Minutes

Environmental Management Commission Meeting
Alabama Department of Environmental Management Building
1400 Coliseum Boulevard
Montgomery, Alabama 36110-2400
April 8, 2022

This is to certify that the Minutes contained herein are a true and accurate account of actions taken by the Alabama Environmental Management Commission on April 8, 2022.

Thomas P. Walters, Chair

Alabama Environmental Management Commission

Certified this 10th day of June 2022.

Minutes

Environmental Management Commission Meeting Alabama Department of Environmental Management Building 1400 Coliseum Boulevard Montgomery, Alabama 36110-2400 April 8, 2022

Convened: 11:00 a.m. Adjourned: 11:53 a.m.

Part A

Transcript Word Index

Part B

Attachment Index

Attachment 1

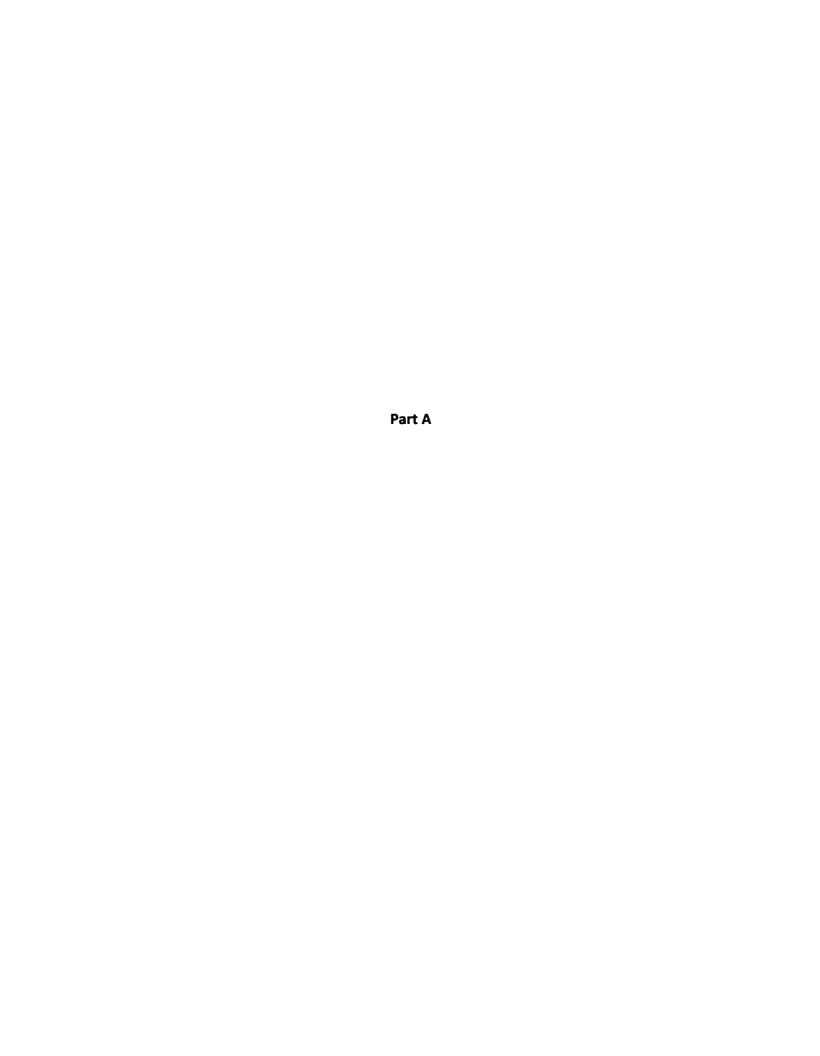
Attachment 2

Attachment 3

Attachment 4

Attachment 5

Attachment 6



1	ALABAMA ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT			
2	COMMISSION MEETING			
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11	ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT			
12	Alabama Room (Main Conference Room)			
13	1400 Coliseum Boulevard			
14	Montgomery, Alabama 36110-2400			
15	April 8, 2022			
16	11:00 a.m.			
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				
23				
24				
25	Taken by: Victoria M. Castillo, ACCR No. 17			
<u> </u>				

			rages 2.
1	Page 2 APPEARANCES	1	Page floor.
2		2	MR. LeFLEUR: Good morning. And
3	COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:	3	welcome to all of you who are in attendance at
4	John (Jay) H. Masingill, III, Vice Chair	4	the fourth meeting of the Environmental
5	Kevin McKinstry	5	Management Commission for fiscal year 2022. The
6	Mary J. Merritt	6	Department utilizes many sources of information
7	Samuel L. Miller, M.D.	7	to analyze and optimize our performance. The
8	Ruby L. Perry, D.V.M.	8	Department undergoes dozens of Federal, State,
9	Thomas P. Walters, P.E., Chair	9	and internal operational, programmatic and
10		10	financial audits that can identify areas for
11	COMMISSION MEMBER NOT PRESENT:	11	improvement. We regularly analyze and report on
12	H. Lanier Brown, II, Esq.	12	trends in various statewide environmental quality
13		13	measures in the annual "State of the Environment
14	ALSO PRESENT:	14	in Alabama" report. Each year you receive a
15	Robert D. Tambling, AEMC Legal Counsel	15	report on performance against our Annual
16	Debi Thomas, AEMC Executive Assistant	16	Operating Plan. On the federal side, there is a
17	Lance R. LeFleur, ADEM Director	17	yearly review of the performance against EPA work
18		18	plans. In today's report, as has been done for a
19		19	number of years, we will focus on the latest
20		20	publicly available EPA-generated compliance and
21		21	enforcement metrics that will compare the
22		22	Department's performance against the rest of the
23		23	states in the nation.
24		24	Analyzing the rates of compliance
25		25	with permits and the rate of necessary
			aren permees and the race of necessary
1	Page 3		Page :
2	11:00 a.m.)	1	enforcement actions for our regulated industries
3	MR. WALTERS: I have 11 o'clock	2	in Alabama compared to the rest of the nation is
4	and we will call the meeting of the Environmental	3	an important way we measure our performance.
5	Management Commission to order we have a quorum.	4	This EPA-provided analysis examines
6	First item on our agenda is consideration of	5	the Air, NPDES, Drinking Water and Hazardous
7	minutes that we held on February 11th, 2022.	6	Waste programs. The tool uses standard
8	I will entertain a motion.	7	quantifiable metrics that allow for
9	DR. MILLER: I move to accept	8	state-to-state comparisons and the development of
10	the minutes as written.	9	national averages.
11	MR. MASINGILL: Second.	10	As you may recall from years past,
12	MR. WALTERS: I have motion and	11	the format for reviewing each program's metrics
13	a second.	12	is to look at the size of the universe of
14	Any further discussion on the	13	regulated facilities, then to compare the rate of
15	motion?	14	inspections, informal enforcement actions, and
16	(No response.)	15	significant non-compliance to the rest of the
17	MR. WALTERS: All those signify	16	nation. This format was chosen to highlight that
18	by saying "aye."	17	our objective is for the regulated facilities to
19	(All Commissioners affirm.)	18	comply with the requirements of environmental
20	MR. WALTERS: Any opposed?	19	permits and regulations issued by the Department.
21	(No response.)	20	By looking at non-compliance metrics, we are in
22	MR. WALTERS: Thank you. Agenda	21	effect looking at compliance.
23	item number two is the report from our ADEM	22	When we speak of compliance and
24	Director.	23	enforcement, we are referring to compliance with
25	Director LeFleur, you have the	24	permits developed by the Department in accord
1 -		25	with carefully developed environmental standards

12

Page 6

1 and enforcement actions when conditions in those

permits and regulations are not met.

Now to the dashboard slides that 3 analyze compliance with, and enforcement of,

environmental permit requirements.

To help identify the program that is the subject of the graph we will be using a color 8 code where blue is air, green is water, orange is

drinking water, and brown is land.

10 First, we will look at the size of 11 the regulated universe for each of the four 12 program areas.

13 In Alabama, two local air programs 14 were grandfathered as stand-alone entities when

the Clean Air Act became law in 1970. They

16 operate independently of the ADEM State program,

17 although ADEM does provide substantial technical

18 and other assistance to them. Recent upgrades to

19 the EPA database now allows us to analyze the

20 activities of ADEM independent of the local

21 programs' activities.

22 The universe of regulated Air

23 facilities under the ADEM program is down from

24 636 to 586 between 2013 and 2021, about an 8

25 percent drop. The decline is primarily the

Page 7 1 result of some major sources closing over the

2 years and other facilities reducing their

3 emissions to the point they are no longer in the

4 universe of Federally reportable facilities. The

5 slight uptick from '20 to '21 is due to an

6 increase in synthetic minor facilities, which are

7 those capable of being a major source but are

8 operating to keep emissions below the threshold

9 of a major source.

10 In the Water media, you can see the 11 number of regulated facilities has been generally

steady at about 11,000. The slight decline from

13 2020 to 2021 is the result of fewer entities

14 operating under one of our general permits.

General permits cover such things as stormwater

16 controls for construction, and construction

17 activities are often cyclical.

18 In Drinking Water, the universe has

19 been very steady at around 580 facilities.

20 However, in 2021 there was a decline to 574 due

21 to the closing of several transient systems,

which are those at locations like RV parks or

23 state parks. 574 is a relatively small number of

drinking water systems. In the case of drinking

25 water, a smaller number of facilities that are of

Page 8 1 larger size is beneficial because the larger

2 facilities have improved access to management and

3 other resources.

The universe of Hazardous Waste

5 facilities steadily increased from about 5,100 in

6 2013 to nearly 5,600 in 2021. The more than 10

percent increase is attributable in large part to

a national enforcement settlement agreement that

caused pharmacies and other retail facilities

selling pharmaceuticals to report as hazardous 10

waste generators. 11

Next is inspections.

13 As has often been repeated in my

14 reports to you, the Department relies on

inspections as the most significant tool to 15

obtain compliance with environmental permits and

17 requirements in Alabama. Independent research

18 supports this concept, as will upcoming data

19 showing our results.

20 The following graphs will show

inspection rates for each of the four media. The

different programs have different names for

inspection activities such as Full Compliance

Evaluation or Facilities Inspected, or Site

25 Visits, or Inspection Coverage due to the

Page 9

1 slightly different terminology used in the

2 various federal enabling statutes. The graphs

will use the term inspections for all media.

4 There will be one inspection graph for each media

5 showing the inspection rate for all regulated

6 facilities. A second inspection graph will show

7 the inspection rate for the largest regulated

facilities in that media, except for Drinking

9 Water. The large facilities are the ones that

10 typically have the greatest potential for adverse

11 impact on the environment and are therefore

important to look at closely. Data on the

inspection of the largest facilities for Drinking

Water media is not broken out in reports

submitted to EPA, so there will be no second

16 inspection graph for Drinking Water.

In Alabama and throughout the

nation, inspections is the area most affected by

COVID-19. Since inspections often require close 19

20 interpersonal contact in the field, the number of

inspections went down in 2020 but generally

22 recovered in 2021. You will see that decline and

recovery in both our state and national averages.

The blue bars represent the

25 inspection rate of all facilities during the last

24

17

Pages 10..13

Page 13

1 nine years for the Department's Air program. The 2 dashed red line represents the average inspection 3 rate for the nation. As you can see, Alabama 4 continues to have an inspection rate that is 5 nearly four times the national average and, with the exception of 2020, shows a fairly flat trend slightly over 98 percent. Looking at just the largest regulated facilities in Air, there is a similar pattern of inspections in recent years, with the 10 11 exception of 2020, at or near 100 percent, which 12 is again about four times the national average. 13 The green bars for the Water program 14 consistently show an inspection rate for all 15 facilities that is more than two and a half times 16 better than the national average shown by the red dashed line. Unlike Air, both 2020 and 2021 18 showed declines due to COVID-19 for the state and 19 the nation 20 For the largest regulated facilities 21 in Water, with the exception of the COVID years, the inspection rate has been trending higher in 23 recent years and is consistently higher than the 24 national average. 25 The orange bars for the Drinking

Page 12 1 reflect the increased emphasis on inspections to address our higher than desired instances of significant non-compliance. The enforcement group of graphs 5 highlights the second most important element, 6 after inspections, in our strategy to achieve 7 compliance. It has been our strategy to utilize education, including informal enforcement, to 9 obtain a higher level of compliance. Research has shown that inspections and technical 11 assistance, which is education, are the biggest contributors to compliance. 12 Most violations are not intentional. 13 14 They are many times the result of either not 15 knowing what is required under the permits, 16 accidents, or mistakes. Informal enforcement is 17 one form of education that helps avoid these 18 situations. Additionally, penalties and formal enforcement actions typically require 5 to 10 19 20 times the resources of informal enforcement 21 actions, so utilizing a higher percentage of 22 informal actions uses resources more effectively.

Page 11

23

10

1 Water program show an inspection rate for all 2 regulated facilities that is typically about 3 three times the national average shown by the red dashed line. There was a drop-off in inspections 5 nationally in 2020, but not so in our Drinking 6 Water program. As noted a moment ago, Drinking Water data for the large facilities only is not 8 available; however, with an inspection rate of nearly 100 percent for all facilities, the 10 largest systems are being inspected at a high 11 rate. 12 Closing out inspections, the brown 13 bars for the Hazardous Waste program show a rate 14 for all inspections that is two to three times 15 the national average. Note that during the 16 pandemic years of 2020 and 2021, the inspection rate dropped off slightly but to a much lesser 18 degree compared to the rest of the nation, the 19 red dashed line 20 For Treatment, Storage, and Disposal 21 facilities, abbreviated TSD, and Large Quantity 22 Generators in Hazardous Waste, the inspection 23 rate has been trending higher in recent years and is now more than twice the national average.

25 Both of the Hazardous Waste inspection graphs

1 enforcement actions.

24 create the following graphs showing the

25 relationship between informal and formal

In this Air program graph, the blue
columns represent the percentage of all
enforcement actions that are informal and the
dashed red line represents the average percentage
for the nation. As you can see, ADEM
consistently has a higher rate of informal
enforcement. The slowly rising national trend
line seems to indicate the rest of the nation is

EPA enforcement data was used to

11 enforcement.
12 In the Water program, the percent of

seeing the benefits of increased informal

informal actions is again higher than the
national average represented by the red dashed
line. Our trend line is essentially flat around
pspercent. The rest of the nation is closing in
on us at about 85 percent. Of course, some
formal enforcement will always be required so we

19 are not likely to go beyond our 95 percent level.
20 The informal enforcement trend for

our Drinking Water program is flat and peaked out 22 at a rate above the dashed red line representing 23 the national average that is increasing.

Hazardous Waste, like the other ADEM programs, shows the high rate of informal

Page 14

Pages 14..17

1 enforcement that yields high levels of

2 compliance. This program has employed a rate of

3 informal enforcement that is similar to that of

4 the other ADEM programs and is now on par with

5 the rest of the nation. We will continue to

6 apply emphasis on informal enforcement and

outreach to hazardous waste facilities to enhance

8 the compliance rates in our Hazardous Waste

9 program.

10 This final group of slides will look 11 at rates of Significant Non-Compliance commonly 12 referred to as SNC. These are the ones that are

13 of a more serious nature, may adversely affect

14 human health and the environment, and are a cause

15 for heightened concern. The objective of all

environmental programs is to have a low 16

17 non-compliance rate, which is synonymous with a

18 high compliance rate. This group of graphs is

19 where we see if our strategy of high rates of

20 inspection and informal enforcement is showing

21 results.

22 Beginning with Air, the blue bars

23 represent the percent of inspections that

24 resulted in a Significant Non-Compliance, or SNC,

finding for Alabama facilities and the dashed red

Page 16

1 legacy sites have been cleaned up. However, in

2 the Hazardous Waste program, incidents of

3 non-compliance classified as "significant" do

4 occur. Incidents of significant non-compliance

5 typically involve exceeding the maximum numbers

6 of days hazardous waste can be stored at a

7 location and/or repeated occurrences of minor

8 violations such as poor recordkeeping and

9 labeling.

10 At 6.5 percent, this year's

11 percentage rate shows significant improvement

12 over last year's nine percent rate but we are not

where we want to be. The 6.5 percent represents

eight facilities in Significant Non-Compliance 14

15 out of a universe of 124 large facilities

inspected. Importantly, none of the SNCs in

17 Alabama has been found to result in harm to human

health or the environment. Efforts to reduce the

19 hazardous waste SNC rate in the future will

20 continue through the stepped up targeted

21 education program, including video format

22 instruction on the most common violations and how

23 to avoid them. The program will also provide

24 one-on-one training sessions with the Treatment,

25 Storage, and Disposal facilities, which are the

Page 15

1 line represents the national average. The SNC 2 rate for Alabama is consistently about one-third

3 the national average and is now down to about one

4 percent.

5 The Water program has a SNC rate per inspections conducted at the lowest level in the

last nine years. The rate is also about

8 one-third the national average and continues to

9 trend favorable.

10 At less than one percent, the

11 Drinking Water program continues to have a SNC

rate about one-third the national average, the

13 dashed red line.

14 As you can see, the Hazardous Waste

program is the one area where we are above the

16 national average in the percentage of inspections 17

showing incidents of Significant Non-Compliance

18 and we want to be below the national average.

19 The Hazardous Waste program

20 primarily focuses on managing hazardous waste

21 handling sites, overseeing the measures to

prevent new hazardous material releases, and

23 remediating past hazardous material releases.

For decades, we have had no substantial new 25 hazardous waste sites created in Alabama and many

Page 17 1 largest hazardous waste handlers, as well as

2 joint sessions with their downstream customers 3 that represent the next largest handlers. We

4 will continue to address all violations with

appropriate enforcement action.

