

j sulser Comments on Proposed SOP's for Mirant power plant.txt  
From: Jack Sulser [sulserj1@earthlink.net]  
Sent: Saturday, November 17, 2007 6:17 PM  
To: Darton, Terry  
Subject: Comments on Proposed SOP's for Mirant power plant

I have reviewed the two proposed SOP's for the public hearing on the Mirant power plant in Alexandria on Dec 19 and have a couple of comments. For one, they claim to put limits on "all" pollutants - which would be an improvement - but fail to include CO2, which the US Supreme Court recently ruled is also a pollutant subject to the Air Quality Control Act. Secondly, I see no reason why emission limits should be relaxed in any way simply because Mirant would like to spread the pollution over a wider area by merging the present five stacks into two. My fiancée and several friends live within 2-3 blocks of the plant, and they all suffer from the more concentrated pollution. They would, presumably, get some limited relief by the stack merger, but at the expense of myself and tens of thousands of other residents of the city who live at the other end of town some 7 miles away. Area newspapers, in advertising the Nov 19 public hearing and Air Board meeting, continue to spread the falsehood - probably based on press hand-outs from Mirant - that, while none of the power produced by Mirant goes to Virginia, the Potomac River plant does provide power to Maryland and DC. That was the excuse used by DOE when it ordered the plant reopened after DEA had closed it. As the DOE representative testified at the September Air Board meeting in Alexandria, that has not been the case since a new transmission line became operable last summer. My attitude is: What possible interest does the Commonwealth of Virginia have in allowing the Mirant Potomac River plant to operate even one day if its emissions do not fully satisfy federal air quality standards? If they don't, shut it down. Jack Sulser 917 N. Ashton Street Alexandria, VA 22312