



**For Immediate Release:**  
*Thursday, July 9, 2009*

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## **ADEM Completes First Large Scrap Tire Site Cleanup**

**MONTGOMERY** – The Alabama Department of Environmental Management is pleased to announce the completion of the cleanup of Alabama’s largest known unauthorized scrap tire disposal site. The removal of the scrap tires and tire materials from a site in Attalla began in August 2006 with the support of ADEM and the Alabama Scrap Tire Commission.

The work was performed by C.W. Owens Enterprises of Southside and occurred at the former Four Star Tire Wholesale Brokerage site near downtown Attalla. The contractor removed more than 82 million pounds of scrap tire materials, the equivalent of more than 4 million passenger tires, from the site. The completion of this project marked the first cleanup of a large-scale unauthorized scrap tire disposal site funded from the Alabama Scrap Tire Fund.

The Alabama Scrap Tire Fund was established with the Alabama Legislature’s passage of the Scrap Tire Environmental Quality Act, which was co-sponsored by State Senator Larry Means and State Representative Craig Ford. The Alabama Scrap Tire Fund is supported by a \$1-per-tire fee that has been collected on each replacement tire sold in Alabama since passage of the Act in 2003.

Attalla was selected to be the first site for cleanup based on a statewide prioritization process that utilized specific site ranking factors including the estimated volume of scrap tires, the proximity to residential areas/schools/health care facilities, and the potential human health and environmental threats posed by the site. ADEM used a stringent pre-qualifying process to assure contractors had the appropriate experience, proper equipment, and sufficient financial resources to accomplish a large-scale cleanup. In addition, ADEM conducted oversight activities during the cleanup to monitor the progress of the project.

Beneficial reuse of the scrap tire material was a key factor in the contract process and a 50 percent beneficial reuse requirement was a condition of the project. However, the contractor was able to achieve beneficial reuse of approximately 80 percent and completed the project nine months ahead of schedule.

“Scrap tire material has an array of beneficial reuse,” said ADEM Director Trey Glenn. “The processed material recovered from the Attalla site was utilized mainly as tire-derived fuel and was a valuable product that was reused in an environmentally sound manner. The successful completion of this project will provide numerous environmental and health benefits for this citizens in this area.”

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