6 So to summarize, the number of

regulated facilities in Alabama is generally

steady with some variation by media; high

inspection rates are being implemented across all

10 programs; the Department emphasizes informal

11 enforcement which is a form of education; Alabama

12 has low rates of Significant Non-Compliance compared to the rest of the nation in the Air,

Water, and Drinking Water programs; an enhanced

inspection and instructional program for

16 facilities covered by the Hazardous Waste program

17 is being implemented to reduce the rate of

Significant Non-Compliance; and, overall, the

Department out-performs the rest of the nation in

compliance and enforcement with long-term trends 21 in key metrics that are generally favorable.

22 These metrics are consistent with

23 the trends in non-statistical environmental

quality measures over many years highlighted in

25 my periodic reports on the "State of the

20

Pages 18..21

	Commission Meeting on 04/08/2022 Pages 1821					
1	Page 18		Page 20			
2	Environment in Alabama." They are also	1	the last several years, the Alabama Legislature			
	consistent with EPA, regulated industry, and	2	appropriated \$4 million toward ADEM's fiscal 2021			
3	independent research groups' findings that	3	operating budget. We have notified the			
5	Alabama is one of the top environmental	4	Governor's office, the Alabama Legislative			
6	performers in the nation.	5	Leadership, and members of the regulated			
7	While the state overall has an	6	community that the Department will, for the first			
8		7	time in five years and nine years respectively,			
9	occasionally serious environmental issues that	8	be seeking increased funding from a combination			
10	can and do cause great concern in local	9	of State General Funds and permit fees paid by			
11	communities. Typically, each year there are several. This year, significant concerns with	10	regulated industries in FY 2025 to adjust for			
12	coal ash, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances,	11	inflation. It's anticipated, after any increase			
13	and the application of certain byproduct	12	in the Department's funding, we will continue to			
14	materials have been expressed by citizens. We	13	be the lowest funded environmental agency in the			
15	address these in regulatory programs and	14	nation on a per capita basis.			
16		15	And that concludes today's report.			
17	enforcement actions and cover them in my reports to you, as well as in news releases.	16	I will be pleased to answer any questions you may			
18	In other matters, I'm pleased to	17	have.			
19	report that the \$5 million shortfall in funding	18	MR. WALTERS: Any questions from the Commission?			
20	to build the Mobile Field Office and Lab, that	20				
21	was the result of the 11-year delay between our	21	(No response.)			
22	initial cost estimate and confirmation of RESTORE	22	MR. WALTERS: Hearing none, thank you.			
23	Act funding, is resolved. The Alabama	23	•			
24	Legislature provided a \$3 million special	24	MR. LeFLEUR: Thank you.			
25	appropriation, and the Alabama Gulf Coast	25	MR. WALTERS: Thank you, sir.			
	appropriation, and the Arabana bull coast	23	Item number three on the agenda is			
1	Page 19 Recovery Council this week approved a \$2 million	1	Page 21 Report from the Commission Chair. The Commission			
2	inflation adjustment to our project.	2	Chair has no report to give today so we will			
3	Construction of the Field Office and Lab	3	proceed to item number four which is			
4	commenced on April 4th. A groundbreaking	4	consideration of proposed amendments to ADEM			
5	ceremony is scheduled at the site on April 22nd.	5	Administrative Code Division 335-15, Brownfield			
6	I will be giving regular updates during the	6	Redevelopment and Voluntary Cleanup Program			
7	estimated 18-month construction period.	7	Regulations, and Division 335-1, General			
8	The programs administered by the	8	Administrative Regulations.			
9	Department to upgrade public drinking water and	9	So at this time I am going to			
10	wastewater systems in Alabama, highlighted in the	10	recognize Mr. Cobb from the Department on			
11	February Commission meeting, have been	11	covering the 335-15, Brownfield Redevelopment and			
12	progressing. As you may recall, the Alabama	12	Voluntary Cleanup Program Regulations.			
13	State Legislature appropriated \$225 million from	13	MR. COBB: Thank you,			
14	the State's federal American Rescue Plan Act, or	14	Mr. Chairman, and good morning, Commissioners.			
15	ARPA, funds. Additionally, an estimated \$765	15	I'm Stephen Cobb, Chief of the Land Division, and			
16	million is being made available to ADEM from the	16	I'm here today to recommend the Commission adopt			
17	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, BIL, through EPA	17	amendments to the Department's Division 15			
18	for water and sewer upgrades. To date, 473,	18	Brownfield Redevelopment and Voluntary Cleanup			
19	which is approximately 45 percent of the 1,061	19	Program Regulations.			
20	public drinking water and wastewater systems in	20	These amendments propose changes to			
21	Alabama, have submitted requests for \$3.2	21	Chapters 1, 3, 4, and 6. And the revisions to			
22	billion. We are analyzing the submissions and	22	these chapters are being proposed to provide			
23	anticipate beginning to announce commitments to	23	enhanced public participation for cleanup			
24	fund individual projects in the next two months.	24	remedies in which the proposed final remedy is an			
25	Finally, as has been the case for	25	environmental covenant. In addition, changes to			
I		!				

	Commission Mee	g on 04/08/2022 Pages 2225	
	Page 22		Page 24
1	the Voluntary Cleanup program application are	1	
2	proposed to improve site identification.	2	one this time. I was trying to get Steve to do
3	These revisions were the subject of	3	it for me one time and he bailed on me.
4	a public comment period which ran from December	4	MR. WALTERS: I have got to put
5	19th, 2021 to February 3rd of this year. The	5	on my glasses to see far away. The pollen wreaks
6	public hearing was held at the Department on	6	havoc on my contacts. That's why I can take them
7	February 3rd. No oral comments were received	7	off to see up close, but I have got to put them
8	during the hearing and one set of written	8	on to see anything. Hang on a second, Russell.
9	comments were received during the public comment	9	MR. KELLY: Sure.
10	period.	10	MR. WALTERS: I have messed this
11	Based on the comments received, the	11	up before. I have got to sign this before we
12	proposed regulations have an amended to remove	12	proceed.
13	the definition and update the language of the	13	Okay. Russell, you may proceed.
14	environmental covenant public notice provision.	14	MR. KELLY: All right, sir.
15	In addition, revisions were made to the cleanup	15	These are the revisions for Division 1. The
16	requirements to provide clarity and consistency	16	Department held a public hearing on February 3rd
17	with terminology. No other changes were made to	17	on these revisions to the ADEM Administrative
18	the proposed regulations regarding the remaining	18	Code. The proposed revisions include modifying
19	comments received. The Department's response to	19	forms that are necessary to implement the
20	the comments have been provided to the	20	Department's rules and regulations. In total,
21	Commission.	21	there were approximately 58 forms that were
22	The Department asks that the	22	modified. Additional revisions are proposed Fee
23	Commission adopt the proposed changes to the	23	Schedule H. This is to address fee changes
24	Division 15 regulations, and I'm happy to answer	24	related to the Voluntary Cleanup Sites and the
25	any questions that you might have.	25	rules from Mr. Cobb that you just adopted.
1	Page 23 MR. WALTERS: Any questions for	1	Page 25 During the public comment period,
2	Mr. Cobb on the proposed amendments?	2	one comment was received pertaining to Schedule
3	(No response.)	3	H. The proposed regulations addressed this
4	MR. WALTERS: I need a motion.	4	comment and is included as part of the
5	MS. MERRITT: I move that we	5	reconciliation statement.
6	adopt the proposed amendments.	6	At this time, I would request your
7	MR. MASINGILL: Second.	7	favorable consideration and answer any questions.
8	MR. WALTERS: I have a motion	8	MR. WALTERS: Any questions of
9	and a second.	9	Mr. Kelly on this proposed amendment?
10	Any further discussion?	10	(No response.)
11	(No response.)	11	MR. WALTERS: I need a motion.
12	MR. WALTERS: All those in favor	12	MS. MERRITT: Move to adopt the
13	signify by saying "aye."	13	proposed amendment.
14	(All Commissioners affirm.)	14	DR. PERRY: Second.
15	MR. WALTERS: Any opposed?	15	MR. WALTERS: I have a motion to
16	(No response.)	16	adopt and a second.
17	MR. WALTERS: Motion carries.	17	Any further discussion regarding the
18	MR. COBB: Thank you,	18	motion?
19		19	(No response.)
20	MR. WALTERS: Mr. Cobb, you may	20	MR. WALTERS: All those in
21	remain standing and cover the proposed amendments	21	favor, please signify by saying "aye."
22	to Administrative Code 335-1, General	22	(All Commissioners affirm.)
23	Administrative Regulations. Or excuse me	23	MR. WALTERS: Any opposed?
24	MR. KELLY: Good morning,	24	(No response.)
25	Mr. Chairman. I'm Russell Kelly, Chief of the	25	MR. WALTERS: Motion carries.
I		1	

Pages 26..29

	Commission Meeting on 04/08/2022 Pages 2629				
1	Page 26		Page 28		
2	MR. KELLY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and to the Commission.	1 2	MR. WALTERS: I have a motion		
3	MR. WALTERS: Item number five	i -	and a second.		
4	is Lee County Commission, Petitioner, versus	3	Any further discussion regarding the motion?		
5	ADEM, the Respondent, and Creekwood	5			
6	Resources, LLC, the Intervenor, EMC Docket No.	6	(No response.)		
7	21-05. So this is an acknowledgment for the	7	MR. WALTERS: All those in		
8	record that Petitioner, Lee County Commission's	1	favor, signify by saying "aye."		
وا		8	(All Commissioners affirm.)		
10	withdrawal for its Request for Hearing.	_	MR. WALTERS: Any opposed?		
11	On September 2nd, 2021, the Petitioner requested a hearing regarding ADEM's	10	(No response.)		
12	issuance of NPDES Permit AL0084191 to Creekwood	11	MR. WALTERS: Motion carries.		
13		12	Agenda item number seven is the		
14	Resources, LLC, Shady Grove Quarry. On February	13	consideration of a petition to adopt ADEM		
15	16th, 2022, the Lee County Commission filed with	14	Administrative Code Chapter 335-2-4, EMC		
16	the Commission a withdrawal of its Request For	15	Rulemaking Petition 22-01. The Petitioner is the		
17	Hearing. In the withdrawal, Lee County	16	Environmental Defense Alliance.		
	Commission gave notice that it no longer intends	17	I will note that, on behalf of the		
18	to pursue the hearing on the issuance of the	18	Commission, I requested that Director LeFleur		
19	permit and withdrew its Request for Hearing,	19	assist the Commission by providing the		
20	without prejudice, to any rights, remedies, or	20	Department's response to the petition and any		
21	claims, however denominated, or defenses and	21	relevant information concerning the petition. I		
22	matters in avoidance, however denominated, in any	22	also requested, on behalf of the Commission, that		
23	other proceeding or lawsuit.	23	the Petitioner and the Department have		
24	As the Chair, I acknowledge for the	24	representatives present today some.		
25	record Petitioner Lee County Commission's	25	I think at this time I'm sorry, I		
	Page 27		Page 29		
1	withdrawal of ite Pemieet for Mearing				
	withdrawal of its Request for Hearing.	1	did it again. Sorry, Debi. I forgot about this		
2	We now move on to agenda item number	2	part. We're signing.		
2	We now move on to agenda item number six, which is Alabama Power Company, Petitioner,	2	part. We're signing. Mr. Ludder, you can go ahead and		
2 3 4	We now move on to agenda item number six, which is Alabama Power Company, Petitioner, versus ADEM, Respondent, EMC Docket No. 21-01.	2 3 4	part. We're signing. Mr. Ludder, you can go ahead and stand up, move things along, if you don't mind.		
2 3 4 5	We now move on to agenda item number six, which is Alabama Power Company, Petitioner, versus ADEM, Respondent, EMC Docket No. 21-01. This is consideration of the Hearing Officer's	2 3 4 5	part. We're signing. Mr. Ludder, you can go ahead and stand up, move things along, if you don't mind. We will hear comments from the Petitioner.		
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Page 30 Page 32 1 transferred to successors in office and made 1 of their records to you. 2 available to the public. The Administrative In short, the proposed rule would Procedures Act requires that ADEM, which includes 3 establish the general course and methods of 4 the Commission, must adopt a rule regarding its 4 operation of Commissioners with respect to 5 general course and methods of operations. preservation and transfer of documents defined as The proposed rule describes the 6 records. The proposed rule provides details that 7 methods by which the records of the EMC will be 7 are not specified in the statutes. maintained, preserved, transferred, and made What the Alliance does not want to 9 available to citizens. These methods described 9 occur is further loss of records or destruction in the rule are not described in the statutes. 10 of records. The Alliance asks that you adopt the 11 Prior Commissioners have left office 11 proposed rule or some other rule that will 12 without transferring records to their successors, 12 successfully prevent the loss of records so that 13 as required by statutes. I'm sure I could ask citizens may inspect and copy them. If you each of you if your predecessors in office 14 conclude that the rule language proposed today 15 delivered to you any records and the answer would should be modified, I encourage you to consult 15 16 probably be no. Now, you have the duty to the staff of the State Records Commission. They 17 provide your records relating to your office to are available to assist you in developing methods your successors in office. That is a legal 18 of operation to ensure the preservation and 19 requirement. 19 transfer of records in compliance with law. 20 As indicated in our petition, one 20 Thank you. Any questions, I will be 21 Commissioner has admitted that he had -- that he 21 happy to take them. 22 has abandoned records pertaining to his office to 22 MR. WALTERS: Thank you, the possession of a previous employer and he no 23 Mr. Ludder. longer had possession, control, or custody of 24 Any questions? those records, even though they are official 25 (No response.) Page 31 Page 33 1 records of his office. 1 MR. WALTERS: Thank you, sir. 2 Now, the Director offers two reasons At this time we're going to call for 3 for denying the petition, both of which I suggest comments from the Department. 3 4 do not have merit. First, he says that the 4 MR. SIBLEY: Good morning, Chair 5 Alliance was recently provided an opportunity to Walters, Commissioners. I'm Shawn Sibley, ADEM 6 obtain similar relief in a lawsuit against 6 General Counsel. And on behalf of the Director I 7 Commissioner Brown. But that lawsuit was not want to make four short points. We've already --8 about Commissioner Brown's compliance with we submitted in writing to you to reflect those preservation or transfer requirements, it was points. 9 simply to compel disclosure of any records that 10 10 But, you know, the Open Records Act, 11 he had possession of. And that is not the 11 the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, and the 12 subject of this petition. 12 Administrative Procedures Act, which is what 13 Second, the Director says that the Petitioner cites, are self-implementing. They're 14 proposed rule would be superfluous because the very particular in nature, they're specific. And 15 statutes provide specific and expressed 15 the EMC, you guys, are just like many other state 16 requirements. But the statutes did not specify boards and agencies that have to comply with 17 how or where records will be maintained and 17 those acts. 18 preserved, do not specify how or when records 18 And so in the Director's views, this will be transferred to successors in office. And 19 will just be duplicative. In other words, this 20 the proposed rule specifies what records must be would just be rehashing what you're already maintained and preserved, where the records must required to do under the acts. And, you know, on 22 be maintained and preserved, and that a demand 22 a final note, it's just not necessary. Okay. 23 for transfer of records must be made by a 23 You guys are already supposed to abide by these 24 successor in office; that is, you should be 24 acts 25 making a demand of your predecessors for transfer 25 So if you have any questions, let me

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	Page 34					
1	know. And, of course, you know, the Director	1	Page 36 are the three main acts that he cites in his			
2	points out it's within your purview to deny this	2	petition. You're already required to comply with			
3	and that's his opinion that you should deny it.	3	those.			
4	But, then again, it's self-regulating. This is	4	DR. MILLER: So if we receive a			
5	what would be, you know, self-regulating	5	document, the best thing for us to do is to			
6	yourselves. So that's ultimately your call.	6	forward it to Debi for her to store?			
7	MR. WALTERS: Any questions?	7	MR. SIBLEY: That's correct.			
8	DR. MILLER: I have one. I'm a	8	And if there's ever a question of whether or not			
9	little confused about what represents a document	9	there's a privilege attached to it, for instance,			
10	under either one of these proposals. I mean, are	10	attorney-client privilege, that can be determined			
11	the things that we get from the Department every	11	later. But, you know, typically those you			
12	day with the news briefs, are those documents	12	just have to assume under the Open Records Act			
13	that would need to be saved?	13	that it's a public record when it comes to you.			
14	MR. SIBLEY: They ultimately	14	DR. MILLER: But when Robert			
15	they could be. They're considered a public	15	might mail us something and he labels it			
16	document if they're shared amongst, as opposed to	16	attorney-client privilege, should we forward that			
17	something that you share with your lawyer would	17	to Debi as well?			
18	not necessarily be. So if you do save them and	18	MR. SIBLEY: Yes. Yes. And			
19	then there is a lawsuit, like Mr. Ludder talked	19	just because it automatically, in my mind and in			
20	about, that's something that would have to be	20	the Director's mind and Robert can correct			
21	determined by counsel later whether or not that's	21	me but it all needs to go to Debi. And if			
22	attorney-client privileged and what they	22	there's a question later whether or not it's			
23	DR. MILLER: If they come from	23	label attorney-client privilege but if it			
24	the Department, are they not already saved?	24	originates from Robert, then there's an			
25	MR. SIBLEY: Well, any	25	assumption that there's probably perhaps some			
-	Page 35	-	D 25			
1	correspondence that the Director has is required	1	Page 37 sort of privilege attached. And at a later point			
2	by statute to be saved. So there is matter of	2	there's a determination, especially if it's			
3	fact, there is a website link that's devoted to	3	disputed, as to whether or not that's a			
4	just that. And so those documents are there.	4	privileged document, that is subject to some			
5	So, typically, that's part of that, the	5	restrictions under the Open Records Act.			
6	Director's correspondence file that is required	6	DR. MILLER: Well, I guess the			
7	by statute to be saved pursuant to the records	7	next question is are we going to get Debi an			
8	the RDA that he mentioned. And not only pursuant	8	assistant to file all this stuff because she's			
۹	to the RDA but the Management Act as well	۵	going to be flooded more than likely			

9 to the RDA, but the Management Act as well. 10 DR. PERRY: And just for 11 clarity, so we do save records -- because I'm 12 just making a note -- so we do save records, and 13 if we do need access to those records, then we do | 13 materials we get are from Debi. 14 have access to those records, correct? MR. SIBLEY: Yes, ma'am, you're 15 16 supposed to. That's right. 17 DR. PERRY: So what Attorney 18 Ludder is saying that we have already have that 19 in process in writing for us to follow anyway? 20 MR. SIBLEY: Yes, ma'am. It's 21 prescribed in the acts that he mentioned. In 22 other words, the Open Records Act, which is 23 really the genesis of this, and the other two is 24 the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act and of

25 course the Administrative Procedures Act. Those

9 going to be flooded more than likely. 10 MR. SIBLEY: I will leave that 11 up to Robert and Debi. 12 MR. WALTERS: Most of the 14 MR. TAMBLING: Can I just add 15 something? I don't think my views as your 16 counsel are one of the things that you can 17 consider when you're going through rulemaking. 18 But sending that information to Debi is helpful 19 for the lawyers involved when we have to process 20 public records requests and when we have to 21 litigate under the Open Records Act because we 22 won't have to call you and ask you, you know, 23 Dr. Miller, will you please go through all of 24 your e-mails or, Mr. Walters, please look through

25 all of your e-mails. It will already be there.

