	None
PM2.5	207 tons/yr	None
PM10	0.03 lb/MMBtu	0.03 lb/MMBtu
PM10	325 tons/yr	377 tons/yr
SO2 (3hr)	0.36 lb/MMBtu	0.39 lb/MMBtu
SO2 (24 hr)	0.3 lb/MMBtu	0.3 lb/MMBtu
S Content	0.9 % by wt. Quarterly Average	1.0 % by wt. Annual Average





## Agreement Based 2-Stack Permit (cont'd)

- ☐ Alternate sorbent requires permit modification
- ☐ Mirant to share data with City
  - ☐ PM & CO CEMS (at least one year)
  - ☐ 5-minute ambient SO<sub>2</sub> data





# “Project” Process

- ☐ Mirant’s stack merge schedule
  - ☐ Upon 2-stack permit issuance
  - ☐ Boilers 3, 4, 5 in Fall/Winter 2008
  - ☐ Boiler 1,2 in Winter/Spring 2009
- ☐ Escrow Account for \$34 Million
  - ☐ Upon start of stack merge, if no permit challenge
  - ☐ Interest to accrue in the account
- ☐ Mirant to drop its challenges
  - ☐ Jun 2007 SOP, Permit requirement for stack merge





## “Project” Process (cont’d)

- ☐ City decides how to spend \$34 MM
- ☐ City’s Involvement in “Project” with Mirant
  - ☐ Select Engineer
  - ☐ Evaluate engineering study
  - ☐ Select pollution controls
  - ☐ Recommend stack controls to Board for approval
  - ☐ Monitor “Project” implementation and testing
  - ☐ Mirant to allow access to City





# “Project” Process (cont’d)

- ☐ Engineering study to be conducted first
- ☐ “Project” schedule
  - ☐ Fugitive dust controls
    - ☐ Study by Nov 30, 2008
    - ☐ Controls expected by Nov 30, 2009
    - ☐ Up to \$2 MM on fugitive controls
  - ☐ Stack Controls
    - ☐ Draft study by Apr 15, 2009
    - ☐ Final study by July 31, 2009
    - ☐ Schedule for controls decided by Engineer
    - ☐ Penalty for delays cause by Mirant or City





# “Project” Process (cont’d)

## ☐ Possible Fugitive Dust Controls

- ☐ Coal dust controls
- ☐ Ash dust controls
- ☐ Roadway dust controls

## ☐ Possible Stack Controls

- ☐ Baghouses
- ☐ ESP upgrades
- ☐ Hybrid controls





# “Project” Process (cont’d)

- ❑ Upon “Project” completion
  - ❑ Stack test using EPA methods
  - ❑ Include filterable and condensible PM<sub>2.5</sub>
  - ❑ PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS compliance via EPA/DEQ approval
  - ❑ Final limits technology based and smaller of stack test or NAAQS compliance
  - ❑ Final PM<sub>2.5</sub> limits in a revised permit
  - ❑ Mirant required to maintain and operate controls continuously





# Emissions Comparison (tons/yr)

Pollutant	2003 Actual	Jun 2007 SO2 SOP	Interim 2- Stack	Final 2-Stack
PM2.5	~ 400	None	207	≤207
PM10	~ 600	None	325	325
SO2	~ 15,000	3,813	3,813	3,813
NOx	~ 5,750	3,700 (NOx CD)	3,700*	3,700*

\* NOx CAIR limits come into effect in 2009, Approx. 1734 tons/yr for PRGS and approx 700 tons for Ozone Season





# Benefits of Agreement

Agreement	No Agreement
\$34 million investment in PM2.5 and other controls on each boiler.	Unknown
NAAQS limits on both types of PM2.5 (filterable and condensible)	Limits and methodology uncertain
City control of project	No City control or involvement
Current permit limit of 3,813 tons of SO2 locked in	Unknown whether 3,813 permit will withstand legal challenge
Baghouses, enhanced ESP's, or combination thereof	No baghouses
Continuous emissions monitors (CEMS) for PM and Carbon Monoxide within 12 months	Uncertain timeframe
PM Hourly Records to City.	No hourly records
Installation of fugitive dust controls within first year	Unknown
Additional PM2.5 monitor	No additional monitor





