



For immediate release:
Wednesday, July 1, 2009

Contact: Jerome Hand
(334) 260-4500

ADEM Holds Public Hearing On Water Quality Standards

MONTGOMERY – Concerned citizens, environmental groups, and other interested parties had an opportunity on June 29 to comment on water quality standards at a public hearing conducted by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The public hearing, which was held at ADEM’s central offices in Montgomery, was part of the Department’s *Triennial Review of Alabama’s Water Quality Standards*.

ADEM conducts the *Triennial Review of Alabama’s Water Quality Standards* at least once every three years as a formal review of the state’s designated uses of Alabama’s vast surface water resources and the water quality standards that protect those designated uses. Alabama’s water quality standards are designed to protect water quality in Alabama’s rivers, lakes, creeks, streams, and estuaries. The water quality standards also establish criteria for the propagation of wildlife, fish, and other aquatic life.

“The Department is committed to safeguarding Alabama’s water quality and we hope the public will use this precious resource wisely and assist us in our efforts to maintain water quality for future generations,” said ADEM Director Trey Glenn. “We encourage input from everyone in regards to the triennial review process and our efforts to protect Alabama’s water resources.”

As part of the triennial review process, the Department held a public comment period as well as a public hearing to afford citizens, stakeholders, and other groups ample opportunities to submit comments on the issue. The Department will review all comments and data that were submitted during the triennial review process to make science-based decisions in its efforts to protect water quality.

#