### **DRAFT**

Minutes

Meeting of the

**Rulemaking Committee of the** 

Alabama Environmental Management Commission
Alabama Department of Environmental Management Building

1400 Coliseum Boulevard Montgomery, Alabama 36110-2400

August 17, 2018

### Minutes

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# Rulemaking Committee of the Alabama Environmental Management Commission Alabama Department of Environmental Management Building 1400 Coliseum Boulevard Montgomery, Alabama 36110-2400 August 17, 2018

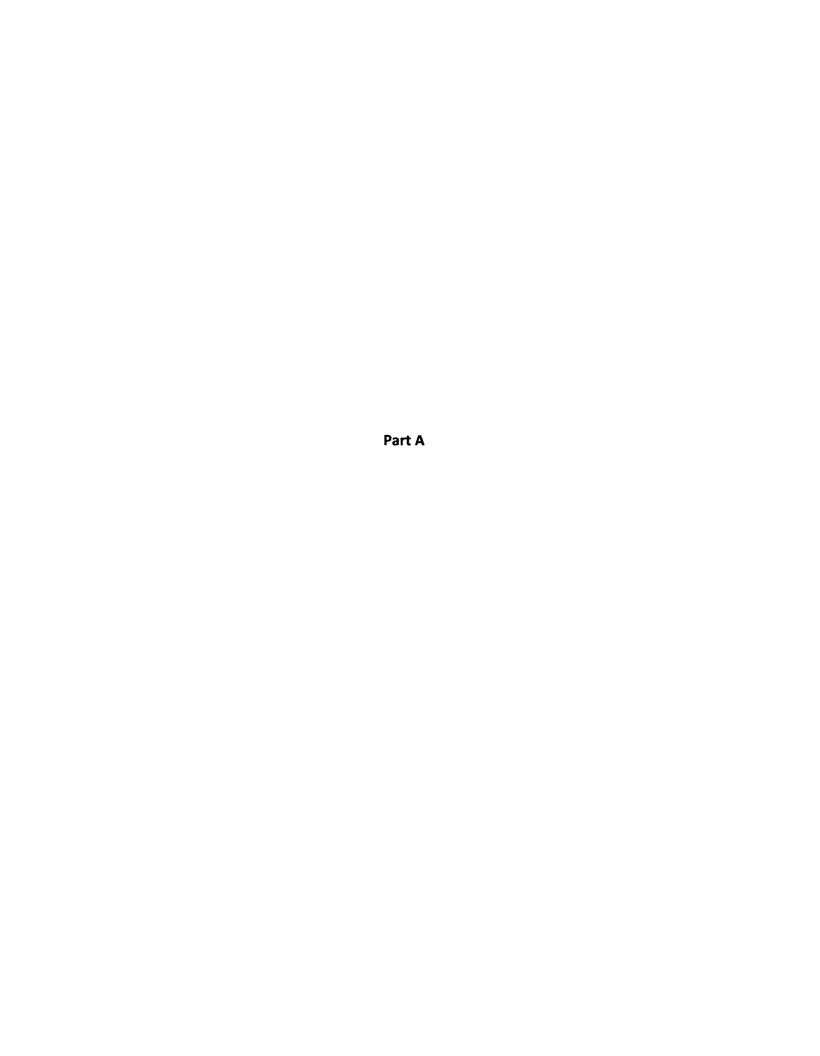
Convened: 10:00 a.m. Adjourned: 10:47 a.m.

