

PUBLIC HEARING STATEMENT
CreekWood Resources, LLC – Shady Grove Quarry
NPDES Permit No. AL0084191

Good evening.

My name is Ange Boatwright, and I am a Senior Environmental Engineering Specialist in the Mining and Natural Resource Section of the Stormwater Management Branch in the Water Division of the Department of Environmental Management. The Mining and Natural Resource Section regulates the permitting, compliance, and enforcement activities for the discharge of treated effluent from mining facilities within the State of Alabama. The Department's Water Division is also represented this evening by James Carlson, Chief of the Stormwater Management Branch and Ms. Catherine McNeill, Chief of the Mining and Natural Resource Section.

The Department exercises authority under the Alabama Water Pollution Control Act and the Alabama Environmental Management Act, to administer and enforce Alabama's water pollution control and water quality regulations. The Department also has the authority to implement federal water pollution control regulations.

The draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (or NPDES) permit proposes authorization for discharges of treated effluent from the proposed granite mine and associated regulated activities through three proposed outfalls to waters of the State of Alabama identified as Halawakee Creek and an unnamed tributary to Halawakee Creek. Halawakee Creek and the unnamed tributary to Halawakee Creek are classified as being suitable for Fish and Wildlife. The discharges to Halawakee Creek occur upstream of Lake Harding which is classified as being suitable as a Public Water Supply.

Based upon review of the NPDES permit issuance application for this facility, the Department has proposed to issue the NPDES Permit, which was developed in accordance with applicable State and federal requirements, which are designed to be protective of water quality.

The Department understands that there are concerns surrounding the location of the facility and its proximity to Lake Harding and a residential subdivision. However, ADEM does not exercise zoning authority and may only consider comments relating to water quality in its final permitting decision. ADEM's authority regarding mining operations is

limited to the regulation of the discharges of treated effluent. The Department does not have the authority to regulate the mining activity itself.

The Department has made a preliminary determination that compliance by CreekWood Resources, LLC with the terms and conditions of the proposed NPDES permit will not result in violations of applicable State water quality standards designed to protect human health and the environment. This preliminary determination will be reconsidered after all comments are received and reviewed.

Thank you.