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 1 Debi will have possession and control of it. So
                                                                        MR. WALTERS: The motion
 2 we can go through those files and can collate
                                                        2 carries.
 3 them, we can identify which of those are subject
                                                                        Okay. Item number eight is other
 4 to a privilege and which of those are actually
                                                        4 business. Any other business the Commission may
 5 public records, and we can release those. So
                                                        5 have?
 6 it's helpful for you to forward all of your
                                                                        (No response.)
 7 e-mails, any records that you produce or that you
                                                        7
                                                                       MR. WALTERS: Hearing none, we
    receive to Debi. Any questions?
                                                        8 will move on to item nine, which is future
 9
                 (No response.)
                                                        9 business session. The date of our next
10
                 MR. WALTERS: Okay. Well, in
                                                       10 Commission meeting is June 10th, 2022. Everyone
11 accordance with the Administrative Code Rule
                                                       11 going to be available, except for Jay?
12 335-2-2-.06, which is the disposition of
                                                       12
                                                                       MR. MASINGILL: I won't.
13 petition, the Commission is required to either
                                                       13
                                                                       MR. WALTERS: That's good. All
14 initiate rulemaking proceedings or deny the
                                                       14 right. And I believe we don't have any sign-ups
15 petition in writing on the merits and state the
                                                       15 for public comment period. Very good.
16 reasons for the denial. So I will note that the
                                                       16
                                                                       All right. Then I will entertain a
17 items that may be considered in review of
                                                       17 motion to adjourn.
18 petitions for rulemaking are in Administrative
                                                       18
                                                                       DR. MILLER: So moved.
19 Code 235-2-2-.05, Consideration of Petition,
                                                                       MR. WALTERS: We have a motion
                                                       19
20 paragraphs A through I.
                                                       20 and a second to adjourn?
21
                 So at this point, any more comments
                                                       21
                                                                       MR. MASINGILL: Second.
22
   or questions from the Commission?
                                                                       MR. WALTERS: All those in
23
                I know that personally all of my
                                                       23 favor, say "aye."
24 e-mails come to one -- all my Commission stuff is
                                                       24
                                                                       (All Commissioners affirm.)
25 in one spot so it's going to be real easy for me
                                                       25
                                                                       MR. WALTERS: We stand
                                               Page 39
                                                                                                      Page 41
 1 to kick in a thumb drive and give it to whoever
                                                        1 adjourned. Thank you for your attendance.
 2 my successor is. So pretty simple.
                                                                       (Proceedings concluded at
                All right. Do I have a motion
                                                       3
                                                                       11:53 a.m.)
 4 considering the petition for rulemaking?
                                                                       *********
                DR. MILLER: I move we deny the
                                                       5
 6 petition submitted by Mr. Ludder and the
                                                        6
 7 Environmental Defense Alliance based on the
                                                       7
 8 grounds that it sort of duplicates what we
                                                       8
 9 already have. And I appreciate Mr. Ludder
                                                       9
10 bringing this to the forefront, and I think that
                                                       10
11 we will, with or without the motion, forward all
                                                       11
12 of our records to Debi and go from there.
                                                       12
13
                MR. WALTERS: I have a motion.
                                                       13
14
                MR. McKINSTRY: Second.
                                                       14
15
                MR. WALTERS: I have a motion
                                                       15
16
   and a second.
                                                       16
17
                Any further discussion on the
                                                       17
18
  proposed motion?
                                                       18
19
                 (No response.)
                                                       19
                MR. WALTERS: Hearing none, I
20
                                                       20
21 will call for the question. Those in favor of
                                                      21
22 the motion signify by saying "aye."
                                                       22
23
                (All Commissioners affirm.)
                                                      23
24
                MR. WALTERS: Any opposed?
                                                      24
25
                (No response.)
                                                      25
```

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2	COUNTY OF ELMORE)
3	
4	
5	I hereby certify that the above
6	proceedings were taken down by me and transcribed
7	by me using computer-aided transcription and that
8	the above is a true and accurate transcript of
9	said proceedings taken down by me and transcribed
10	by me.
11	I further certify that I am neither
12	of kin nor of counsel to any of the parties nor
13	in anywise financially interested in the outcome
14	of this case.
1	
15	I further certify that I am duly
16	licensed by the Alabama Board of Court Reporting
17	as a Certified Court Reporter as evidenced by the
18	ACCR number following my name found below.
19	
20	
21	
22	Aliatoria Dantilla
23	Victoria Castillo
24	VICTORIA CASTILLO, ACCR #17, 9/30/22
25	FREELANCE COURT REPORTER
	THE STATE OF THE S
]	
I	

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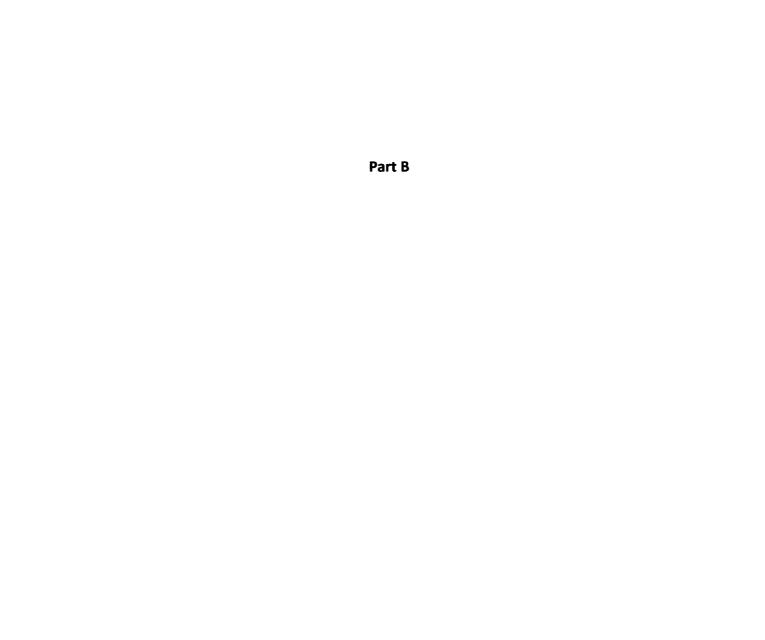
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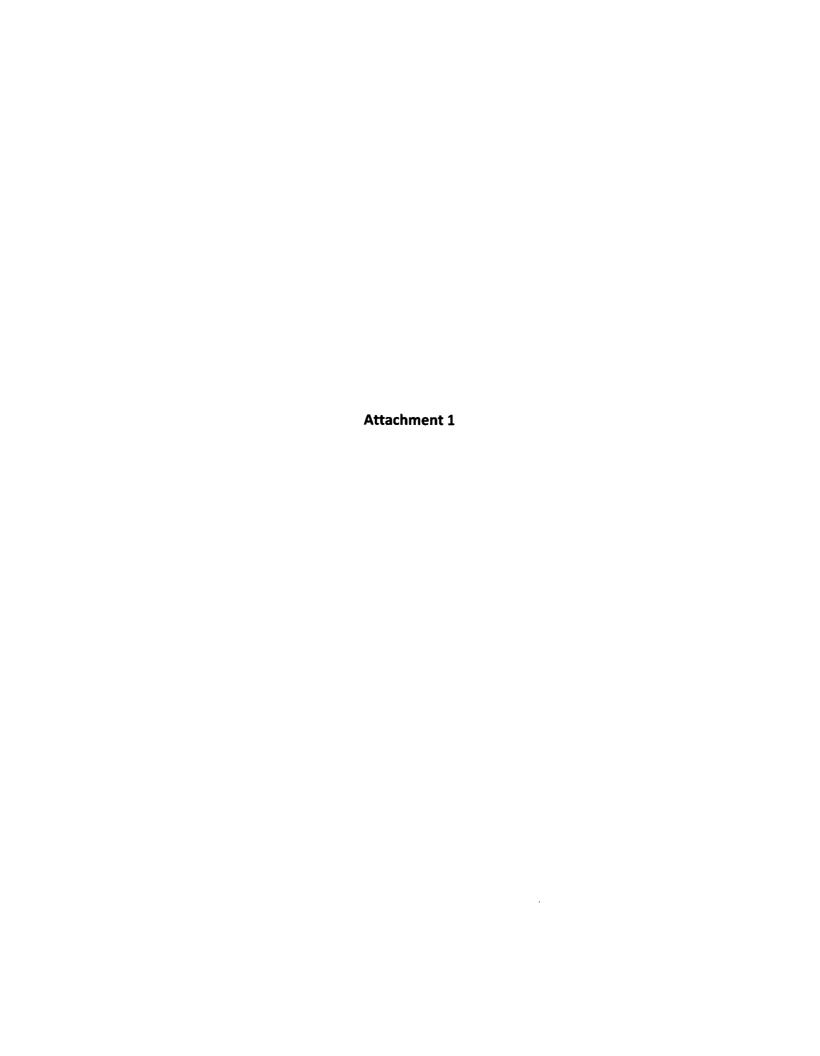
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Attachment Index

Attachment 1 Agenda

- Attachment 2 Director's Slides (Agenda Item 2)
- Attachment 3 Resolution adopting amendments to ADEM Administrative Code 335-15,
 Brownfield Redevelopment and Voluntary Cleanup Program Regulations,
 and Attachment A, Adopted Revised Proposed (after comments) Rules
 (Agenda Item 4)
- Attachment 4 Resolution adopting amendments to ADEM Administrative Code 335-1,
 General Administration Regulations, and Attachment A, Adopted Revised
 Proposed (after comments) Rules
 (Agenda Item 4)
- Attachment 5 Order adopting Hearing Officer's Recommendation of Dismissal, and Exhibit A, Hearing Officer's Recommendation of Dismissal (Agenda Item 6)
- Attachment 6 Order adopting motion to deny the petition submitted by Petitioner,
 Environmental Defense Alliance, based upon the grounds: (1) That
 alternative means of obtaining the same or similar relief are available
 to Petitioner; (2) Existing statutes, including Alabama Open Records Act,
 already pertain to the Commission; and (3) The views of the Director of
 the Department.
 (Agenda Item 7)



AGENDA*

MEETING OF THE

ALABAMA ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

DATE: April 8, 2022 TIME: 11:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) Building

Alabama Room (Main Conference Room)
1400 Coliseum Boulevard

Montgomery, Alabama 36110-2400

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5.	<u>Lee County Commission, Petitioner v. ADEM, Respondent, and Creekwood Resources, LLC, Intervenor</u> , EMC Docket No. 21-05 (NPDES-Related Matter)	2
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7.	Consideration of Petition to Adopt ADEM Administrative Code Chapter 335-2-4, EMC Rulemaking Petition 22-01, Petitioner – Environmental Defense Alliance	3
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^{*} The Agenda for this meeting will be available on the ADEM website, <u>www.adem.alabama.gov</u>, under Environmental Management Commission.

^{**} The Minutes for this meeting will be available on the ADEM website under Environmental Management Commission.

- 1. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 11, 2022
- 2. REPORT FROM THE ADEM DIRECTOR
- 3. REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION CHAIR
- 4. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ADEM ADMINISTRATIVE CODE DIVISION 335-1,
 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS, AND DIVISION 335-15, BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AND
 VOLUNTARY CLEANUP PROGRAM REGULATIONS

The Commission will consider proposed amendments to ADEM Administrative Code Division 335-1, General Administration Regulations, and Division 335-15, Brownfield Redevelopment and Voluntary Cleanup Program Regulations. Revisions to Division 1 of the ADEM Code are being proposed to modify and add forms required for the implementation of the Department's rules and regulations. Additional modifications are being proposed to restructure the Voluntary Cleanup Program fees outlined in Fee Schedule H. In addition, revisions to the Division 15 Code are being proposed to provide greater public participation for cleanup remedies in which the proposed final remedy is an Environmental Covenant. Additionally, changes to the Voluntary Cleanup Program Application are proposed to improve site identification. The Department is also proposing to update citation references and clarify language. The Department held public hearings on the proposed amendments on February 3, 2022.

5. <u>LEE COUNTY COMMISSION, PETITIONER V. ADEM, RESPONDENT, AND CREEKWOOD RESOURCES, LLC, INTERVENOR, EMC DOCKET NO. 21-05 (NPDES-RELATED MATTER)</u>

The Commission will acknowledge for the record Lee County Commission's withdrawal of its Request for Hearing.

On September 2, 2021, Lee County Commission ("LCC") filed with the Commission a Request for Hearing regarding ADEM's issuance of NPDES Permit AL0084191 to Creekwood Resources, LLC, Shady Grove Quarry ("Permit"). On February 16, 2022, LCC filed with the Commission a Withdrawal of Its Request for Hearing ("Withdrawal"). In the Withdrawal, LCC gave notice that it no longer intends to pursue the hearing on the issuance of the Permit and withdrew its Request for Hearing without prejudice to any rights, remedies, or claims (however denominated) or defenses and matters in avoidance (however denominated) in any other proceeding or lawsuit.

6. <u>ALABAMA POWER COMPANY, PETITIONER V. ADEM, RESPONDENT, EMC DOCKET NO. 21-01 (NPDES-RELATED MATTER)</u>

The Commission will consider the Hearing Officer's Recommendation of Dismissal, based on the Stipulation for Dismissal filed by the parties. The Hearing Officer recommends that the Commission dismiss the appeal with prejudice.

On January 8, 2021, Alabama Power Company ("APC") appealed a single aspect of NPDES Permit No. AL0002879 for APC, James M. Barry Electric Generating Plant, issued by ADEM on December 9, 2020. On February 23, 2022, the parties filed a Stipulation of Dismissal. With the Stipulation of Dismissal, APC gave notice that it no longer intends to pursue this appeal.

7. CONSIDERATION OF PETITION TO ADOPT ADEM ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTER 335-2-4, EMC RULE-MAKING PETITION 22-01, PETITIONER – ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE ALLIANCE

The Commission will consider the Petition to Adopt ADEM Administrative Code Chapter 335-2-4, Maintenance, Preservation, and Availability of Records, as a new chapter in ADEM Administrative Code Division 335-2, Environmental Management Commission Regulations. The proposed new chapter includes Rule 335-2-4-.01, Definitions, and Rule 335-2-4-.02, Duty to maintain, preserve, and make available records.

- 8. OTHER BUSINESS
- 9. FUTURE BUSINESS SESSIONS

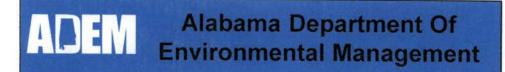
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

BRIEF STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC REGISTERED TO SPEAK

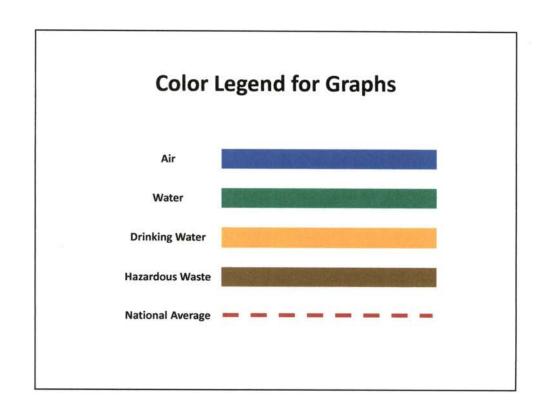
Members of the public that wish to make a brief statement at a Commission meeting may do so by first signing in on a register maintained by the Commission office prior to each regularly scheduled meeting. The register will close ten minutes prior to convening each meeting of the Commission. Following completion of all agenda items, the Commission Chair will call on members of the public wishing to make a statement in the order their names appear on the register. Speakers are encouraged to limit their statement to matters that directly relate to the Commission's functions. Speakers will be asked to observe a three minute time limit. While an effort will be made to hear all members of the public signed on the register, the Commission may place reasonable limitations on the number of speakers to be heard. (Guideline 11, Guidelines for Public Comment).

The Guidelines for Public Comment are used in the application of ADEM Administrative Code 335-2, Environmental Management Commission Regulations, Rule 335-2-3-.05, Agenda and Public Participation. The Guidelines for Public Comment serve to educate and inform the public as to how the Commission interprets and intends to apply the Rule. The revised Rule 335-2-3-.05 was effective October 7, 2016.

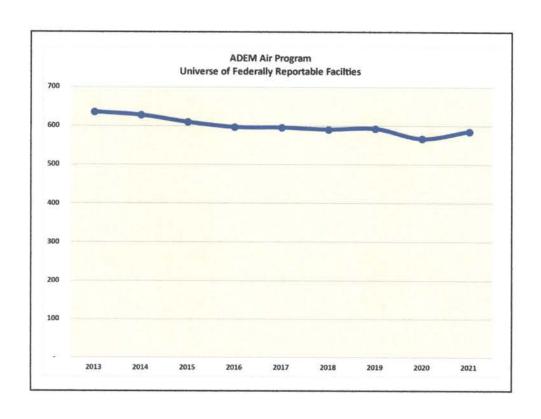


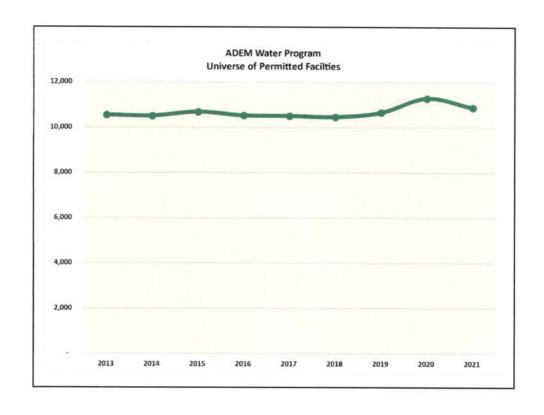


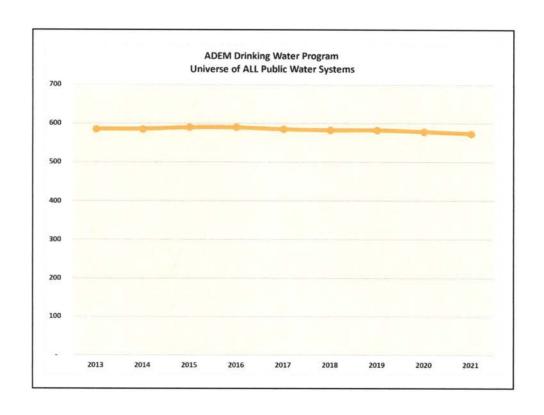
EPA Compliance and Enforcement Metrics

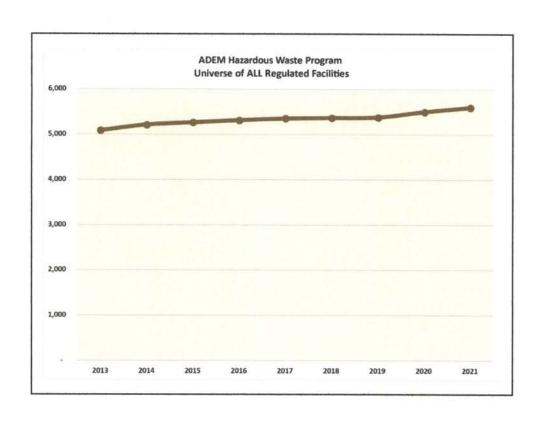


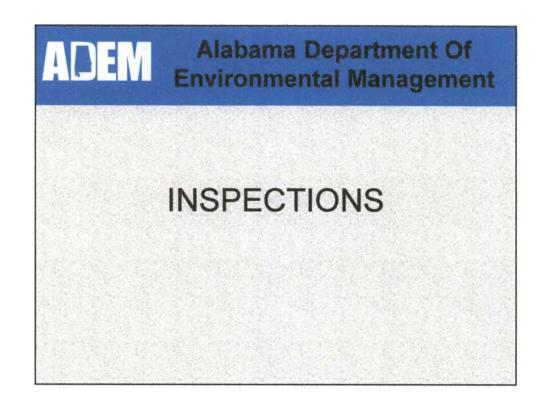
ADEM Alabama Department Of Environmental Management SIZE OF UNIVERSE

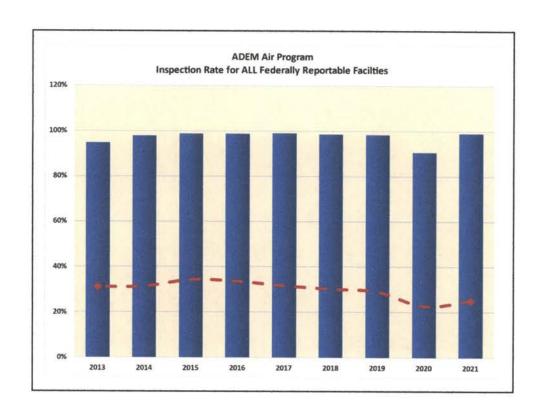


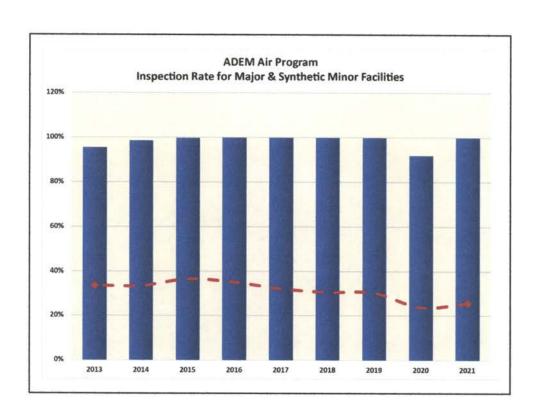


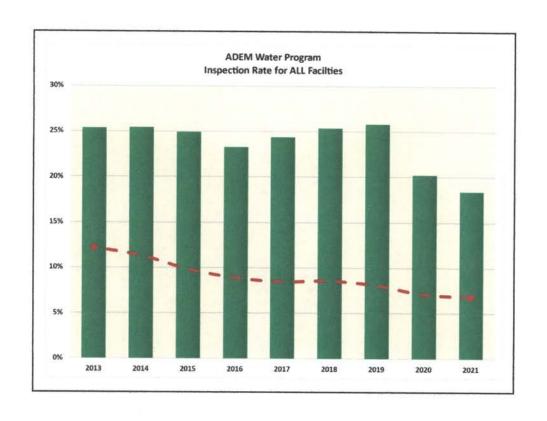


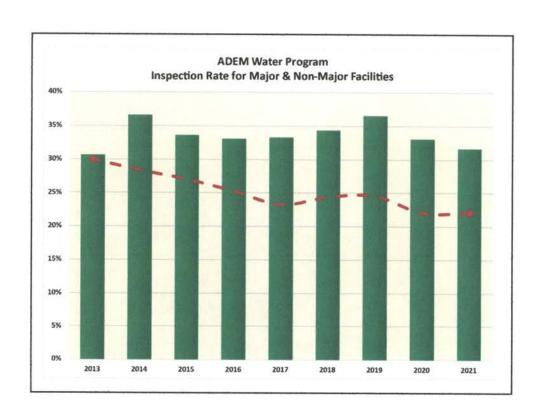


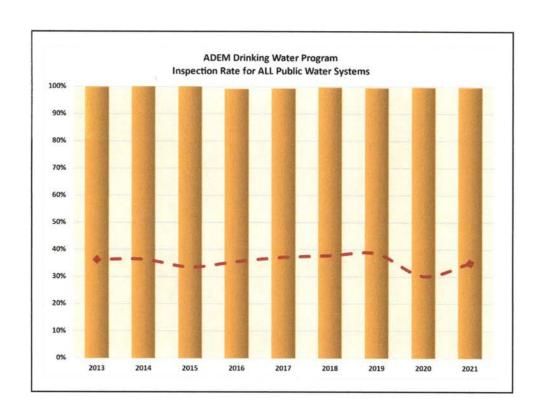


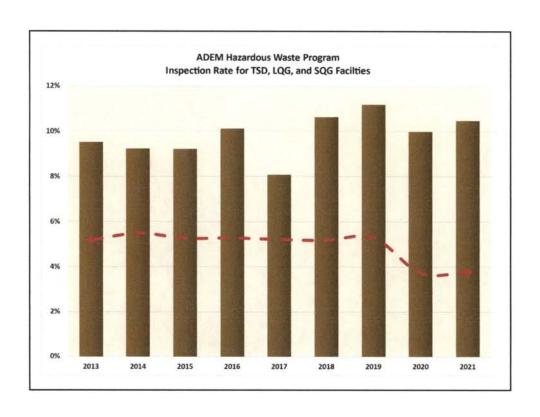


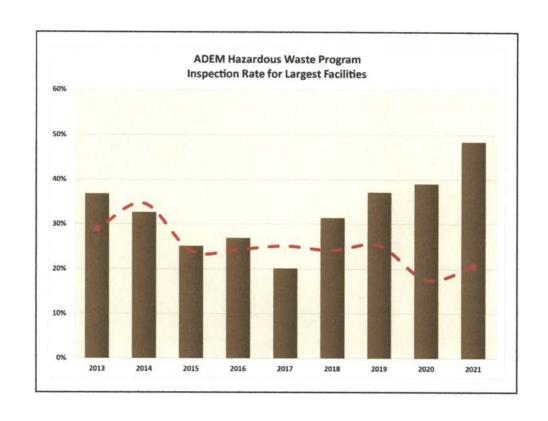


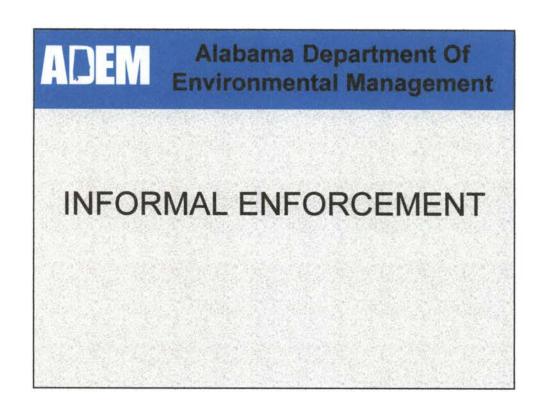


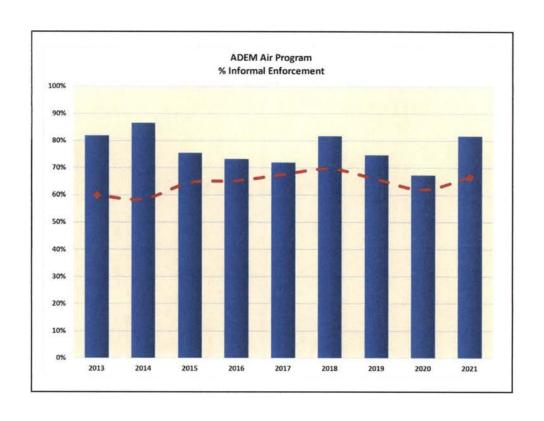


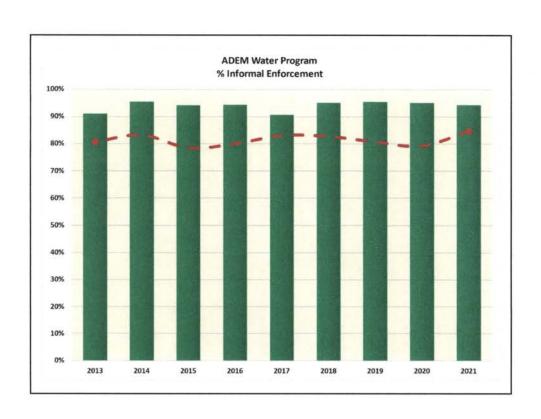


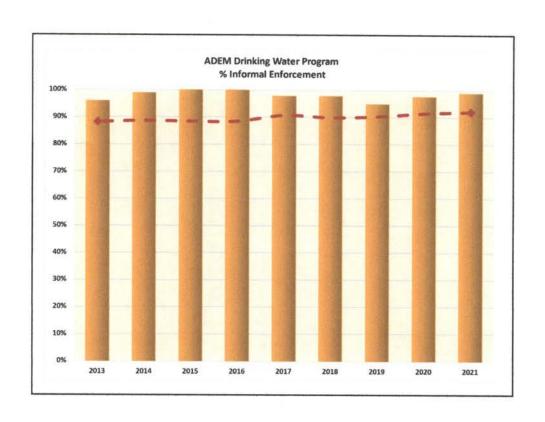


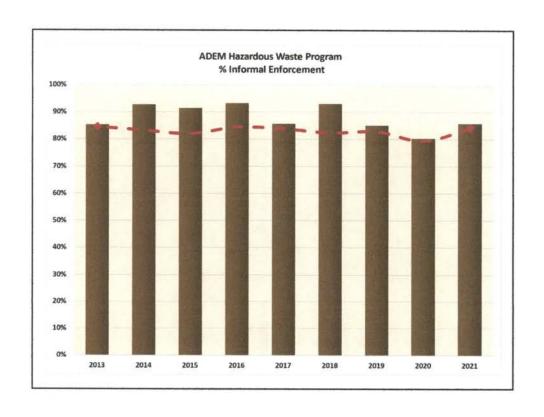




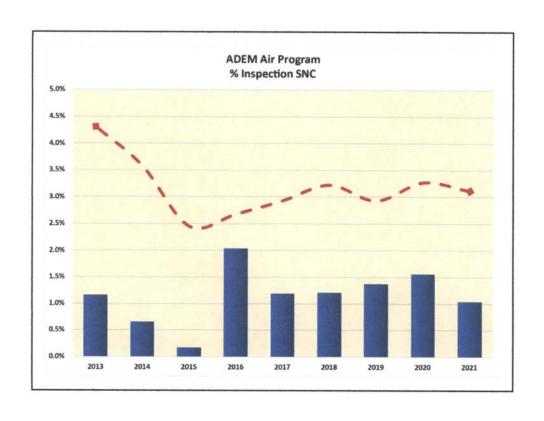


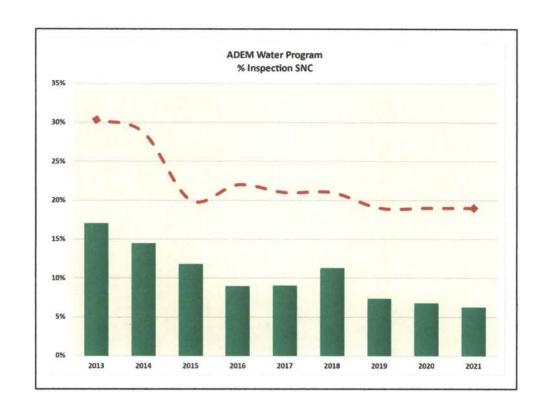