# Discussion and Questions

*Thank you very much.*





**Boyd Walker**  
<boydwalker@hotmail.com>

07/01/2008 05:18 PM

Please respond to  
Boyd Walker  
<boydwalker@hotmail.com>

To alexvamayor@aol.com, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Mirant

2  
7-1-08

**Time: [Tue Jul 01, 2008 17:18:54] IP Address: [72.84.26.133]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Boyd

**Last Name:** Walker

**Street Address:** 220 E. Bellefonte Ave.

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22301

**Phone:** 703-838-8071

**Email Address:** boydwalker@hotmail.com

**Subject:** Mirant

Although I appreciate all the hard work, that has led to this result, and that citizen activism and pressure from the city using all legal and other resources, I am against any settlement with the Potomac River Generating Station, known by the corporation that runs it, as Mirant. This settlement would undermine the Eco-City charter adopted and signed by all 7 city council members and the Environmental Policy commission on June 14th of this year. It would give the Mirant corporation a new lease on life and give it new life on our waterfront. This settlement might seem attractive to people who would like to put this issue behind them, and declare a victory. But I think I speak for a lot of Alexandrians to say that this is not the outcome we want, and that it would be a pyrrhic victory.

I believe that any compromise will doom us to have a coal fired power plant remain on our waterfront for 30, 40, 50 more years, till the coal we are hauling in from mountain top mining in West Virginia runs out. There is no such thing as clean coal. Coal fired power plants are responsible for

increased cases of asthma and other respiratory diseases, the inability of the region to attain clean air standards, and global warming. The health of children and the region are some of the same concerns I know people in Cameron Station have been facing with The Ethanol Transloading Facility and Virginia Paving which was given a new SUP by this city council and is not part of the Landmark-Van Dorn planning process. Compromise and allowing this use to continue on our waterfront is not the direction we should be going. We should be eliminating harmful industrial uses near our residents and planning for their eventual conversion to more healthy uses, as stated in the Eco-City Charter.

The Charter states that we should "convert

existing uses of fossil-fuel energy to renewable energy". Now is the time to start doing that. We may be looking at a short term reduction of airborne emissions but Mirant also pollutes our water, whereas the charter says we should "Identify ways to reduce/eliminate nutrient loading to waterways", this agreement will undermine that effort. Having two bikeways going around the plant also poses additional risks to recreation as people exercising breathe deeply while passing the plant. I cannot see how compromise will "encourage a healthy, active lifestyle for all of our residents," especially when the charter reports that one in eight have

**Comments:** respiratory illnesses. Surely, the authors of the charter had Mirant in mind when they pledged to "reduce significantly air pollution from all sources including vehicles, industrial sources, and Power Plants." By accepting a solution that keeps Mirant on our shores does not meet these goals.

But it is also fundamentally about land use, and how we want our waterfront used. We have two miles of shoreline, the same distance from the Capital to the Washington Monument, as pointed out in an early waterfront study, and each part is precious. Mirant is an outdated industrial use that like many other industries of the past, does not belong on our waterfront. Its coal piles, now disguised behind faux artwork, do not add to the recreational possibilities or the scenic beauty of the

George Washington Memorial Parkway. I also foresee a future in which the tacks that now carry coal might one day carry tourists from the Braddock Metro Station past the shops at Potomac Plaza that have inadequate parking to the Waterfront without disturbing any historic street, interfering with traffic or having to buy a costly right away. Perhaps the power plant might be converted, like the Tate in London, to museum served by public transportation. Settling for a short term compromise, but allowing Mirant to continue to expand its operations is not a good solution..  
It

discourages more use of bicycle on the parkway, precludes use of the right away for future transportation, and will continue to contribute to the inability of our region to attain the air quality standards we need.

"Alexandria's past, present, and future are indelibly linked to the Potomac River and the quality of life the river sustains. Water quality in Alexandria will be managed in a sustainable manner consistent with good stewardship of the local streams, the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay for the public health, ecological and recreational benefits of current and future generations." By this compromise we are taking away these benefits to future generations. Along with other compromises we have had to make and will have to make this sort of victory can be summed up by paraphrasing King Pyrrhus: one more such victory would utterly undo us, and the Eco-City Charter.

