

4/3/2002

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Once again Delaware citizens pay out for another company to locate their business here. Some \$1 million of incentives (read corporate welfare) will be paid out to Advance Magazine Publishers according to the News Journal. Meanwhile, budgets for services to our children and youth are being sharply cut or eliminated. I don't get it. Somehow, help for poor people thru welfare programs is wrong and must be stopped but welfare handouts to super rich corporations is OK (I guess its OK for CEO's and their huge salaries). Somehow, trickle down economics that Ronald Reagan used to lead our country into massive debt is still being tried in the 21st century here in Delaware. Somehow, we don't learn our lesson from past corporate welfare efforts with Dupont (the 1993 Wilmington Economic Program*), Astra-Zenaca and First USA who were also given large welfare grants to be in Delaware but failed to provide the promised jobs and tax revenue. Vivian Houghton, Green Party of Delaware candidate for state Attorney General, will stand with the ordinary citizen to resist future corporate welfare deals. She will seek to revoke charters (the right to do business in Delaware) for corporations that harm our communities or the environment. Vivian Houghton as Attorney General will put people's needs before corporate greed - it's about time!

The Wilmington Economic Program legislation offered a 10-year, 50% property tax break for companies that brought a least 1500 new jobs into Wilmington. DuPont took advantage of the program by closing its Louviers complex in the suburbs and moving its 1500 jobs into the city. Local politicians attempted to describe Dupont's move as job creation when all it really did was relocate jobs from a few miles away.

--

J. Roy Cannon, Member
Green Party of Delaware
117 Larkspur Road
Newark, DE 19711-6863
(302) 738-9963