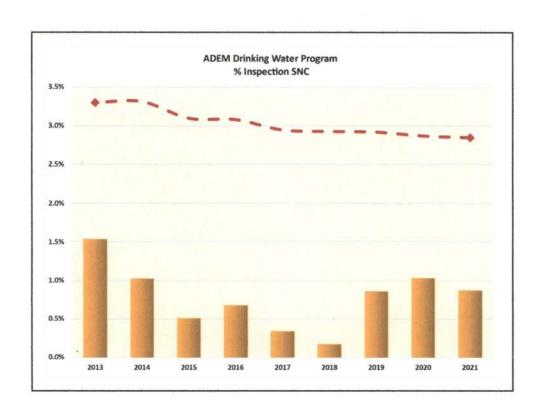


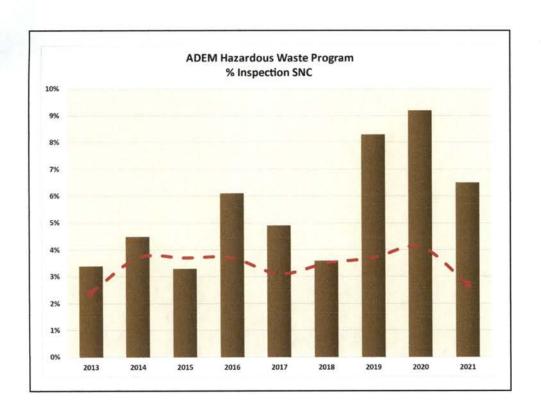


ADEM Alabama Department Of Environmental Management SIGNIFICANT NON-COMPLIANCE









Alabama Department Of Environmental Management

Summary

- Regulated Universe Generally Steady
- · High Rates of Inspections
- · High Rates of Informal Enforce (Education)
- Low Rates of Serious Non-Compliance for Air, Water, Drinking Water
- Program to Reduce Hazardous SNCs
- Overall Out-perform Nation & Favorable Trends



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management gave notice of a public hearing on the proposed revisions to ADEM Admin. Code 335-15 of the Department's Land Division – The Brownfield Redevelopment and Voluntary Cleanup Program in accordance with Ala. Code § 22-22A-8 (2006 Rplc. Vol.) and Ala. Code § 41-22-4 (2000 Rplc. Vol.); and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held before a representative of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management designated by the Environmental Management Commission for the purpose of receiving data, views and arguments on the amendment of such proposed rules; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management has reviewed the oral and written submissions introduced into the hearing record, and has prepared a concise statement of the principal reasons for and against the adoption of the proposed rules incorporating therein its reasons for the adoption of certain revisions to the proposed rules in response to oral and written submissions, such revisions, where appropriate, having been incorporated into the proposed rules attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Management Commission has considered fully all oral and written submissions respecting the proposed amendments and the Reconciliation Statement prepared by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Ala. Code. §§ 22-22A-5, 22-22A-6, 22-22A-8 (2006 Rplc. Vol.), and Ala. Code. § 41-22-5 (2000 Rplc. Vol.), as duly appointed members of the Environmental Management Commission, we do hereby adopt and promulgate these revisions to division 335-15 [rules 335-15-1-.01/ Purpose (Amend); 335-15-1-.02/Definitions (Amend); 335-15-3-.01/Purpose (Amend); 335-15-3-.02/ Application Processing (Amend); 335-15-4-.01/ Purpose (Amend); 335-15-4-.02/ Limitation of Liability Qualifications (Amend); 335-15-4-.03/Voluntary Property Assessment Plans (Amend);

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION RESOLUTION

335-15-4-.04/Voluntary Cleanup-Work Plans (Amend); 335-15-4-.05/ Cleanup Requirements (Amend); 335-15-4-.06/Certification of Compliance-Letter of Concurrence (Amend); 335-15-6-.01/Purpose (Amend); 335-15-6-.02/ Public Participation (Amend);335-15-6-.03/Voluntary Cleanup Properties Inventory (Amend)] of the Department's Department's Land Division – The Brownfield Redevelopment and Voluntary Cleanup Program rules, administrative code attached hereto, to become effective forty-five days, unless otherwise indicated, after filing with the Alabama Legislative Services Agency.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION RESOLUTION

ADEM Admin. Code division 335-15 – The Brownfield Redevelopment and Voluntary Cleanup Program

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have affixed our signatures below on this 8^{th} day of April, 2022.

APPROVED:	
	Sulf
AMMINA Mammant	A COLLY
DISAPPROVED:	
ABSTAINED:	This is to certify that this Resolution is a true and accurate account of the actions taken by the Environmental Management Commission on this 8th day of April 2022. Thomas P. Walters, Chair
	Environmental Management Commission Certified this 8th day of April 2022

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT LAND DIVISION - BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AND VOLUNTARY CLEANUP PROGRAM

CHAPTER 335-15-1 GENERAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

335-15-1-.01 Purpose 335-15-1-.02 Definitions

335-15-1-.01 Purpose. These regulations are promulgated pursuant to the Alabama Land Recycling and Redevelopment Act, <u>Code of Alabama</u>, <u>1975</u>, § 22-30E-4. The Brownfield Redevelopment and Voluntary Cleanup Program provides a mechanism for the implementation of a cleanup program that encourages applicants to voluntarily assess, remediate, and reuse rural and urban areas of actual or perceived contamination. The program is designed to expedite the voluntary cleanup process and has been designed for entry at any stage of the cleanup process as long as all applicable criteria have been achieved up to the point of entry.

Authors: Fred A. Barnes; Keith N. West; Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb; Sonja B. Favors; Austin R. Pierce; Pamela L. Monaghan

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, §§ 22-30E-1, 22-30E-2, and

22-30E-4.

History: May 16, 2002.

Amended: November 25, 2004; Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-1-.02 <u>Definitions</u>. Unless otherwise defined in ADEM Admin. Code 335-15-1 through 335-15-7, the following words and terms shall have the meanings given below:

- (a) "Alabama Land Recycling and Economic Redevelopment Commission" is the commission as established in the <u>Code of Alabama</u>, 1975 § 22-30E-12.
- (b) "ADEM" is the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.
- (c) "Applicant" is the owner, operator or prospective purchaser seeking to participate in the voluntary cleanup program by submission of an application under 335-15-2-.02.
- (d) "Application fee" means the nonrefundable review fee submitted with the Voluntary Cleanup Program application.

335-15-1-.02

- (e) "Aquifer" means a geologic formation, group of formations or a part of a formation capable of yielding a significant amount of groundwater to wells or springs.
- (f) "Brownfield" means real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or perceived presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant.
- (g) "Carcinogen" means a chemical classification for the purpose of risk assessment as an agent that is known or suspected to cause cancer in humans, including but not limited to a known or likely human carcinogen or a probable or possible human carcinogen under an EPA weight-of-evidence classification system.
- (h) "Certification of compliance" means a statement prepared by a professional engineer or geologist licensed to practice in the State of Alabama which certifies compliance with a voluntary cleanup plan required by 335-15-4-.06.
- (i) "Cleanup" means, for purposes of 335-15, the remediation, mitigation, control, or removal of contaminants from the environment in accordance with an approved "Voluntary Cleanup Plan".
- (j) "Cleanup Properties Inventory" means the Voluntary Cleanup Properties Inventory compiled and updated as necessary by the Department pursuant to 335-15-6-.03(1) for all qualifying properties for which a property assessment plan or cleanup plan has been approved.
- (k) "Commission" means the Alabama Environmental Management Commission as defined in Code of Alabama, 1975 § 22-22A-3(4).
- (l) "Completion" means fulfillment of the commitment agreed to by the participant as part of this program.
- (m) "Contaminant" means any substance which results in alteration of the chemical, physical or biological integrity of soils, sediments, air and surface water or groundwater including:
 - 1. Solid waste (as defined in ADEM Admin. Code 335-13); or
 - 2. Petroleum product(s).
- (n) "Department" means the Alabama Department of Environmental Management or its successor agency.
- (o) "Director" means the Director of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management or such other person to whom the director has delegated authority.
 - (p) "EPA" means the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

- (q) "Engineer" means a person registered as a professional engineer with the State of Alabama Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors and practicing under the Rules of Professional Conduct, specifically Canon II.
- (r) "Environment" is defined by the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C., Section 9601, et seq.
- (s) "Environmental Covenant" as defined in ADEM Admin. Code 335-5-1-.03.
 - (t) "Facility" is a term synonymous with "property".
- (u) "Fiduciary" means a person who acts for the benefit of another party as a bona fide trustee, executor, and/or administrator.
- (v) "Geologist" means a person registered as a professional geologist with the State of Alabama pursuant to the Alabama Professional Geologist Licensing Act.
- (w) "Hazardous constituent" as defined in ADEM Admin. Code 335-14-2-Appendix VIII and/or ADEM Admin. Code 335-14-5-Appendix IX.
- (x) "Hazardous substance" means any substance included on the List of Hazardous Substances and Reportable Quantities, codified as 40 CFR Part 302, Table 302.4, in force and effect on the effective date of 335-15-1 and subsequent revisions thereof, or any substance listed on the List of Extremely Hazardous Substances and Their Threshold Planning Quantities, codified as 40 CFR Part 355, Appendix A, in force and effect on the effective date of 335-15 and subsequent revisions thereof.
- (y) "Hazardous waste" means any solid waste as defined in ADEM Admin. Code 335-14.
- (z) "Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage or Disposal Facility" means any property or facility which is intended or used for the treatment, storage or disposal of hazardous waste subject to the permit requirements of ADEM Admin. Code 335-14-8.
- (aa) "Land Use Controls" means any restriction or control, which serves to protect human health and/or the environment, by limiting the use of and/or exposure to, any portion of a property, including water resources These controls include but are not limited to:
- 1. Engineering controls for remedial actions directed toward containing or controlling the migration of contaminants through the environment. These include, but are not limited to, stormwater conveyance systems, slurry walls, liner systems, caps, leachate collection systems, pump and treat systems, and groundwater recovery systems.

- 2. Institutional controls which are legal or contractual restrictions on property use that remain effective after remediation is completed and are used to meet remediation levels. The term may include, but is not limited to, deed notations, deed restrictions and/or, water use restrictions, restrictive covenants, conservation easements, and limited development rights.
- 3. Water use restrictions which can be placed on the use of a particular water supply source that has been identified as being contaminated with hazardous substances or other contaminants in order to protect human health and the environment.
- (bb) "Major Modification" means any modification that is not a minor modification.
- (cc) "Minor Modification" means any administrative and/ or general information changes, correction of typographical errors, changes in ownership and or operational control, and changes in the frequency of, or procedures for, monitoring, reporting or sampling by the applicant to provide for more frequent monitoring, reporting or sampling.
- (dd) "Mitigation" means reducing to the extent possible, or rectifying, the adverse impact by repairing, rehabilitating, restoring, or limiting exposure to the affected environment.
- (ee) "Noncarcinogen" is a chemical classification, for the purposes of risk assessment, as an agent for which there is either inadequate toxicological data or which is not likely to be a carcinogen, based on an EPA weight-of-evidence classification system.
- (ff) "Operation and Maintenance" means any action(s) required to operate and/or maintain the processes in place to minimize any potential exposures to environmental concerns on a property.
 - (gg) "Owner or Operator"
 - 1. The definition includes the following:
- (i) In the case of a facility, any person owning or operating such facility.
- (ii) Any person who owned, operated, or otherwise controlled activities at a facility immediately prior to conveyance of title to a unit of state or local government or control of the facility due to bankruptcy, foreclosure, tax delinquency, or abandonment.
 - 2. The definition does not include the following:
- (i) A person who can show evidence of ownership, acted solely in a fiduciary capacity, and who did not actively participate in the management, disposal, or release of hazardous wastes, hazardous constituents, or hazardous substances from the facility.

- (ii) A unit of a state or local government which acquired ownership or control involuntarily through bankruptcy, tax delinquency, abandonment, or other circumstances in which the government involuntarily acquire title by virtue of its function as sovereign. This exclusion shall not apply to any state or local government which has caused or contributed to the release of hazardous wastes, hazardous constituents, or hazardous substances from the facility.
- (hh) "Parent" has the same meaning as in 17 CFR 240.12b-2 (1 April 1996 Edition).
- (ii) "Participant" means a person who has received confirmation of eligibility and has remitted payment of application fee.
- (jj) "Person" means an individual, corporation, partnership, association, a governmental body, a municipal corporation or any other legal entity.
- (kk) "Petroleum" means oil or petroleum of any kind and in any form, including, without limitation, crude oil or any fraction thereof, petroleum, gasoline, kerosene, fuel oil, oil sludge, used oil, substances or additives utilized in the refining or blending of crude petroleum or petroleum stock, natural gas, natural gas liquids, liquefied natural gas, synthetic gas usable for fuel, and mixtures of natural gas and synthetic gas.
- (ll) "Pollutant" includes but is not limited to dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste. [Note: Some materials that meet the definition of "pollutant" may not meet the criteria to be considered a solid waste, whether hazardous or nonhazardous.]
- (mm) "Preexisting release" means a release, as that term is defined in 335-15-1-.02, which occurred prior to an applicant's application for a limitation of liability pursuant to 335-15-4-.02.
- (nn) "Property" is synonymous with "facility" and includes any or all of the following:
- 1. Any land, building, structure, installation, equipment, pipe or pipeline, sewer or publicly owned treatment works, pipe into a sewer or publicly owned treatment works, well, pit, pond, lagoon, impoundment, ditch, landfill, or storage container.
- 2. Any site or area where a hazardous waste, hazardous constituent, hazardous substance or petroleum product has been deposited, discharged, stored, disposed of, placed, or has otherwise come to be located.
 - 3. A parcel of land defined by the boundaries in the applicable deed.

- (oo) "Prospective developer" means any person who desires to buy or sell a brownfield property for the purpose of developing or redeveloping that brownfield property and who did not cause or contribute to the contamination at the brownfield property.
- (pp) "Prospective purchaser" means a person who intends to purchase a qualifying property.
- (qq) "Qualifying property" means a property which meets the criteria of 335-15-2-.01(1).
- (rr) "Relatives" means persons who are, or formerly were, related by marriage or by consanguinity.
- (ss) "Release" means any intentional or unintentional act or omission resulting in the spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing into the environment, including without limitation, the abandonment or discarding of barrels, containers, and other closed receptacles, of any solid waste, hazardous waste, hazardous constituent, petroleum products, or hazardous substance.
- (tt) "Remediation waste" means all solid and hazardous wastes, and all media (including groundwater, surface water, soils, and sediment) and debris that contain hazardous substances which are managed for implementation of the cleanup.
- (uu) "Remediation level" means the concentration of a contaminant, and applicable control, that is protective of human health and the environment.