### Part A

Transcript Word Index

### Part B

Attachment Index Attachment 1 Attachment 2



	Page 1	Ī		Page 3
1		1	DR. RICHARDSON: Thanks for	
2		İ	coming to the Rulemaking Committee meeting. I	
3			would like to go ahead and call this meeting	
4	MEETING OF THE RULEMAKING COMMITTEE		to order. And we would like to announce that	
5	OF THE ALABAMA ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT		all the members of the Rulemaking Committee	
6	COMMISSION		are here. So we do have a quorum.	
7	AUGUST 17, 2018	7	And agenda item one is the	
8	10:00 A.M.	8	consideration of the minutes of the meeting	
9			held on August 19th, 2016. The Committee will	
10		1	consider the minutes of the committee meeting	
11		j	held on August 19th, 2016. I would entertain	
12		1	a motion from the Committee regarding the	
13		i	minutes.	
14	LOCATION: Alabama Department of Environmental	14	MS. MERRITT: Move to adopt the	
1	Management Building		minutes of the August 19th, 2016, meeting.	
	Alabama Room	16	DR. RICHARDSON: There's been a	
	1400 Coliseum Boulevard		move to adopt. Do I hear a second?	
	Montgomery, Alabama 36110	18	MR. MASINGILL: Second.	
19	ongomorj, . naoana sorro	19	DR. RICHARDSON: Been moved and	
20			seconded. Is there any discussion regarding	
21		1	these minutes?	
22		22	(No response.)	
23		23	DR. RICHARDSON: Hearing none, I	
	Page 2			Page 4
1	Page 2 APPEARANCES		will call into question. All in favor of the	Page 4
1 2	-	1	will call into question. All in favor of the	Page 4
1	-	2	minutes as presented signify by saying aye.	Page 4
2	APPEARANCES	3	minutes as presented signify by saying aye.  MR. MASINGILL: Aye.	Page 4
2 3	A P P E A R A N C E S  COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:	2 3 4	minutes as presented signify by saying aye.  MR. MASINGILL: Aye.  MS. MERRITT: Aye.	Page 4
2 3 4	A P P E A R A N C E S  COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:  Terry D. Richardson, Ph.D., Chair	2 3 4 5	minutes as presented signify by saying aye.  MR. MASINGILL: Aye.  MS. MERRITT: Aye.  DR. RICHARDSON: All opposed same	Page 4
2 3 4	A P P E A R A N C E S  COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:  Terry D. Richardson, Ph.D., Chair  John (Jay) H. Masingill, III	2 3 4 5 6	minutes as presented signify by saying aye.  MR. MASINGILL: Aye.  MS. MERRITT: Aye.  DR. RICHARDSON: All opposed same sign.	Page 4
2 3 4 5 6	A P P E A R A N C E S  COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:  Terry D. Richardson, Ph.D., Chair  John (Jay) H. Masingill, III	2 3 4 5 6 7	minutes as presented signify by saying aye.  MR. MASINGILL: Aye.  MS. MERRITT: Aye.  DR. RICHARDSON: All opposed same sign.  (No response.)	Page 4
2 3 4 5 6 7	A P P E A R A N C E S  COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:  Terry D. Richardson, Ph.D., Chair  John (Jay) H. Masingill, III  Mary J. Merritt	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	minutes as presented signify by saying aye.  MR. MASINGILL: Aye.  MS. MERRITT: Aye.  DR. RICHARDSON: All opposed same sign.  (No response.)  DR. RICHARDSON: Any abstentions?	Page 4
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	A P P E A R A N C E S  COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:  Terry D. Richardson, Ph.D., Chair John (Jay) H. Masingill, III Mary J. Merritt  ALSO PRESENT: Robert Tambling, EMC Legal Counsel Kayla Currie, Assistant Attorney General	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	minutes as presented signify by saying aye.  MR. MASINGILL: Aye.  MS. MERRITT: Aye.  DR. RICHARDSON: All opposed same sign.  (No response.)  DR. RICHARDSON: Any abstentions?  (No response.)  DR. RICHARDSON: The approval for the motion to approve minutes carries.	Page 4
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A P P E A R A N C E S  COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:  Terry D. Richardson, Ph.D., Chair  John (Jay) H. Masingill, III  Mary J. Merritt  ALSO PRESENT:  Robert Tambling, EMC Legal Counsel  Kayla Currie, Assistant Attorney General  Lance R. Lefleur, ADEM Director	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	minutes as presented signify by saying aye.  MR. MASINGILL: Aye.  MS. MERRITT: Aye.  DR. RICHARDSON: All opposed same sign.  (No response.)  DR. RICHARDSON: Any abstentions?  (No response.)  DR. RICHARDSON: The approval for the motion to approve minutes carries.  This brings us up to agenda item two, which is the main item of business for the Rulemaking Committee to consider today, and that is discussion and consideration of ADEM Administrative Code Rule 335-6-612, Conditions Applicable to All NPDES Permits, to determine the need for any additional rules or modifications for public notification of Sanitary Sewer Overflows or SSOs and a	Page 4

-	avama Environmental Management Commission				August 17, 2018
		Page 5			Page 7
1	the public registered to speak regarding the		1	alternate between environmental organizations	
2	matters being discussed and considered by the			and regulated community on this so that we get	
	Committee under this agenda item.		i	to hear a fair and balanced presentation from	
4	I note that the Committee will			both sides of this. Okay?	
5	discuss and consider ADEM Administrative Code		5	So without further ado, again,	
6	Rule 335-6-612, the Conditions Applicable to		6	keeping in mind the three-minute limit, I	
7	All NPDES Permits, to determine the need for			would like to ask Eva Dillard to come forward	
8	any additional rules or modifications for the		1	speaking on behalf of the Petitioners making	
9				the rule.	
10	Overflows. The Committee may also consider		10	MS. DILLARD: Good morning, and	
11	recommendation from the Committee regarding		11	thank you for allowing me to speak to you	
12	the Commission proceeding to rulemaking.			today. When the Petitioners first asked for	
13	We have members of the public			rulemaking to accomplish better public	
14	signed up to make		i .	notification of sewer spills in Alabama, many	
15	MS. THOMAS: Terry, I'm sorry.			people who use public waterways in the state	
16	DR. RICHARDSON: Yes.			were at significant risk of being exposed to	
17	THE COURT REPORTER: Can I have one			sewage overflows and spills. And	
18	second? My equipment's acting up.			unfortunately some eighteen months later that	
19	DR. RICHARDSON: We will stand in			is still the case.	
20	recess until we are instructed to move		20	During the intervening time, ADEM	
21	further.		21	has taken some steps to improve public	
22	(Recess taken.)		22	notification, most notably the rollout of	
23	DR. RICHARDSON: We will begin, not	,	23	their E-SSO program. E-SSO represents,	
				•	
		Page 6			Page 8
1					
	at the top again. We'll pick up where we left		1	however, the beginning and not the end of good	
1	at the top again. We'll pick up where we left off.			however, the beginning and not the end of good notification.	
1					
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2 3 4	off.		2 3 4	notification.  Our own research which we presented in conjunction with the petition as	
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	off.  We have a number of members of the public that have signed up to make brief statements regarding the matters being discussed and considered by the Committee under agenda item two.  There are seven speakers that have signed up, and I will be calling upon these members to come up and give their presentation as time allows. There are seven speakers with a three-minute limit. That puts us at the best possible scenario of twenty-one minutes, which is going to push us into a legally mandated 11:00 Commission meeting. So I am going to provide a reasonable amount for those before you to speak.  I will tell you that I will be adhering strictly to the three-minute limitation and will proceed to cut you off and move forward with the next speaker once your time has expired.		2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	notification.  Our own research which we presented in conjunction with the petition as well as a presentation given by ADEM employee Daphne Lutz, confirms that approximately one in four one in four sewer spills is not being reported through E-SSO. And if it's not being reported, then E-SSO cannot notify the public of the possible dangers.  A notification system can only be as accurate as the information that's being input into that system, and unfortunately we think that for municipal operators there is good information being put in, but unfortunately not the level of information that is required to support a good notification system.  Most importantly, this notification system does not reach citizens without smart phones, computer access, or	