Boyd Walker



Kate Watters  
<katekaspil@yahoo.com>

07/01/2008 02:41 PM

Please respond to  
Kate Watters  
<katekaspil@yahoo.com>

To alexvamayor@aol.com, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Mirant

2  
7-1-08

Time: [Tue Jul 01, 2008 14:41:54] IP Address: [68.55.39.237]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Kate

**Last Name:** Watters

**Street Address:** 8 East Mason Avenue

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22301

**Phone:** 703-535-8244

**Email Address:** katekaspil@yahoo.com

**Subject:** Mirant

Dear Mayor Euille and Members of Council,

I am writing to voice my

support for the agreement between the City and the Mirant Corporation,  
which was presented yesterday evening at the Mirant Monitoring Group  
meeting.

Although I have concerns about the agreement and about the  
impacts of continued emissions from the Mirant Plant on the health and  
safety of Alexandria residents, as well as the impact on the environment, I  
accept the city's assessment that this is likely the best deal we can get  
at the present time.

I do think it would alleviate concerns within the  
community if a basic explanation of the hard work the city has put into  
this deal were available to the public. It can be difficult to grasp the  
details of the draft agreement and a less technical summary might serve to  
calm fears.



I urge City Council to continue to be vigilant with regard

**Comments:** to operations at the Mirant plant and to increase opportunities for citizen involvement in monitoring the activities of the plant.

Thank you all,

and particularly Vice Mayor Pepper and Councilman Smedberg, for your attention to this issue and for your commitment to protecting the citizens of Alexandria when regulatory bodies in the state seem not to place value on our concerns. I find it sobering that the city has found itself in the position of brokering a deal with the Mirant Plant in order to yield better and safer results for the city's residents than those that would likely result from the decisions of regulatory bodies charged with protecting the public.

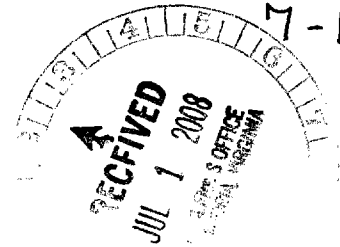
Unfortunately, I cannot attend this evening's meeting, but I wanted to send my comments to you prior to the Council's vote on the Mirant agreement.

Sincerely yours,

Kate Watters  
8 East Mason Avenue

Jun 29, 2008

Alexandria City Council  
301 King St., Room 2300  
Alexandria, VA 22314



Dear City Council:

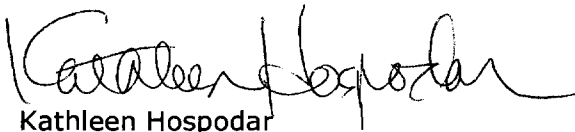
How much longer will our city's government ignore the proposal by Mirant, called the stack merge, which will reduce the amount of pollution emitted from the plant? It has already been two years of delays. How much more time and taxpayer money do you think should be wasted on this? Now is the time for some common sense on this issue. I hope my message to you will convince you to take action to see the permit granted so the air quality can be improved.

This issue is twofold; it involves cleaner air and our ever growing need for power. Nothing else should be clouding your opinion. I can tell you right now, there currently is not enough power in the Eastern grid; I know this because in my neighborhood we experience many blackouts during hot summer days. Over the years, these blackouts have increased in frequency, and it just makes no sense to me to seek the closure of any power supplier. Also, everyone of your constituents deserves cleaner air, and why not take advantage of this project which can provide that without costing the city a cent!

You must stop these delays and grant Mirant the permit for the stack merge. We all deserve cleaner air and adequate access to power. Your support of this request is essential to our community.

Best regards,

Kathleen Hospodar



Kathleen Hospodar  
6355 Burgundy Leaf Ln  
Alexandria, VA 22312

2

7-1-08

Jun 27, 2008

Sheila George  
2513 Crest Street  
Alexandria, VA 22302-2718



Alexandria City Council  
301 King St., Room 2300  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear City Council,

The Mirant power plant has been an important part of our community for over 50 years; supplying much of the power needed here and all over the East coast. Certainly nobody wants a power plant in their city, but because the city has grown tremendously since it was built, that is where the plant now stands. While we all want our city to be perfect, I think it is ridiculous for our leaders to oppose the improvements to the Mirant plant because they feel the plant is misplaced in our city. This seems to be the course of action they are taking.