- (wuu) "Residential" means single family residences of one or more dwelling units, including accessory land, buildings or improvements incidental to such dwellings.
- (wwvv) "Response Action" means those actions taken in the event of a release or threatened release of a hazardous waste, hazardous constituent, petroleum product, or hazardous substance into the environment to remove, or to prevent or minimize the release of hazardous waste, hazardous constituents, petroleum products, or hazardous substances so that they do not pose a threat to public health and/or the environment.
- "Responsible person" means any person who has contributed or is contributing to a release of any hazardous waste, hazardous constituent, or hazardous substance at a property. This term specifically includes those persons described in §§107(a)(1) through 107(a)(4) of the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C., Section 9601, et seq. This term specifically excludes those persons described in § 107(b) of the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C., Section 9601, et seq.

(yyxx) "Restricted use" means any use other than unrestricted residential use.

(EZYY) "Risk assessment" means the process used to determine the risk posed by contaminants that have been released into the environment at a site. The process includes a written site specific evaluation, encompassing, but not limited to, the identification of the contaminants present in the environmental media, the assessment of exposure and exposure pathways, the assessment of the toxicity of the contaminants present, the characterization of risks to humans, and the characterization of the impacts or risks to the environment.

(aaazzz) "Site" means any property or portion thereof, as agreed to and defined by the participant and the Department, which contains or may contain contaminants being addressed under this program.

(bbbaaa) "Source" means the point of origin of a suspected contaminant.

(eccbbb) "Subsidiary" has the same meaning as in the 17 CFR 240.12b-2 (1 April 1996 Edition).

(dddccc) "Third party" means one not a party to an agreement or to a transaction but who may have rights therein.

(eeeddd) "Unrestricted residential use" means the designation of acceptable future use at a site for any and all activities associated with residential use at which the remediation levels, based on either background or standard residential exposure factors, shall have been attained throughout the site in all media.

(fffeee) "Used oil" means any oil that has been refined from crude oil, or any synthetic oil, that has been used and as a result of such use, is contaminated by physical or chemical impurities.

(gggfff) "Upper-bound lifetime cancer risk level" means a conservative estimate of the probability of one excess cancer occurrence in a given number of exposed individuals. For example, a risk level of 1 x 10-6 equates to the possibility of one additional cancer occurrence beyond the number of occurrences that would otherwise occur in one million exposed individuals, beyond the number of occurrences that would otherwise occur. Upper-bound lifetime cancer risk level is based on an assumption of continuous, lifetime exposure and is likely to overestimate true risk.

(hhhggg) "Voluntary Cleanup Plan" means any plan approved under 335-15-4-.04 that describes in sufficient detail those actions planned to satisfy the cleanup requirements for the qualifying property.

(iiihhh) "Voluntary Cleanup Report" means a final report of the cleanup of the entire facility in accordance with the specifications in the approved cleanup plan.

(ijjiii) "Voluntary Property Assessment Plan" means a plan that has been approved by the Department under 335-15-4-.03 and describes in sufficient detail those actions planned to perform a risk assessment or identify applicable cleanup requirements for the property.

(kkkjjj) "Voluntary Property Assessment Report" means a report of the assessment and findings from a Voluntary Property Assessment which may include a recommendation for applying cleanup standards to the property.

335-15-1-.02

(!!!kkk) "Well" means any shaft or pit dug or bored into the earth, generally of a cylindrical form, and often walled with bricks or tubing to prevent the earth from caving in.

Authors: Fred A. Barnes; Keith N. West; Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb; Vernon H. Crockett; Sonja B. Favors; Crystal L. Collins; Lynn T. Roper; M. Gavin Adams; Austin R. Pierce; Pamela L. Monaghan.

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama-, 1975, § 22-30E-3.

History: May 16, 2002; Amended: Effective: November 25, 2004; Amended: Filed: February 28, 2020; Effective: April 13, 2020; Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-3-.01 Purpose. To establish procedures necessary for the submission of a complete and accurate application package thereby facilitating timely and efficient processing and review. Application packages shall be submitted with the appropriate fees as specified in ADEM Admin. Code R. 335-1-6 (See Fee Schedule H). Applications may be submitted using ADEM Form 521 (Voluntary Cleanup Program Application). As appropriate, the application package may be submitted individually or in conjunction with the Vyoluntary Assessment Pplan or Report, Vyoluntary Celeanup Plan or Report, or the Certification of Ceomphance.

Authors: Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb; Vernon H. Crockett; Sonja B. Favors; Crystal L. Collins; M. Gavin Adams; Austin R. Picroc; Pamela L. Monaghan.

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, § 22-30E-5.

History: May 16, 2002; Amended: Effective: November 25, 2004; Amended: Filed: February 28, 2020; Effective April 13, 2020; Amended: Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-3-.02 Application Package Submittal.

- (1) <u>Application Requirements</u>. An application package submitted to the Department under 335-15-3 shall, at a minimum provide the following information in the form specified by the Department:
 - (a) Applicant description.
 - 1. Full name of applicant;
 - 2. Applicant's complete mailing address; and
 - Applicant's telephone number.
 - (b) The location of the property.
 - Street address and zip code;
 - 2. Municipality or community;
 - County;
- 4. United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5 minute quadrangle with the site delineated; and
 - 5. Longitude and latitude; and
 - Legal description of the property.
 - (c) Current ownership description.
 - Full name of owner;
 - Year(s) of ownership;
 - 3. Current owner(s) name and title:
 - 4. Current owner(s) address; and
 - 5. Current owner(s) telephone number; and-
 - Current owner(s) email address.
- (d) Recent available history of the site. The application shall include a description, including time frames, of the current and past usage of the property, to the extent known or reasonably ascertainable.

- (e) Property features. The application shall include the results of a property inspection, to include the presence of various property structures and features. The property inspection shall state the date of the inspection, and the name of the person conducting the inspection.
 - (f) Maps.
- 1. Legible property maps describing the locations of all units, structures, features, and potential sources of contamination. The maps shall be scaled and include:
- (i) Location of all water bodies, ponds, springs, rivers and streams (including subterranean), estuaries, and wetlands;
 - (ii) Land use of contiguous properties and boundary lines;
- (iii) Engineering structures such as drainage ways, diversion ditches, drain tiles, manholes, water lines, and sewers;
- (iv) Highways, roads, roadcuts, paved or black-topped areas, and railroad lines;
 - (v) Outcrops, faults, caves, and sinkholes; and
- (vi) Any other structures found during the preparation of the application.
 - 2. The maps must include:
 - (i) An appropriate bar scale;
 - (ii) A north arrow; and
 - (iii) A legend.
- (g) If applicable, request for a variance including such information as the applicant believes is relevant to the issuance of a variance under 335-15-2-.03(2).
- (h) If applicable, a list of all orders, citations, and notices of violation to the applicant for any violations or alleged violations of environmental permits, laws and/or regulations. The applicant shall include a brief description of the violation(s) and the terms and status of any required remedial action(s) associated with the violations.
- 1. Any person signing a document under 335-15-3 shall make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant

penalties for submitting false information, including the possible revocation of the limitations of liability and removal from the program."

- Reserved.
- (i) Provide any other information requested by the Department. The Department will review the application to verify that:
 - 1. The application is complete; and
- 2. The applicant and the site meet the eligibility criteria set forth in 335-15-2-.01 and 335-15-2-.02 or is entitled to a variance as set forth in 335-15-2-.03.
- (2) <u>Property Use</u>. The applicant shall be solely responsible for insuring that proposed use of the property will comply with all applicable zoning requirements.

Authors: Fred A. Barnes; Keith N. West; Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb; Pamela W. Luckie; Pamela L. Monaghan.

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, §§ 22-30E-2, 22-30E-4, 22-30-19, and 22-30-20.

History: May 16, 2002.

Amended: November 25, 2004; Amended: Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-3-.03 Application Processing.

- (1) Application Review. The Department shall review each application submitted for compliance with 335-15-3-.03(2). Upon completion of the initial review, the Department shall notify the applicant in writing whether the application is complete or deficient. If the application is incomplete or inaccurate, the Department:
- (a) Shall request from the applicant any and all information necessary to correct the noted deficiencies;
- (b) Shall notify the applicant of a date for submitting the necessary information; and
- (c) May request any information necessary to clarify, modify, or supplement previously submitted material.
- (2) <u>Approval of Application</u>. The Department shall approve an application once it is determined to be complete. An application is complete when the Department receives all required information identified in 335-15-3-.02.
 - (3) <u>Disapproval of Application</u>. An application may be disapproved if:
- (a) It is ineligible under the Alabama Land Recycling and Economic Redevelopment Act Code of Alabama, 1975 § 22-30E and/or 335-15, or
- (b) The applicant fails or refuses to correct deficiency(ies) in a timely manner.
- (4) <u>Non-Refundable Application Fee</u>. The applicant is not entitled to a refund of the application fee for an application disapproved pursuant to 335-15-3.
- (5) Application Resubmittal. An application that has been disapproved pursuant to 335-15-3-.03(3) may be submitted a second time without submission of an additional application fee. If an application is disapproved a second time, any subsequent resubmittal shall be accompanied by the appropriate application fee.
- (6) Application Modification. If the applicant determines that any elements of an approved application must be modified, the applicant shall modify the approved application and submit the proposed modification for approval along with the appropriate fees.

Authors: Fred A. Barnes; Keith N. West; Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb; Vernon H. Crockett; Sonja B. Favors; Pamela W. Luckie; Crystal L. Collins. Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, §§ 22-30E-2 and 22-30E-4.

History: May 16, 2002; **Amended:** Effective: November 25, 2004; **Amended:** Filed: February 28, 2020; Effective: April 13, 2020. Amended: Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-4-.01 Purpose. Establishes criteria for the submission of voluntary property assessment plans and other technical information, liability limitations, assessments, plans, cleanup requirements, and certification of compliance.

Authors: Fred A. Barnes; Keith N. West; Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb: Sonja B. Favors; Austin R. Pierce; Pamela L. Monaghan.

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, § 22-30E-9.

History: May 16, 2002.

Amended: November 25, 2004; Amended: Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-4-.02 Limitation of Liability Qualifications.

- (1) <u>Limitation of liability criteria</u>. To qualify for a limitation of liability as provided in <u>Code of Alabama</u>, 1975, §§ 22-30E-10(b), an applicant shall meet all the following criteria:
- (a) The applicant shall not be a responsible person, as defined in 335-15-1-.02, at the qualifying property.
 - (b) Where the applicant is an individual, the individual shall not:
- 1. Be a relative by blood within the third degree of consanguinity or by marriage; or
- 2. Be an employee, shareholder, officer, or agent; or otherwise be affiliated with a current owner of the subject property or any responsible person on the subject property.
- (c) Where the applicant is a corporation or other legal entity, the corporation must not:
- 1. Be a current or former subsidiary, division, parent company, or partner of a current owner; or
 - 2. Be the employer or former employer of the current owner; or
 - 3. Be any responsible person on the subject property.
- (d) The limitation of liability provided by <u>Code of Alabama</u>, 1975, §§ 22-30E-10 shall be contingent upon the applicant's good faith implementation of the voluntary property assessment and/or voluntary cleanup plan as approved by the Department. Such limitation of liability shall not be applicable to any activities conducted on the qualifying property before the Department's approval of the voluntary property assessment plan, cleanup plan, or concurrence with a certification of compliance, whichever occurs first.
- (2) <u>Inability to meet limitation of liability criteria</u>. Applicants who do not meet the criteria in 335-15-4-.02(1), shall qualify only for a limitation of liability upon acceptance by the Department of the certification of compliance for cleanup of the site.
- (3) Revocation of <u>limitation of liability</u>. If the Department determines the assessment or cleanup is not being implemented in accordance with the approved plan, it will notify the applicant and give reasonable opportunity to correct the deficiency. Failure to correct noted deficiencies shall result in the revocation of the limitation of liability protection afforded by the Alabama Land Recycling and Economic Redevelopment Act.
- (4) <u>Fiduciary limitation of liability</u>. A lender, including one serving as a trustee, personal representative, or in any other fiduciary capacity in connection with a loan, or a lender holding evidence of ownership of a

qualifying property primarily to protect a security interest, or as a result of foreclosure or a deed in lieu of foreclosure of a security interest, is entitled to the liability protection established in <u>Code of Alabama</u>, 1975 § 22-30E-9 if the lender meets each of the following requirements:

- (a) The lender has not caused or contributed to a release of a contaminant at the qualified property;
- (b) The lender seeks to sell, transfer, or otherwise divest the qualifying property at the earliest time; and
- (c) The lender has not divested the borrower of, or otherwise engaged in, decision-making control of assessment or cleanup activities at the qualifying property or operations at the qualifying property or undertaken management activities beyond those required to protect its financial interest while making a good faith effort to sell the qualifying property;
- (5) Extension of Limitation of Liability. The limitation of liability provided by Code of Alabama 1975 § 22-30E-10 shall extend to the heirs, assigns, and designees of the person to whom such limitation of liability is granted; provided, however, that, except as may be provided by Code of Alabama ,1975 § 22-30E-9(a) or § 22-30E-9(f), such extension of the limitation of liability shall not operate to absolve from liability any party deemed to be a responsible person on the qualifying property.
