

k watters Comments regarding Mirant Plant.txt  
From: Kate Watters [katekaspil@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Monday, November 19, 2007 3:44 PM  
To: Darton, Terry  
Subject: Comments regarding Mirant Plant

Mr. Terry Darton  
Air Permit Manager  
13901 Crown Court  
Woodbridge, VA 22193  
Email: thdarton@deq.virginia.gov

November 19, 2007

Dear Mr. Darton:

My name is Kate Watters and I am a resident of Alexandria, Virginia. I live in the Del Ray neighborhood, close to the Mirant Plant. I am writing in support of Alexandria city government's recommendations for the permit for Mirant, which is under consideration by the DEQ and the air quality board. I want Mirant to be subject to the strictest environmental standards, and to use the best available technology to reduce particulate matter and pollution going into the air, water and soil. Mirant's compliance with the highest environmental standards is long overdue.

I am the founder and director of an environmental organization that works in the former Soviet Union in communities impacted by oil and gas development. We try to help local communities ensure that the highest international environmental standards are met, that best practices are implemented and that human health and the environment are protected when industry comes into a community. The common refrain is that US corporate involvement means higher standards, cleaner technology, human rights protections, and that health and the environment will not be sacrificed in the name of economic development.

Sadly, we often see that US involvement does not mean clean operations, and this truism is brought home daily when I look at the Mirant Plant, which has failed to comply with clean air standards over and over again.

Alexandrians and all residents of the DC Metropolitan Area deserve the same protections that the US claims to provide to citizens the world over. I urge the DEQ to adopt the recommendations of the Alexandria City government and demand that Mirant comply with the highest environmental standards.

As Virginia adopts Governor Kaine's Virginia Energy Plan in order to reduce the state's carbon emissions by 30 percent by 2025, it is critical that all power plants in the state contribute to this effort. Forcing Mirant to clean up its act is a step in this direction.

Sincerely yours,

Kate Watters  
8 East Mason Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22301

Kate Watters  
Executive Director

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