



City of Alexandria
301 King Street, City Hall, Suite 2300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

August 12, 2010

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
Attention: Rolanda Morrison
Re: Mirant Potomac River Generating Station site
ATSDR Records Center
4770 Buford Highway, NE (MS F-09)
Atlanta, GA 30341

Re: ATSDR's Health Consultation, Public Comment Version, Review of Ambient Air Monitoring Data, Mirant Potomac River Generating Station (PRGS), Alexandria, Virginia, July 12, 2010

Dear Ms. Morrison:

As co-chairs of the City of Alexandria's Mirant Community Monitoring Group (MCMG), we would like to thank the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) for the opportunity to comment on the above mentioned report.

We appreciate the thoroughness of the scientific approach and analysis of the monitoring data that ATSDR employed in reaching its conclusions and recommendations. Its main conclusion basically points to the continuing need to reduce the ambient five-minute SO₂ as well as the PM_{2.5} level near the PRGS site to further reduce public health impacts from this power plant.

The goals of the City/Mirant Agreement are consistent with ATSDR's recommendations. In fact, in accordance with the City/Mirant Agreement, the City is currently working with Mirant on a project to further reduce stack and fugitive fine particulate (PM_{2.5}) emissions. The City/Mirant Agreement also requires a more stringent short-term SO₂ emissions limit of 0.3 lb per million Btu (24-hour average) compared to 0.4-0.45 lb per million Btu for the years 2006-2007 preceding the agreement (i.e., 25-33% reduction). The ATSDR report corroborates well with the approach that the City has been taking to lessen the environmental impacts of this power plant, but, the information in the ATSDR report would have been more relevant and useful to the community had it been issued sooner.

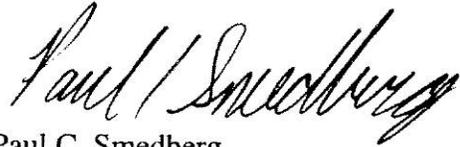
We understand that Mirant has agreed to provide ATSDR with five-minute SO₂ data from February 2009 until May 2010, i.e., after the implementation of stack merge project. We request that ATSDR include in the final report, an analysis of this data including QA/QC procedures used in collecting this data.

We would like to thank Lora Werner and her project team for their effort in generating this report and holding the information meeting to answer questions from concerned residents. In addition, we appreciate ATSDR's willingness to meet with MCMG members and other concerned stakeholders in smaller groups prior to public meetings.

Sincerely,



Redella S. (Del) Pepper
Councilwoman and Co-chair of MCMG
City of Alexandria



Paul C. Smedberg
Councilman and Co-chair of MCMG
City of Alexandria

C: Honorable Mayor and Alexandria City Council
James Hartmann, City Manager
Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager
Richard Baier, Director, T&ES
Stephen Haering, Director, Alexandria Health Department
William Skrabak, Director, T&ES Office of Environmental Quality
MCMG Members