- (6) <u>Departmental Response to Release</u>. Nothing in 335-15-4 shall limit the authority of the Department to take action in response to any release or threat of release of regulated substances.
- (7) Preexisting And New Release Liability. Upon the Department's approval of a voluntary property assessment plan, voluntary cleanup plan, or a certification of compliance, an applicant who is not a responsible person at the qualifying property, shall not be liable to the state or any third party for costs incurred in the investigation or cleanup of, or equitable relief relating to, or damages resultant from, in whole or in part, a preexisting release at the qualifying property, including, but not limited to, any liability to the state for the cleanup of the property under Title 22, Chapters 22, 27, 30, 30A, and 35 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, or a new release of a substance, constituent, or material which had been part of a preexisting release at the property, unless such new release results from noncompliance with an approved voluntary property assessment plan or voluntary cleanup plan or from the negligent, wanton, willful, or intentional conduct of the applicant.
- (8) Regulatory Compliance and Limitation of Liability. If, during the course of the assessment and or remediation process, the site becomes an active industrial facility, the facility will then be responsible for maintaining compliance with all applicable state and federal regulations. The limitation of liability does not extend to:

- (a) Release(s) as a result of new industrial activity occurring during the assessment and, or remediation phase of the cleanup;
- (b) Activities not described in the voluntary cleanup assessment plan or the voluntary cleanup work plan(s); or
- (c) Release(s) that occur after Departmental acceptance of certification of compliance.

Authors: Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb; Sonja B. Favors; Pamela L.

Monaghan

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, §§ 22-30E-8, 22-30E-9, and 22-30E-10.

History: May 16, 2002.

Amended: November 25, 2004; Amended: Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-4-.03 Voluntary Property Assessment Plans.

- Submission.
- (a) After acceptance of the application by the Department as required in 335-15-3-.03, the applicant shall submit for approval, a complete and comprehensive Voluntary Property Assessment Plan for the site.
 - (b) If a property assessment has already been performed, a complete and representative Voluntary Property Assessment Report shall be submitted to the Department for review in accordance with 335-15-4-.03(8)(b).
- Content. A Voluntary Property Assessment Plan submitted by an applicant shall describe in sufficient detail those actions planned to develop information necessary to perform a risk assessment or identify applicable cleanup standards for the qualifying property utilizing requirements found in the Alabama Risk-based Corrective Action Guidance (ARBCA) Manual or other appropriate risk-based corrective action principles through the appropriate implementation of applicable response actions and/or land use controls. The plan should describe the methods to be used to determine the type(s) and the amount(s) of any contamination including the delineation of all soil and groundwater contamination discovered or known to exist on-site. Information previously submitted in the application package need not be resubmitted unless, during the assessment phase, information is discovered which is contrary to that information in the application package. Information submitted in the Voluntary Property Assessment Plan shall be submitted in a format consistent with the Alabama Environmental Investigation and Remediation Guidance (AEIRG).
- (a) A Voluntary Property Assessment Plan submitted by a responsible party must delineate the horizontal and vertical extent of contamination in groundwater on-site and off-site beyond the property boundary. Such delineation of groundwater contamination shall be contained in a written report authored, signed and sealed by a qualified professional geologist or engineer licensed in the State of Alabama.
- (b) A Voluntary Property Assessment Plan submitted by a non-responsible party must delineate the horizontal and vertical extent of contamination in groundwater on-site only. Such delineation of groundwater contamination shall be contained in a written report authored, signed and sealed by a qualified professional geologist or engineer licensed in the State of Alabama.
- (3) Approval. The Department shall approve a complete Voluntary Property Assessment Plan within 60 days of submittal. The plan shall be considered approved if the Department fails to act within this timeframe.
- (4) <u>Implementation</u>. Upon approval of the Voluntary Property Assessment Plan, the Department shall specify a time within which the

applicant shall implement the approved Voluntary Property Assessment Plan. The applicant shall implement the plan in accordance with the specified schedule.

- (5) Loss of Limitation of Liability. If the Department determines activities at the property are not being implemented in accordance with the approved Voluntary Property Assessment Plan, it will notify the applicant and give reasonable opportunity to remedy the deficiencies. Failure to correct deficiencies will result in the loss of liability protections provided by Code of Alabama, 1975, § 22-30E-10. The applicant will be provided with written notification specifying the basis for making such determination.
- (6) <u>Modification</u>. If the applicant determines that any element of an approved Voluntary Property Assessment Plan must be modified in order to develop the information necessary to perform a risk assessment or identify applicable cleanup requirements for the qualifying property, the applicant shall modify the approved plan and submit the proposed modification for approval.
- (7) <u>Termination</u>. If the applicant determines that any element of an approved Voluntary Property Assessment Plan must be modified in order to terminate activities at the property, the applicant shall notify the Department and obtain approval of the proposed modification. Approval may be withheld only if the requested modification to terminate assessment activities would increase the risk to human health and the environment posed by the conditions at the property within a specified time.
 - (8) Voluntary Property Assessment Report.
- (a) An applicant shall, upon completion of those activities specified in the Voluntary Property Assessment Plan, submit to the Department a report of the assessment and findings from the assessment, which may include a recommendation for applying cleanup requirements to the property.
- (b) If an assessment has been conducted prior to submission of an application, all pertinent information from that assessment shall be incorporated in the Voluntary Property Assessment Report.
- (c) When a Voluntary Property Assessment Report proposes an Environmental Covenant as the sole and final appropriate remedy for the site, the Department will provide for public comment in accordance with 335-15-6-.02(1). The Voluntary Property Assessment Report and the draft Environmental Covenant shall be included in the Public Notice.

Authors: Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb; Vernon H. Crockett; Sonja B. Favors; Lynn T. Roper; M. Gavin Adams; Austin R. Pierce; Pamela L. Monaghan. **Statutory Authority:** Code of Alabama, 1975, § 22-30E-9.

History: May 16, 2002; **Amended:** Effective: November 25, 2004; **Amended:** Effective: September 19, 2006; **Amended:** Filed: February 28, 2020; Effective: April 13, 2020; **Amended:** Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-4-.04 Voluntary Cleanup-Work Plans.

- (1) <u>Submission</u>. An acceptable Voluntary Cleanup Plan shall describe in sufficient detail those actions necessary to return the property to residential quality use, or at a minimum include restrictions such as land use controls, if appropriate to, satisfy the cleanup requirements for the qualifying property.
- (2) <u>Content</u>. The plan must identify those steps necessary to perform approved cleanup for the site. At a minimum, the cleanup plan must include:
- (a) A description of the remediation at each area of known contamination;
 - (b) A description of the conduct of the cleanup at the facility;
- 1. A detailed description of the methods to be used during cleanup, including but not limited to, removing, transporting, treating, storing, or disposing of all remediation waste, identification of the type(s) of off-site solid and/or hazardous waste management unit(s) to be used, if applicable.
- 2. A detailed description of the steps needed to remove or decontaminate all hazardous residues and contaminated containment system components, equipment, structures, and soils during cleanup including, but not limited to:
- (i) Procedures for cleaning equipment and removal of contaminated soils;
 - (ii) Methods for sampling and testing surrounding soils,
- (iii) Criteria for determining the extent of remediation necessary to satisfy the cleanup requirements, and
- (iv) An estimate of the expected year of cleanup for facilities that use trust funds to demonstrate financial assurance under 335-15-5-.02(b).
- 3. A detailed description of other activities necessary during or after the cleanup period to ensure compliance with the cleanup performance requirements. This description may include operation and maintenance, such as, but not limited to groundwater monitoring, leachate collection, and run-on and run-off control;
- 4. A schedule for cleanup of known areas of contamination. At a minimum, the schedule must include the total time necessary to remediate each known area of contamination and the time required for cleanup activities;
- Provide proof of financial assurance in accordance with 335-15-5;

- 6. An estimate of the expected year of cleanup for facilities that use trust funds to demonstrate financial assurance under 335-15-5-.02(b).
- (c) An estimate of the maximum inventory of remediation wastes/contaminated media on-site during cleanup operations.
- (d) A Voluntary Cleanup Plan submitted by a responsible party must provide for remediation of all contamination described in the property assessment report whether on-site or off-site beyond the property boundary.
- (e) A Voluntary Cleanup Plan submitted by a non-responsible party must provide for remediation of all contamination described in the property assessment report on-site only.
- (3) <u>Modifications</u>. The applicant may modify the approved cleanup plan at any time prior to the notification of cleanup by submitting a written request to the Department. The request for modification approval must include a copy of the amended cleanup plan.
 - (a) The applicant must modify the cleanup plan whenever:
- 1. Changes in operating plans or facility design affect the cleanup plan;
 - 2. There is a change in the expected year of cleanup, if applicable;
- 3. Unexpected events encountered during cleanup require a modification of the cleanup plan; and/or
- 4. The applicant determines that it is necessary or advisable to make changes and/or deviations in cleanup requirements that affect either cleanup activities or the degree of remediation initially proposed.
- (b) An applicant with an approved cleanup plan shall submit a request for modification to the Department at least 60 days prior to the proposed change in facility design or operation, or no more than 30 days after an unexpected event has occurred which has affected the cleanup plan.
- (c) If at any time an applicant determines that any element of an approved voluntary cleanup plan must be modified in order to terminate activities at the property, the applicant shall notify the Department and obtain approval of the proposed modification which may be withheld only if the requested modification would increase the risk to human health and the environment posed by conditions at the property.

(4) <u>Processing</u>.

(a) Within 60 days of submittal, the Department shall either approve a complete or modified Voluntary Cleanup Plan, or request corrections to or disapprove the Voluntary Cleanup Plan. The plan shall be considered approved if the Department fails to act within this timeframe.

- (b) The Department shall review for completeness every cleanup plan submitted for approval as required by 335-15-4-.04(4). Upon completing the review, the Department shall notify the applicant in writing whether the plan is complete. If the plan is incomplete, the Department:
 - 1. Shall list the information necessary to make the plan complete;
- 2. Shall specify in the notice of deficiency a date for submitting the necessary information; and
- 3. Shall request any information necessary to clarify, modify, or supplement previously submitted material.
- 4. Disapprove the plan if requested information is not submitted in a timely fashion.
- (c) Once a cleanup plan is determined to be complete, the Department will provide for public comment in accordance with 335-15-6-.02(1).
 - (5) Implementation of Voluntary Cleanup Plan.
- (a) Upon the Department approval of a Voluntary Cleanup Plan, the applicant shall begin implementation. The Department's approval of a Voluntary Cleanup Plan shall in no way be construed as a guarantee, promise, or assurance that the Department will concur with the applicant's Certification of Compliance with the cleanup requirements.
- (b) If at any time the applicant or the Department determines that any element of an approved Voluntary Cleanup Plan must be modified in order to develop the information necessary to perform a risk assessment or identify applicable cleanup standards for the qualifying property, the applicant shall modify the approved plan and obtain approval of the proposed modification.
- (c) An applicant shall retain records of any test results, waste analyses, and determinations made in accordance with the Voluntary Property Assessment Plan and/or the Voluntary Property Cleanup Plan, as well as records of off-site disposal locations, waste types and quantities, for a period of three years.
- (d) The applicant shall submit proof of financial assurance to implement the Voluntary Cleanup Plan, in such form as specified by the Department in 335-15-5-.02.
- (6) Removal of Wastes and Decontamination or Dismantling of Equipment. Nothing in 335-15-4-.04 shall preclude the applicant from the removal of hazardous wastes, constituents, contaminants or pollutants and decontamination or dismantling equipment in accordance with an approved cleanup plan either before or after notification of cleanup, provided all appropriate manifesting records are maintained.

- (7) <u>Voluntary Cleanup Report.</u>
- (a) <u>Submission</u>. Within 60 days of completion of cleanup of the entire site, the applicant shall submit to the Department, by registered mail, a report that the site has been remediated in accordance with the specifications in the approved cleanup plan.
- (b) <u>Content</u>. The report must detail the actions performed in accordance with the specifications in the approved cleanup plan. At a minimum, the cleanup report must include:
 - 1. The information required by 335-15-4-.04(2).
 - 2. Certification of Compliance.
- (i) Within 60 days of completion of cleanup of each area of contamination and/or within 60 days of completion of cleanup of the entire site, the applicant shall submit to the Department, by registered mail, a certification of compliance that the area of contamination, unit, or site, as applicable, has been remediated in accordance with the specifications in the approved cleanup plan.