The proposal by Mirant makes a lot of sense. It will improve the air quality surrounding the plant without reducing the amount of power generated to the Eastern seaboard. Lets be realistic; our power needs are always increasing and it makes absolutely no sense to try to shut Mirant down in these times. I feel enough tax payer money has been wasted on this ridiculous two year battle.

You must take immediate action to encourage the Air Board to approve the permit for the Mirant stack merge project at next week's meeting. I can assure you that all of your constituents are in favor of better air quality. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best regards,

*Sheila George*

Sheila George





Christa Watters  
<wattrsedge@aol.com>

06/30/2008 05:16 PM

Please respond to  
Christa Watters  
<wattrsedge@aol.com>

To alexvamayor@aol.com, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Proposed Mirant Agreement

2  
7-1-08

Time: [Mon Jun 30, 2008 17:16:56] IP Address: [64.12.117.77]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Christa  
**Last Name:** Watters  
**Street Address:** 1186 N. Pitt Street  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22314  
**Phone:** 703-549-6167  
**Email Address:** wattrsedge@aol.com  
**Subject:** Proposed Mirant Agreement  
TO: Ignacio Pessoa  
CC: Mirant Community Monitoring Group, Alexandria Mayor  
Bill Euille, Members of City Council  
FROM: Christa Watters  
1186  
North Pitt Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Tel. 703-549-6167

E-mail: wattrsedge@aol.com

DATE: June 30, 2008

RE: Issues

Regarding Draft Mirant-Alexandria Settlement

This draft has been under  
discussion between the major parties for weeks, and will take nearly a year  
to implement. I think that both Alexandria's citizens and members of  
Council would be better served if they had a more time to consider the

draft, which includes numerous significant issues and technical information that is difficult for lay people to absorb. Having Council vote on it tomorrow may mean they, too, will not have time to fully consider the ramifications and details of the agreement.

Given the limited time we

as citizens have had to consider the draft document, I'm sure my reactions are incomplete, and that perhaps some of the questions/comments I pose would find ready answer upon more considered reading of the draft.

Nevertheless, I believe there are some other questions of considerable significance that do need further explanation or exploration. Please forgive the hasty jumble. Here then, are my concerns:

1. The emissions

limits will not be firmly set until the stack merge and equipment installation is complete, and will then be based on performance. What if the equipment doesn't work well? How do we avoid being gamed on the "percentages" front: namely that each stack may emit a lower percentage of pollutants, but if it's operating at full blast with new fans blowing it higher, will the permit allow more total emissions volume, thus not improving the situation at all from a clean air and health perspective? (See summary paragraph 2: "Final PM 2.5 limits will be based on the performance of the capital improvements.") Do we have no recourse if they don't work?

2. What guarantee do we have that the 3rd party engineers

ostensibly monitoring to protect the city's interests are truly neutral? After all, their future employment will probably continue to come mostly from the power industry.

3. Summary paragraph 7: What, specifically,

will the process for communicating with citizens be? This needs to be outlined in the agreement. There needs to be a process for informing citizens of violations as well.

4. Summary paragraph 7: Why will the PM

2.5 monitor only be required for 2 years? (See also question



11.)

5. Summary par. 9: Why will the CEMS only be installed after 12 months rather than immediately after completion of the project, and why does Mirant need to provide data only for 1 year?

6. I'd like a guarantee from City staff that the numbers enumerated in Summary paragraph 11 and more fully in the body of the document are adequate to protect citizen health and the environment.

7. Page 2, main body of draft: Whereas, upon completion of the project, the balance of the funds in the Escrow Account,

**Comments:**

if any..."

a. We need a line that requires verification that best possible emissions limits have been met, not just that the project is

"complete."

b. Further, what guarantee do we have that the City won't use leftover funds for more general purposes that have nothing to do with Mirant emissions and cleaner air? Sorry, but in economically tight times, I need to ask.

8. Par. 4-d of main draft: The City shall not select a Project that results in a net increase in emissions. This is a rather small and frail statement of protection for citizens. Will this suffice?

9. Par. 5-b: Why limit construction costs for fugitive dust controls to \$2 million? What if that's not enough?

10. Par. 5-c: Why limit the operation of the monitor on fugitive dust controls to 2 years?

11. Par. 6-a: How is the public, the citizens of Alexandria, included in the 45-day comment period specified for the City, Mirant and the DEQ? I'd like to see a provision for citizen input and the outlining of a process.

