

**INTERNAL STAFF UPDATE\***

Monday, September 21, 2015

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**Commerce – Mt. Holly / Century Aluminum:**

Today, our office received notice that Century has sent the Santee Cooper Board a letter to inform the Board that they will notify employees of the Mt. Holly plant closure on Wednesday, in the event of a deal not being reached. Century has planned a press conference for Wednesday as well. Cheryl Stanton and DEW are on notice and will be prepared to assist with the 600 employees affected by the closure.

**SCRA:**

Bill Blume met with Austin today to share concerns about SCRA's work deviating from their mission: to enhance the research capabilities of the State's public and private universities; to promote the development of high technology industries and research facilities; and to create jobs. Mr. Blume also expressed concerns about executive compensation at the agency. With that in mind, he intends to promote the following agenda for the SCRA Board:

- (1) Solicit an independent compensation consulting firm to assist in establishing a compensation plan that is appropriately aligned with the agency mission.
- (2) Refocus the agency on promoting Knowledge Economy employment, and align agency expenditures accordingly.
- (3) Reevaluate certain types of risky investments made by SCRA.
- (4) Terminate contracting business through ATI (a SCRA affiliate company that provides consulting on a contract basis) in November unless a profit can be assured. This should be monitored over the next two months by the SCRA management and reported to the Executive Committee.
- (5) Beginning this year, Eighty percent (80%) of the net cash profits (excluding any non-cash expenses) earned by the ATI contracting business, should be distributed to the SCRA for its use in furthering the SCRA goals to improve the knowledge economy. These funds should be transferred to the SCRA by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month following each quarter with a true-up at the end of each year.
- (6) The ATI "contracting" business should be forecasted at no less than a 1.61% of the bottom line for this fiscal year, 2016.
- (7) The purpose and structure of the various organizations formed by SCRA should be revisited by a subcommittee of the Executive Committee.

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