- (ii) Certain information required by 335-15 involves the practice of engineering and/or land surveying, as those terms are defined in Code of Alabama 1975 §§ 34-11-1 to 34-11-37; and/or the practice of geology, as that term is defined in Code of Alabama 1975 §§ 34-41-1 to 34-41-24. It is the responsibility of any person preparing or submitting such information to ensure compliance with these laws and any regulations promulgated thereunder. All submissions, or parts thereof, which are required by State law to be prepared by a licensed engineer, land surveyor, or geologist, must include the engineer's, land surveyor's, and/or geologist's signature and/or seal, as required by the applicable licensure laws.
- 3. Restricted Use Property. For those properties that are cleaned up to requirements less stringent than those required for unrestricted residential use, the property owner shall comply with the requirements of 335-15-6-.03(3) within 60 days of the submission of the Certification of Compliance.
- (8) <u>Site Cleanup Prior to Submission of the Application</u>. If site cleanup was conducted prior to submission of the application, all pertinent information from the original assessment and cleanup plans shall be incorporated into a Voluntary Property Assessment Report and Cleanup Report. The site is required to meet all requirements of 335-15 to be eligible for limitation of liability provisions cited in the Alabama Land Recycling and Economic Redevelopment Act.

Authors: Fred A. Barnes; Keith N. West; Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb; James L. Bryant; Vernon H. Crockett; Sonja B. Favors; Pamela W. Luckie;

Crystal L. Collins; Lynn T. Roper; M. Gavin Adams; Austin R. Pierce; Pamela L. Monaghan.

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, § 22-30E-9.

History: May 16, 2002; **Amended:** Effective: November 25, 2004; **Amended:** Effective: September 19, 2006; **Amended:** Filed: February 28, 2020; Effective: April 13, 2020; **Amended:** Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-4-.05 Cleanup Requirements.

- (1) Remediation Cleanup levels.
- (a) The participant, with the concurrence of the Department, shall consider impacts to human health and the environment. In establishing cleanup requirements standards, cleanup remediation levels may be based on specific requirements of relevant environmental laws or regulations (e.g., Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, TSCA, RCRA, CERCLA, et al.), derived using the procedures outlined in Section 300.430(e)(2) of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (40 CFR Part 300), and/or based upon the results of a site-specific risk assessment.
- (b) The Department may set cleanup levels that reflect current and future use scenarios for the property as follows:
- 1. A site shall be deemed to have met the requirements for unrestricted use if the cleanup levels are derived in a manner consistent with Department or Environmental Protection Agency guidelines for assessing human and environmental health risks from hazardous constituents.
- 2. For sites that do not achieve the unrestricted use classification, restrictions on site use shall be applied to achieve cleanup standards. Restrictions shall include, but are not limited to, land use controls. The restrictions imposed upon a site shall be media-specific and may vary according to site-specific conditions.
- (2) Remedial Action Measures. CleanupRemediation levels for all media contaminated with hazardous constituents or hazardous wastes, that the applicant or the Department has reason to believe may have been released at the site shall be determined in accordance with 335-15-4-.05(3). Should the concentration of hazardous constituent(s) in an aquifer, surface water, soil, sediment or air exceed its remediation cleanup level, the Department may require the voluntary cleanup plan to include measures as necessary to protect human health and the environment.
- (3) Risk Assessment. Cleanup Remediation levels may be based upon a risk assessment that considers the site and all surrounding areas that may be impacted. This risk assessment must reflect current and future use scenarios.
 - (4) Property Use Considerations.
- (a) A site shall be deemed to have met the requirements for unrestricted residential use if the remedial cleanup level(s) satisfy the following criteria:
- 1. Is derived in a manner consistent with ADEM/EPA guidelines for assessing human and environmental health risks from hazardous constituents;

- 2. Is based on scientifically valid studies conducted in accordance with the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Good Laboratory Practice Standards, or equivalent;
- 3. Represents for human health remediation cleanup levels to address carcinogens, a cumulative concentration associated with an excess upper bound lifetime cancer risk range of between 1×10^{-4} and 1×10^{-6} for carcinogens due to continuous constant lifetime exposure; and
- 4. Represents for human health <u>remediation cleanup</u> levels to address noncarcinogens, a concentration to which the human population (including sensitive subgroups) could be exposed on a daily basis that is without appreciable risk of deleterious effects during a lifetime.
- (b) Applies appropriate restrictions on future use for sites that do not achieve the unrestricted use classification. Restrictions shall include, but are not limited to, institutional and/or engineering controls. The restrictions imposed upon a site will be media-specific and may vary according to site-specific conditions. All use restrictions shall be described in the Certification of Compliance.

Authors: Fred A. Barnes; Keith N. West, Lawrence A. Norris; Sonja B. Favors; M. Gavin Adams; Austin R. Pierce; Pamela L. Monaghan.

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, § 22-30E-4.

History: May 16, 2002.

Amended: November 25, 2004; Amended: Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-4-.06 Certification of Compliance-Letter of Concurrence.

- (1) <u>Certification of Compliance</u>. When all requirements of an approved cleanup plan have been completed, the applicant shall submit to the Department a Certification of Compliance. A Certification of Compliance may also be submitted when an assessment based on an approved Voluntary Property Assessment Plan has been completed and no contamination discovered. The Department shall review all reports and the required Certification of Compliance submitted under 335-15-4-.06. The applicant or eligible successor must satisfactorily maintain the engineering controls, remediation systems, or if non-permanent institutional controls are utilized pursuant to an agreement, the Department may issue the applicant a "Letter of Concurrence" with conditions. The Department may authorize an applicant to conduct a phased response only when, in the Department's evaluation, the schedule is reasonable.
- (2) "Letter of Concurrence". Upon concurrence by the Department, the Department shall issue to the applicant a "Letter of Concurrence".
- (3) <u>"Letter of Concurrence" with Conditions.</u> For partial response actions, a "Letter of Concurrence" with conditions shall pertain only to the partial response action area and shall include a legal description of that area.
- (4) <u>Deed Records</u>. The applicant shall comply with the requirements of ADEM Admin. Code 335-5.
- (5) Revocation. The "Letter of Concurrence" may be revoked by the Department in the event that contamination posing an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment is discovered on site, or discovery is made that the submitted certification of compliance was based on information that was materially false, inaccurate or misleading.
- (a) The applicant shall be notified in writing by certified mail of the proposed revocation.
- (b) The applicant shall be given an opportunity to respond within 30 days upon receipt of the letter.
- (c) Unacceptable response to the revocation letter will result in the reinstatement of any cleared deed notation and/or deed restriction until such time as the property is deemed to be in compliance.
- (6) <u>Sovereign Immunity</u>. Issuance of the "Letter of Concurrence" does not constitute a waiver of sovereign immunity.
- (7) Release from Liability. Upon the Department's approval of the submitted Certification of Compliance described in 335-15-4-.06, an applicant who is not a responsible person, as defined in 335-15-1-.02, at the qualifying property, shall not be liable to the state or any third party for costs incurred in the investigation or cleanup of, or equitable relief relating to, or damages

resultant from, in whole or in part, a preexisting release at the qualifying property, including, but not limited to, any liability to the state for the cleanup of the property under Title 22, Chapters 22, 27, 30, 30A, and 35 of the Code of Alabama 1975, or a new release of a substance, constituent, or material which had been part of a preexisting release at the property, unless such new release results from noncompliance with an approved Voluntary Property Assessment Plan or Voluntary Cleanup Plan or from the negligent, wanton, willful, or intentional conduct of the applicant.

Authors: Fred A. Barnes; Keith N. West; Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb; Sonja B. Favors; Anna M. Ennis; M. Gavin Adams; Austin R. Pierce; Pamela L. Monaghan.

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama ,1975, §§ 22-30E-5, 22-30E-9, and 22-30E-10.

History: May 16, 2002.

Amended: November 25, 2004 **Amended:** Filed: February 28, 2020; Effective: April 13, 2020; **Amended:** Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-6-.01 Purpose.

- (1) To provide a mechanism that allows for public participation in the Voluntary Cleanup Program in accordance with 335-15-4-.04(4)(c). Cleanup plans for sites enrolled in the Program are placed on public notice allowing the general public the opportunity to comment. The public notice informs the general public concerning matters of actual or perceived possible contamination and the proposed or implemented possible remediation or revitalization of previously contaminated sites.
- (2) To compile a Voluntary Cleanup Inventory of existing sites undergoing voluntary cleanups and to provide a mechanism for the addition and removal of properties to the Voluntary Cleanup Inventory, including the procedures for inclusion in the deed records of the applicable probate court.

Authors: Fred A. Barnes; Keith N. West; Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb; Vernon H. Crockett; Sonja B. Favors; Crystal L. Collins; Lynn T. Roper; M. Gavin Adams; Austin R. Pierce; Pamela L. Monaghan.

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, § 22-30E-4.

History: May 16, 2002; Amended: Effective: November 25, 2004; Amended: Filed: February 28, 2020; Effective: April 13, 2019; Amended: Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-6-.02 Public Participation.

- (1) Public notification of cleanup. Once a *Voluntary eCleanup pPlan is determined to be complete, the Department will notify the public of the opportunity to submit written comments on the plan through the Department's website and request modifications to the plan no later than 30 days from the date of the notice. provide the applicant and the public, through a newspaper notice, the opportunity to submit written comments on the plan and request modifications to the plan no later than 30 days from the date of the notice. It will also, in response to a legitimate request or at its own discretion, hold a public hearing whenever such a hearing might clarify one or more issues concerning a *Voluntary eCleanup pPlan. The Department will give public notice of the hearing at least 30 days before it occurs.
- (2) <u>Public notice procedures</u>. Public notice of activities described in 335-15-6-.02(3) shall be given by the following methods:
- (a) By mailing a copy of a notice to the following persons (any person otherwise entitled to receive notice under 335-15-6-.02(2)(a) may waive his right to receive notice):
 - 1. The applicant;
- 2. Persons who request in writing to be placed on a mailing list developed for the program:
 - Including those who request in writing to be on the list;
- (ii) Soliciting persons for area lists from participants in past voluntary cleanup proceedings in that area; and
- (iii) Notifying the public of the opportunity to be put on the mailing list through periodic publication in the public press and in such publications as regional and state funded newsletters, environmental bulletins, or state law journals the Department's website. The Department may update the mailing list from time to time by requesting written indication of continued interest from those listed. The Department may delete from the list the name of any person who fails to respond to such a request; and
 - Governmental Agencies:
- (i) To any unit of local government having jurisdiction over the area where the voluntary cleanup facility is located; and
- (ii) To each State agency having any authority under State law with respect to the construction or operation of such facility.
- (b) Publication of a notice in a daily or weekly major local newspaper of general circulation. The newspaper advertisement should be located at a

spot in the paper calculated to give effective notice to the general public, and should be large enough to be seen easily by the reader. shall be posted on the Department's website.

- (3) <u>Content</u>. -All public notices issued under 335-15-6 shall contain the following information:
- (a) Name and address of the office processing the voluntary cleanup action for which the notice is being given;
- (b) Name and address of the applicant and, if different, of the site or activity regulated by the voluntary cleanup action;
- (c) A brief description of the proposed cleanup action to be to be conducted at the site or activity described in the <u>vV</u>oluntary e<u>C</u>leanup aApplication;
- (d) Name, address, and telephone number of a person from whom interested persons may obtain further information, including copies of the draft application; and
- (e) A brief description of the comment procedures, including a statement of procedures to request a hearing.
- (4) <u>Departmental Review</u>. After considering all comments submitted during the public comment period and public hearing (if held), the Department will approve or disapprove the *\frac{1}{2}Oluntary \(\frac{1}{2}Oluntary \(\frac

Authors: Fred A. Barnes; Keith N. West; Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb; Pamela L. Monaghan.

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, § 22-30E-4.

History: May 16, 2002.

Amended: November 25, 2004: Amended: Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-15-6-.03 Voluntary Cleanup Properties Inventory.

- (1) Voluntary Cleanup Properties Inventory. Pursuant to Code of Alabama 1975, §§ 22-30E-4(b)(2) and 22-30E-4(b)(3), the Department shall compile and update as necessary an inventory of all qualifying properties for which a *Voluntary pProperties aAssessment pPlan and/or Report or a Voluntary eCleanup pPlan and/or Report has been approved by the Department. No later than July 1st of each year, the Department shall send a copy of the inventory with the properties listed by county to the clerk of each probate court of the state. The inventory shall be called the Voluntary Cleanup Properties Inventory. The inventory shall include all the following information:
- (a) The name of the property or another description identifying the property.
 - (b) The location of the property.
- (c) The name of the owner of the property at the time of the property's inclusion in the inventory.
- (d) A general description of the *Voluntary pProperty aAssessment Plan and/or Report or *Voluntary eCleanup pPlan and/or Report.
- (e) A property cleaned up to standards less stringent than those required for unrestricted residential use, requires a description of the applicable values used and any use restrictions which are imposed.
- (2) <u>Placement on the Voluntary Cleanup Inventory</u>. Upon the Department's approval of the <u>vVoluntary pProperty aAssessment and/or the Vvoluntary eCleanup pPlan</u>, the property shall be listed on the <u>Vvoluntary eCleanup pPlan</u> pProperties <u>iInventory</u> as provided 335-15-6-.03(1).

(3) <u>Restricted Use.</u>