12. Par. 6-b: What is an EPC contractor? Define the

term.

13. Par.7-d: Why does Mirant get, in effect, a free pass for 11 months after completion of the stack merge? The paragraph states they get 5 months before the first test is required, then 3 more if non-compliant, and another 3 for a third test before they are considered in violation.

14. Par. 9-a: This is a very worrisome section. "Compliance with the final PM2.5 limits shall be determined based on stack tests conducted every six months for the first two years, and once every two years thereafter." Why only every 6 months, and then every 2 years? A great deal of pollution could occur before the public would ever hear about the threat to our health. Further, there should be a specification that the testing would occur without notice on dates determined by the city or a neutral party, not on a schedule known to Mirant. This would help deter "fixing" the test data by setting up ideal test conditions that might not apply most of the time.

15. Par. 16: This brief mention of Mirant working "with the City to establish a process and dedicate resources to resolve community complaints and inform the City about any operation issues related to the Project" needs more specifics, and particularly needs a way to inform the public of any violations that endanger our health.

16. Par. 19:

Reallocation of escrow leftover funds concerns me. I would hate to see any scrimping on Mirant improvements just so the City could access those funds for other purposes.

17. Par. 21: Installation of transformers and an additional rail spur. Will these be on land already within the plant's footprint? Where? What effect will they have on the neighborhood?

The above points summarize my concerns based on a quick first response to the draft. I'm sure all of us who have been engaged



with this issue wish we had more time to consider this.

I look forward

to your response.

Sincerely,

Christa Watters



Ann Plamondon  
<ann.plamondon@usdoj.gov>

07/01/2008 09:12 AM

Please respond to  
Ann Plamondon  
<ann.plamondon@usdoj.gov>

To alexvamayor@aol.com, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Mirant plant, clean burning of coal

2  
7-1-08

Time: [Tue Jul 01, 2008 09:12:38] IP Address: [149.101.1.119]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Ann

**Last Name:** Plamondon

**Street Address:** 5332 Taney Avenue

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22304

**Phone:** 202-307-6641 or 703-

**Email Address:** ann.plamondon@usdoj.gov

**Subject:** Mirant plant, clean burning of coal

Re: Mirant settlement, this article is exceptional in that it advocates

the burning of an abundant commodity ,coal, and was prepared by  
a very

pro-environment and clean air institution. AND it is two years old. It may

contain the answers to operating the Mirant plant in  
Alexandria as well

**Comments:**

as other coal -burning plants in the Commonwealth.

PLASE SEE :

<<http://www.nrdc.org/onearth/05fal/coal1.asp>>





**Dick Moose**  
<rmooser@gmail.com>

07/01/2008 10:30 AM

Please respond to  
Dick Moose  
<rmooser@gmail.com>

To alexvamayor@aol.com, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Mirant Agreement

2  
7-1-08

**Time:** [Tue Jul 01, 2008 10:30:04] **IP Address:** [70.108.205.127]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Dick

**Last Name:** Moose

**Street Address:** 317 South St. Asaph Street

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** va

**Zip:** 22324-3745

**Phone:** 703.549.9226

**Email Address:** rmooser@gmail.com

**Subject:** Mirant Agreement

Dear Mr. Mayor, Vice Mayor and other Council Members;

As one who has

followed the Mirant issue and applauded the Council stout defense of our  
right to clean air, I wish to register my support for the agreement  
recently negotiated with Mirant.

I would prefer that the plant go away

, but that will not happen any time soon, with or without a settlement. In  
the interim, i believe immediate ( within 2 years) relief from particulate  
matter and toxic emissions must be given higher priority. Rejecting the  
offer will not bring the plant any closer to shut-down. And in the interim,  
while a shut- down strategy was being pursued, the current high levels of  
emissions would continue.

Our negotiators, whose skill and

aggressiveness I have admired all along, are persuaded that we will get  
less than this agreement than from any order that the current -or future-

Air Board might issue, and far better than we stand to gain in court, the recent Richmond decision notwithstanding. I find this argument persuasive. In particular, the draft agreement gives the City more control over the execution of a clean-up plan than it might gain in any other way.

