



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service
Agency for Toxic Substances
and Disease Registry
Region 3
1650 Arch Street, 3HS00
Philadelphia, PA 19103

August 21, 2007

Debra R. Bolton
Vice President and Assistant General Counsel
Mirant Corporation
601 13th Street, NW Suite 580N
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Bolton:

Thank you for meeting with staff from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) site team on August 1, and for attending our Open House on August 2, 2007. We appreciated the chance to discuss issues of mutual concern and provide Mirant with information regarding our recent community environmental monitoring effort (exposure investigation).

As you know, ATSDR is interested in evaluating sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and particulates monitoring and emissions data for the Mirant Potomac River Generating Station (the site) in Alexandria, VA. This information would assist us in filling an important data gap in our evaluation of public health concerns in the community near the site. We raised this information request in my letter to you in October 2006, in our meeting at the site in March 2007, and in our discussions with you recently, up to and including our August 2007 meetings.

The purpose of this letter is to formally request Mirant's subhourly sulfur dioxide and particulates monitoring and emissions datasets and applicable quality assurance/quality control information for the purposes of our public health review.

In the next few months, we will be evaluating the results from our community environmental monitoring effort, which will provide us with subhourly exposure information in the community over six weeks. Based on Mirant's press release dated August 1, 2007, Mirant's monitoring network around the site began collecting subhourly SO₂ data in approximately May 2007, and continues to do so. Evaluating information from Mirant's SO₂ subhourly and particulates (subhourly if available) monitoring datasets along with ATSDR's subhourly monitoring dataset would provide a more comprehensive characterization of the potential for any short-term exposures to SO₂ and particulates in this community.

We also request subhourly sulfur dioxide and particulates emissions data from the Mirant Potomac River Generating Station. ATSDR expects to use subhourly emissions data to estimate a peak to mean ratio for SO₂ emissions for this facility. Current emissions data from the facility are reported as an hourly average, as required by regulatory standards. Because we will evaluate human health effects that may occur after exposures to SO₂ lasting as little as 5 minutes, ATSDR seeks to better define potential subhourly exposures as well as the frequency of such exposures. Without these emissions data ATSDR must rely on worst-case peak to mean ratio estimates, which may overestimate the potential frequency and maximum levels of concern that could occur.

To the highest extent possible, ATSDR will protect any emissions and/or monitoring data that Mirant chooses to share with us. However, as a federal public health agency, documents in

ATSDR's possession may need to be disclosed in response to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requirements, federal subpoenas, requests from Congress, or requests from other governmental authorities including law enforcement. Therefore, we cannot give Mirant an absolute guarantee that this information would not be released. We hope that we can come to some mutually agreeable arrangement that would afford Mirant the data protection you desire while providing ATSDR with the data or a summary of these data and applicable quality assurance/quality control information for our review.

Please let me know if you would like to discuss this information in more detail. I can be reached at 215-814-3141, or via email at lkw9@cdc.gov.

Sincerely,



Lora S. Werner, MPH
Senior Regional Representative
ATSDR Region 3

cc: Dr. Tina Forrester, ATSDR DRO
Dr. William Cibulis, ATSDR DHAC
Dr. David Fowler, ATSDR DHAC
Dr. Ketna Mistry, ATSDR DHAC
Debra Gable, ATSDR DHAC
Dr. Hatice Zharan, ATSDR DHAC
Dr. Charles Konisberg, Alexandria Health Department
Dr. Carl Armstrong, Virginia DOH
Judith Katz, EPA Region 3
Eric Ginsberg, EPA RTP
Terry Darton, VA DEQ