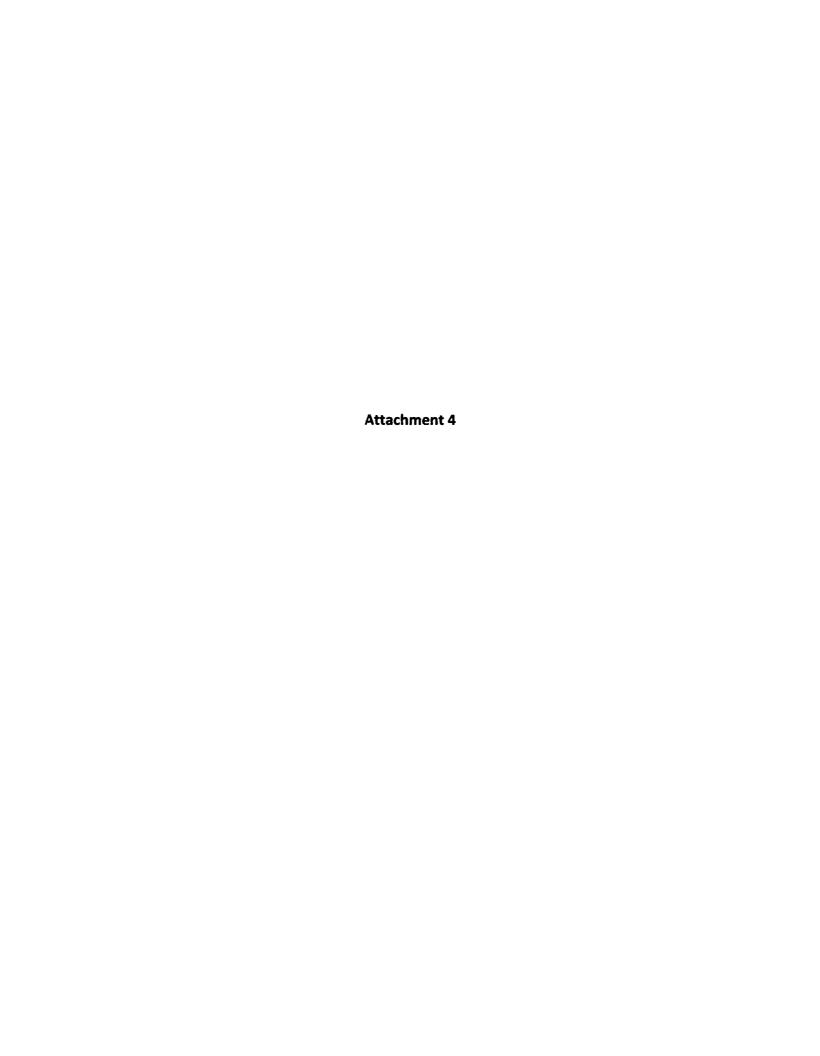
(a) The property owner of any property listed on the inventory which is designated as having been cleaned up to standards less stringent than those necessary for unrestricted residential use shall include the following notice in any deed, mortgage, deed to secure debt, lease, rental agreement, or other instrument given or caused to be given by the property owner which creates an interest in the property: "This property has been listed on the state's Voluntary Cleanup Properties Inventory and has been cleaned up to standards less stringent than those required for unrestricted residential use due to the presence of substances regulated under state law. Certain uses of this property may require additional cleanup. Contact the property owner or the Alabama Department of Environmental Management for further information concerning this property. This notice is provided in compliance with the Alabama Land Recycling and Economic Redevelopment Act."

- (b) If warranted by further active or passive remediation that results in the reduction of contamination to unrestricted residential use levels, this notice may be removed in accordance with 335-15-6-.03(4).
- (4) <u>Unrestricted Use</u>. Upon a written determination by the Department that a property has been cleaned up to standards suitable for unrestricted residential use, the notices required by 335-15-6-.03(1) shall be removed from the subject property records.

Authors: Lawrence A. Norris; Stephen A. Cobb; Vernon H. Crockett; Sonja B. Favors; Crystal L. Collins; Lynn T. Roper; Pamela L. Monaghan.

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama, 1975, §§ 22-30E-4 and 22-30E-11.

History: May 16, 2002; Amended: Effective: November 25, 2004; Amended: Filed: February 28, 2020; Effective: April 13, 2020; Amended: Proposed: December 20, 2021.



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management gave notice of a public hearing on the proposed revisions to ADEM Admin. Code 335-1 of the Department's Administrative Division – General Administration Rules in accordance with <u>Ala. Code</u> § 22-22A-8 (2006 Rplc. Vol.) and <u>Ala. Code</u> § 41-22-4 (2000 Rplc. Vol.); and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held before a representative of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management designated by the Environmental Management Commission for the purpose of receiving data, views and arguments on the amendment of such proposed rules; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management has reviewed the oral and written submissions introduced into the hearing record, and has prepared a concise statement of the principal reasons for and against the adoption of the proposed rules incorporating therein its reasons for the adoption of certain revisions to the proposed rules in response to oral and written submissions, such revisions, where appropriate, having been incorporated into the proposed rules attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Management Commission has considered fully all oral and written submissions respecting the proposed amendments and the Reconciliation Statement prepared by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to <u>Ala. Code</u>. §§ 22-22A-5, 22-22A-6, 22-22A-8 (2006 Rplc. Vol.), and <u>Ala. Code</u>. § 41-22-5 (2000 Rplc. Vol.), as duly appointed members of the Environmental Management Commission, we do hereby adopt and promulgate these revisions to division 335-1 [rules 335-1-1-.07/Departmental Forms, Instructions, and Procedures (Amend); 335-1-6-.07 (Fee Schedule E, H, and J)/Payment of Fees (Amend)] of the Department's Department's Administrative Division – General Administration Rules, administrative code

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION RESOLUTION

attached hereto, to become effective forty-five days, unless otherwise indicated, after filing with the Alabama Legislative Services Agency.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION RESOLUTION

ADEM Admin. Code division 335-1 – Administrative Division – General Administration Rules

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have affixed our signatures below on this 8th day of April, 2022.

APPROVED:	
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DISAPPROVED:	
	This is to certify that this Resolution is a true and accurate account of the actions taken by the Environmental Management Commission on this 8th day of April 2022.
ABSTAINED:	Thomas P. Walters, Chair Environmental Management Commission Certified this 8th day of April 2022

335-1-1-.07 Departmental Forms, Instructions, and Procedures.

- (1) <u>Designation as the State Environmental Control Agency</u>. The Department is the State Environmental Control Agency for the purposes of federal environmental law including the Federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq., as amended; the Federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251 <u>et seq.</u>, as amended; the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. A 201 <u>et seq.</u>, as amended. The Department is authorized to take all actions necessary and appropriate to secure the benefits of federal environmental laws. The Department operates in conformity with such federal laws, policies, and procedures, as provided in the Act.
- (2) <u>Policies and Procedures</u>. The Commission, through the adoption of rules pursuant to <u>Code of Alabama</u> 1975, § 22-22A-7(c)(6), establishes environmental policies and procedures.
- (3) Form and Instructions. The Director may require such forms within the rules as he deems necessary. The content of such forms and instructions for their completion may be prescribed by the Director including the changes of such from time to time. Federal forms as published by the Environmental Protection Agency may be used in lieu of state developed forms. Departmental forms prescribed by the Director shall be identified and numbered as follows:

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Author: Marilyn Elliott, Russell A. Kelly, Aubrey White, David Hutchinson, Brian C. Espy.

Statutory Authority: <u>Code of Alabama</u> 1975, §§ 22-22A-5, 22-22A-6, 22-22A-8, 41-22-4, 41-22-5.

History: Effective: August 1, 1988. Amended: Effective: August 1, 2002. Amended: Effective: January 23, 2003. Amended: Effective: August 4, 2004. Amended: Effective: January 10, 2006. Amended: Effective: July 11, 2006. Amended: Effective: November 14, 2006. Amended: Effective: January 22, 2008. Amended: Effective: January 19, 2009. Amended: Effective: January 19, 2010. Amended: Effective: January 18, 2011. Amended: Effective: November 29, 2011. Amended: Effective: November 27, 2012. Amended: Effective: May 27, 2014. Amended: Effective: July 28, 2015. Amended: Effective: August 5, 2016. Amended: Effective: October 6, 2017. Amended: Filed: October 23, 2018; Effective: December 7, 2018. Amended: Filed: February 28, 2020; Effective: April 13, 2020. Amended: Filed: December 31, 2020; Effective: February 15, 2021; Amended: Proposed: December 20, 2021.

335-1-6-.07 Payment of Fees.

- (1) Payment of permit application/registration fees required under subparagraphs (1)(a) and (1)(b) or paragraph (2) of rule 335-1-6-.04 shall be included with the permit application/registration. No permit application shall be processed without payment of such fees.
- (2) Any fee required under subparagraph (1)(c) of rule 335-1-6-.04 shall be billed to the applicant. Payment of such fee shall be made within thirty days of the invoice date. No final decision regarding the permit application shall be made until after payment of such fee. Failure to make payment as provided herein shall constitute cause for non-processing/denial of the permit application.
- (3) Payment of fees required under rule 1-6-.05 shall be made within thirty days of the date of the invoice which the Department shall send to the person making the application or request or requiring the certificate.
- (4) Payment of fees required under rule 335-1-6-.06 shall be included with the application for such license, variance or certification. No application shall be processed without payment of such fees.
- (5) All fees paid pursuant to the requirements of this chapter shall be non-refundable.
- (6) All fees and remittances shall be made payable to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

Author: Marilyn Elliott, Russell A. Kelly, Brian C. Espy.

Statutory Authority: Code of Alabama 1975, § 22-22A-5.

History: Effective: February 13, 1985; Amended: Effective: January 16, 1997; Amended: Effective: March 31, 1999; Amended: Effective: January 9, 2002; Amended: Effective: May 16, 2002; Amended: Effective: October 4, 2002; Amended: Effective: August 4, 2004; Amended: Effective: January 10, 2006; Amended: Effective: July 11, 2006; Amended: Effective: November 14, 2006; Amended: Effective: January 22, 2008; Amended: Effective: January 19, 2010; Amended: Effective: November 29, 2011; Amended: Effective: May 27, 2014; Amended: Effective: February 4, 2016; Amended: Filed April 24, 2018; Effective: June 8, 2018. Amended: Filed: June 25, 2019; Effective: August 9, 2019. Amended: Filed: February 28, 2020; Effective: April 13, 2020. Amended: Filed: December 15, 2020; Effective: February 15, 2021; Amended: Proposed: December 20, 2021.

FEE SCHEDULE H BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AND VOLUNTARY CLEANUP PROGRAM

Non-Responsible Party Applicant

Type of Activity	Review Fee	Minor_ Modification	Major_ Modification
Application (1)	\$5,060	\$250	\$500
With Variance	\$16,855	NA	NA
Assessment Review(2)	\$6,740	\$1,680	\$3,3702,570
Assessment Report	\$4,260		
Cleanup Review ⁽²⁾	\$12,470	\$1,680	\$3,3702,570
Cleanup Report	\$7,720		
Letter of Concurrence			
Unconditional	\$1,680	NA	NA
Conditional	\$4,210	NA	NA
Property Eligibility Determination (3)	\$670	NA	NA

Responsible Party Applicant

Type of Activity	Associated Fee	Minor_ Modification	Major_ Modification
Application (1)	\$5,060	\$250	\$500
With Variance	\$16,855	NA	NA
Assessment Review(2)	\$24,470	\$2,770	\$10,6409,840
Assessment Report	\$10,520		
Cleanup Review(2)	\$43,065	\$2,770	\$10,6409,840
Cleanup Report	\$17,635		
Letter of Concurrence			
Unconditional	\$1,680	NA	NA
Conditional	\$4,210	NA	NA
Property Eligibility Determination (2)	\$670	NA	NA

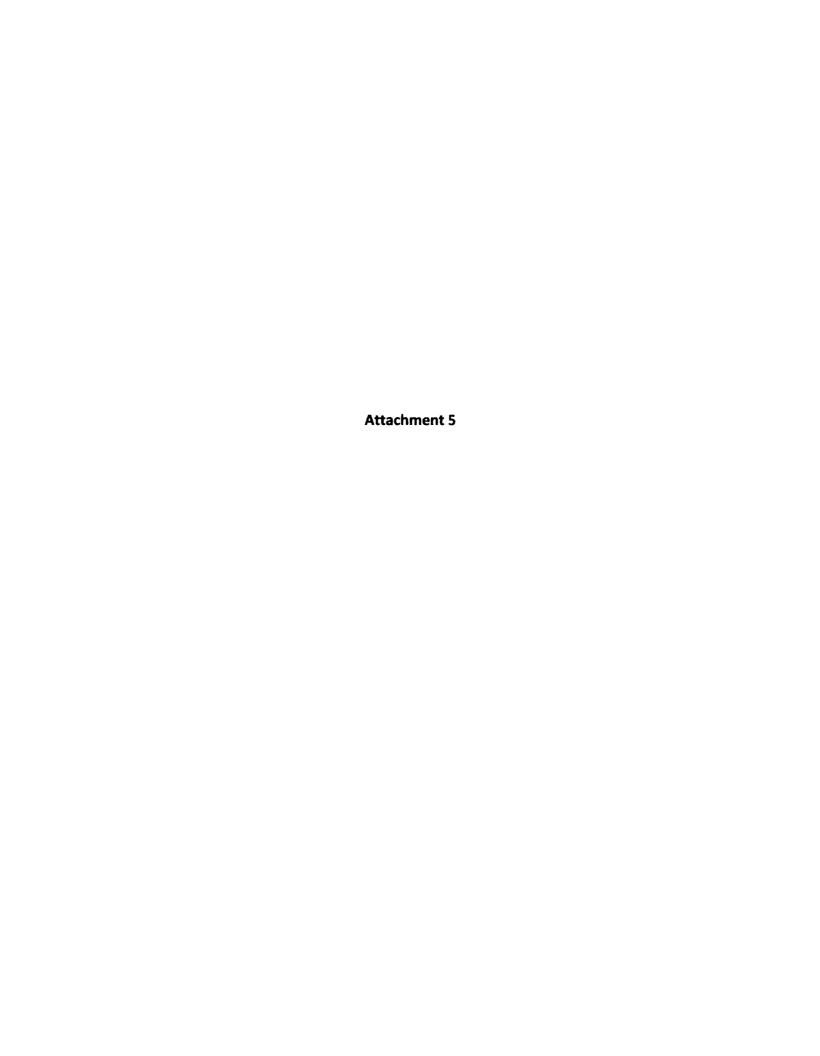
Additive Fees(4)

Public Notice(5)

\$800

Groundwater Monitoring (6)	\$1,000
Risk Assessment RM-1	\$1,700
Risk Assessment RM-2	\$4,350
Operation and Maintenance Plan ⁽⁶⁾	\$1,500

- (1) Submittal of the appropriate application fee is required prior to the review of any plans, reports, and, or certifications.
- (2) An Assessment and/or Cleanup Review fee is assessed when review of a plan and report is required as determined by the Department.
- (3) Property eligibility determinations are valid for a period of one year from date of issuance.
- (4) Additive fees are levied on the assessment or cleanup fees as applicable. Total fees due are a sum of assessment and/or cleanup fees and additive fees applicable to a given applicant.
- (5) A Public Notice fee is assessed on any Plan or Report which proposes final cleanup remedy recommendations, such as removal of contaminants and/or an Environmental Covenant.
- (6) These fees are assessed annually until required activities are complete and/or terminated by the Department.
- (7) Fee is added to a Cleanup Review and/or Report fee, when an Operation and Maintenance (OAM) is required as a part of the approved remedy. Modification of OAM activities would require a modification of the Cleanup Report and submittal of required fees.



BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION OF THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

In the matter of:)
Alabama Power Company,))
Petitioner,) EMC Docket No. 21-01
v.	
Alabama Department of)
Environmental Management,)
Respondent.)

ORDER

Before the Commission in the above appeal is the Hearing Officer's *Recommendation of Dismissal*. Based upon the record in the proceeding, including the parties' *Stipulation of Dismissal*, the Commission hereby ORDERS, ADJUDGES, and DECREES as follows:

- 1. That the Hearing Officer's Recommendation of Dismissal is hereby adopted; and
- 2. That pursuant to the adoption of the Hearing Officer's *Recommendation of Dismissal*, the Commission orders that the above appeal is dismissed with prejudice; and
- 3. That this action has been taken and this Order shall be deemed rendered effective as of the date shown below; and
- 4. That a copy of this Order along with a copy of the Hearing Officer's *Recommendation of Dismissal*, attached hereto as Exhibit "A," and made a part hereof, shall be forthwith served upon each of the parties hereto either personally, or by certified mail, return receipt requested.

Alabama Environmental Management Commission Order Page 2

ISSUED this 8th day of April 2022.

Commissioner Commissioner Commissioner Commissioner Commissioner Commissioner	Commissioner Commissioner
DISAPPROVED:	
Commissioner	Commissioner
Commissioner	
ABSTAINED:	
Commissioner	This is to certify that this Order is a true and accurate account of the actions taken by the Environmental Management Commission on this 8th day of April 2022. Thomas P. Watters, Chair Environmental Management Commission Certified this 8th day of April 2022

BEFORE THE ALABAMA ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION OF THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY)	
Petitioner, v. ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF)) EMC Docket No. 21-01) NPDES Permit No. ALC)	0002879
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT,)	RECEIVED
Respondent.)	FEB 2 5 2022
RECOMMENDATION OF DISMISSAL		ENV. MGMT. COMMISSION

In consideration of the Stipulation of Dismissal filed by the parties to this appeal on February 23, 2022, the undersigned recommends to the Alabama Environmental Management Commission that the above-captioned appeal be dismissed with prejudice.

DONE this the 23rd day of Februs, 2022.

JAMES F. HAMPTON

Hearing Officer

Alabama Environmental Management Commission

4267 Lomac Street

Montgomery, Alabama 36106 Telephone: (334) 213-0213

Fax: (334) 213-0266 ifh@jamesfhampton.com



BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION OF THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

In the matter of:)	
Datition to Adopt ADERA Admin Code Chan	,	ERAC Dulamaking Datition 22 01
Petition to Adopt ADEM Admin. Code Chap.	,	EMC Rulemaking Petition 22-01
335-2-4)	
Petitioner – Environmental Defense Alliance)	

MOTION

Move to deny the petition submitted by Petitioner, Environmental Defense Alliance, based upon the following grounds:

- 1. That alternative means of obtaining the same or similar relief are available to Petitioner;
- 2. Existing statutes, including the Alabama Open Records Act, already pertain to the Commission, rendering rulemaking unnecessary;
- 3. The views of the Director of the Department.

ORDER

This cause coming before the Environmental Management Commission pursuant to the above petition for rulemaking and having considered the petition and arguments supporting the petition and the views of the Director of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management and arguments supporting said views, it is hereby ORDERED:

- 1. That having given due consideration to the petition pursuant to ADEM Admin. Code R. 335-2-2-.05;
 - 2. That the above motion is hereby adopted; and
- 3. That this action has been taken and this order issued by the Commission effective April 8, 2022; and
- 4. That a copy of this order shall be served upon the Petitioner and the Department either personally or by certified mail.

Environmental Management Commission Order Page 2

ISSUED this 8th day of April 2022.

Commis	ssioner Ssioner Ssioner Ssioner Ssioner Ssioner Ssioner	Commissioner Commissioner
Commis	ssioner	Commissioner
Commi	ssioner	This is to certify that this Order is a true and accurate account of the actions taken by the Environmental Management Commission on this 8th day of April 2022. Thomas P. Walters, Chair Environmental Management Commission

Certified this 8th day of April 2022