You

**Comments:**

will hear plenty from those who feel the decision timetable, after years of debate, does not give the public time to understand and absorb. I share their feelings, but I also understand the council's desire to escape after a year of hard work and tough decisions. You might well consider a week's delay, provided the Council is prepared to mount a serious educational campaign.

The slide show we saw last night at the MCMG was comprehensive, but still over the heads of those not previously steeped in the numbers. For starters, a plain English exposition of no more than two pages, perhaps including the slide show's final, comparison chart, would be of great help to the general public, especially if you can get it placed in this week's Gazette and the Times.

The Council , the City government and staff and its expert advisers have every reason to be extraordinarily proud of this agreement.. You should not hesitate to take the time to explain what you have brought about by virtue of your tenacity.

Regards,  
Dick Moose





**Paul Spiotta**  
<90south@comcast.net>

06/26/2008 03:31 PM

Please respond to  
Paul Spiotta  
<90south@comcast.net>

To alexvamayor@aol.com, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Potomac River Generation Station

2  
7-1-08

Time: [Thu Jun 26, 2008 15:31:20] IP Address: [68.55.20.104]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Paul

**Last Name:** Spiotta  
2348 N Early Street .

**Street Address:**

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** VA

**Zip:** 22302-1705

**Phone:** 703-931-6618

**Email Address:** 90south@comcast.net

**Subject:** Potomac River Generation Station

Paul Spiotta .  
2348 N Early Street .  
Alexandria, VA

22302-1705

Alexandria City Council  
301 King St., Room 2300  
Alexandria,

VA 22314

06/26/2008

Dear

City Council,  
Please make every effort possible to grant the permit to

help Mirant Power in their efforts to completely restore the  
Potomac

River Generating Station. This action can only benefit the local area.

Tax dollars are needlessly being spent to prohibit a good situation from

happening, and this is becoming tiresome. I agree whole-heartedly with the

owners of the generating station, who wish to do their best to help

provide cleaner air for us to breathe. It really is a shame to have

watched this go on for so long.

Taking my daughter to and from school

**Comments:**

in the mornings and afternoons, has proven to be more harmful and given us

more experience with pollution from cars than the power plant has ever

caused. There is no other choice for the power plant than to bring it up

to code. And, if the owners are spending their own money in doing so, the

city should not drag its feet and should allow them to carry on. This is

an old station which should be renovated and have its infrastructure

maintained. If there were any problems with how Mirant was trying to

undergo any of their procedures, the experts within the Virginia

Department of Environmental Quality would not have agreed to approve a permit. However, they did agree.

The Potomac River Generating Station

currently owned by Mirant Power has been providing power for many years. I

think you need to agree to have the permit available for Mirant Power to

continue in their efforts to have cleaner air for the local community.

Regards,

Paul Spiotta



**James McComb**  
<mccombj@msn.com>

06/26/2008 07:45 PM

Please respond to  
James McComb  
<mccombj@msn.com>

To alexvamayor@aol.com, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Mirant Power Plant

2  
7-1-08

**Time: [Thu Jun 26, 2008 19:45:40] IP Address: [69.250.38.94]**

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** James

**Last Name:** McComb

4856 W. Braddock Rd

**Street Address:** Apt 203

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** Va

**Zip:** 22311

**Phone:** 703-566-2743

**Email Address:** mccombj@msn.com

**Subject:** Mirant Power Plant

James McComb  
4856 W Braddock Road  
Apt. 203  
Alexandria, VA

22311-4869

Alexandria City Council  
301 King St  
Room 2300  
Alexandria,

VA 22314

Dear City Council

I understand the city of Alexandria

is hoping to close the Mirant Power Plant, by delaying issuance of a permit  
for the proposed stack merge project. How can you  
justify this type of irresponsible government? Do you know  
that there is not enough power in the eastern grid to cover the needs of  
this area? Do you have another plan in place, which will meet the ever



increasing power demands of the eastern United States? I am betting you don't. Mirant has been operating in Alexandria for generations. Now that the community has expanded right to its door steps, many citizens here feel it is an eyesore, and want it to disappear. However, since I have an engineering background, I can appreciate the plant for what it does, not just for how it looks. Our power requirements are growing, and Mirant is a key supplier of power into the eastern grid; simply said we need Mirant to keep running. It would not be cost effective to build a new power plant, and it makes the best sense to keep Mirant here and allow the environmental improvements to be made quickly. Please stop wasting resources fighting the stack merge project. Mirant has proposed a sound solution which it is willing to entirely fund! This is a great solution which can only benefit this community. Therefore the permit should be granted as soon as possible. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours

James McComb



**Patti Rivera**  
<pattijwr@aol.com>

06/27/2008 10:50 AM

Please respond to  
Patti Rivera <pattijwr@aol.com>

To alexvamayor@aol.com, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Mirant permit

2  
7-1-08

Time: [Fri Jun 27, 2008 10:50:05] IP Address: [160.147.130.13]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members  
**First Name:** Patti  
**Last Name:** Rivera  
**Street Address:** 6941 Westhampton Dr.  
**City:** Alexandria  
**State:** VA  
**Zip:** 22307  
**Phone:** 703-768-8283  
**Email Address:** pattijwr@aol.com  
**Subject:** Mirant permit  
Jun 27, 2008  
Alexandria City Council  
301 King St., Room 2300  
Alexandria,  
VA 22314

Dear City Council,  
The Mirant Power Plant has been part of

our community for many generations, contributing much needed power to the eastern power grid. For two years, our city politicians have refused Mirant the permit to proceed with an environmental improvement called the stack merge. I am very disappointed about this, and hope at next week's city hall meeting the permit will finally be granted.

I believe the

condominium owners, who recently purchased units near the plant, have put pressure on our city council members to delay granting this permit. I understand that they do not like their view, but then why did they purchase homes there in the first place? I sat on the city Environmental Commission

**Comments:**

many years ago; I remember back then when people moving into homes near the airport tried to petition the government to reduce the number of incoming and outgoing flights. This argument, of course, was just a waste of time and government resources since the airport provides vital services, jobs, and revenue to Washington and our national government. Mirant does the same. If you build your home near industry you need to accept it; just like the airport, Mirant provides a vital service to our capital and many homes along the eastern half of this country.

Now is the time to stop this silly bickering and accept that Mirant is a responsible and important provider of energy. Please work to see the permit is granted at next week's meeting, so that the short stack merge can happen and the air quality can be improved. Please do not allow the voices of a few to hurt the rest of us. Thank you for helping to resolve this matter.

Best

regards,  
Patti Rivera

Patti Rivera  
6941 Westhampton Dr  
Alexandria, VA

22307





Patricia Davies  
<patricia\_davies@comcast.net>

06/30/2008 12:50 PM

Please respond to  
Patricia Davies  
<patricia\_davies@comcast.net>

To alexvamayor@aol.com, timothylovain@aol.com,  
councilmangaines@aol.com, council@krupicka.com,  
delpepper@aol.com, paulcsmedberg@aol.com,

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: Mirant Plant Issue

2  
7-1-08

Time: [Mon Jun 30, 2008 12:50:00] IP Address: [69.140.74.20]

**Issue Type:** Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

**First Name:** Patricia

**Last Name:** Davies

**Street Address:** 606 Crestwood Drive

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** Virginia

**Zip:** 22302

**Phone:** 703/683-1170

**Email Address:** patricia\_davies@comcast.net

**Subject:** Mirant Plant Issue

I appreciate the Council's efforts to ensure that the citizens of Alexandria live in a healthy and pleasing community. To this end, concomitant with these efforts is the obvious recognition that the most desirable approach for resolution of the prolonged Mirant plant controversy is to settle it.

We are facing a severe energy crisis that will not subside for decades. There is no evidence that consumption of and demand for this region's power needs will substantially diminish. Moreover, Virginia has just approved an 18 percent increase in its electrical power rates; now everyone in this metropolitan area feels the sting of rising

**Comments:** utility bills. It is imperative all entities and officials work diligently and cooperatively to effect multifaceted, fiscally responsible solutions to the energy crisis.

While perhaps well-intentioned, the extreme option of tearing down the Mirant plant is not a realistic solution. The stack merge

option does, however, provide a reasonable alternative. Good government demands compromise, and the tax-paying citizens of Alexandria deserve a resolution of this matter for both environmental and economic reasons.

Please, let's terminate this debate and ensure the permit goes through for the Mirant stack merge. I believe this is a "win" for everyone.

Thank you.