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:	L least likely to actually receive it.		1 names Pat Sefton. He is from Alabama Water	
:	2 Approximately a quarter of Alabama's		2 and Waste Water Institute and Alabama Water	
- 1	3 residents, twenty-five percent, don't have a		3 Environmental Association.	
1	smart phone.		MR. SEFTON: Good morning. My name	
			5 is Pat Sefton. I appreciate this Committee	
1	to be a local piece in effective notification,		5 listening to our remarks.	
- i	and that is what we are asking the Commission		7 AWWI, which is the Alabama Water	
1	B to address. ADEM has done some work on		3 and Waste Water Institute, is a trade	
9	incorporating a sewer overflow response plan		association of water and waste water utilities	,
	and to permitting. Regrettably, they worked	i	in Alabama. The Alabama Water Environment	
11	with municipal operators and trade		Association also has some utility members but	
12	associations with that language, got their		2 also has other water and waste water	
1	input, and put that into the permit. They	1:	professionals. I'm not going to introduce	
14	didn't ask us. And that could that was a	1	every one of them here this morning, but I	
15	missed opportunity we think for the Department		would like for you for these for those	
16	because while that SORP language is a start,		5 members to stand that are here.	
	we think that there are things that can be	1.		
18	done to improve it.	18	3 industry. They work very, very hard to ensure	
19	Most notably the reason that we		that there's clean water and waste water is	
20	first filed this petition was because there's	2	treated appropriately. Our overarching	
	too much operator discretion, and as a result,	1	comment is that the existing regulations by	
22	notification isn't happening. The SORP also	<b>I</b>	ADEM are sufficient. We believe that ADEM has	
23	places a lot of discretion on the operators.		already recognized that by recommending denial	
L			, ,	
	Paç	ge 10		Page 12
1	. We think their needs to be a minimum baseline	:	of the petition. We would ask this Committee	
2	for local operators and that is what we are	:	when you're evaluating that to find that the	
3	asking the Rulemaking Committee to recommend	3	existing regulations are sufficient.	
4	to the full Commission.	4	We believe the information that's	
5			out there that's been given to the public	
i	too comfortable with the lowest common	6	before this hearing outlines the number of	
	denominator. We have presented to the	-	things that ADEM has done really over the last	
	Commission Georgia's public notification	8	two years, some of which was mentioned by the	
1	regulations, which have some excellent means	2	previous speaker.	
	of public notification. We urge you to	10	We just don't believe that there	
11	recommend to the full Commission that they	11	need to be any further regulations. There	
12	2 8	12	will be some other speakers that will be here	
13		1.3	to answer any questions that you have about	
	operators are doing their best to protect the	14	specific examples of what has happened in	
15	public.		various localities. We believe that those	
16	.,, 6 6	16	individuals in those localities are best able	
17	1 ,	17	to come up with individual SSO response	
18	, <b></b>	]	plans.	
19	DR. RICHARDSON: It's already	19	* *	
1		100		1
20		20	1 , 1 8	İ
21	MS. DILLARD: Thank you.	21	utilities to submit their SSO response plans,	
21 22	MS. DILLARD: Thank you. DR. RICHARDSON: The Chair will now	21	utilities to submit their SSO response plans, and those are working. I expect some of these	
21 22	MS. DILLARD: Thank you.	21	utilities to submit their SSO response plans,	

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	1 trend is down in terms of SSO incidents.		1	technology right now to get the word out to		
İ	2 There are different types of		2			
	3 SSOs. The ones that we believe the previous		3	I would also like to ask the		
	4 speaker is referring to are the probably the		4	Commission to please take a look at including		
	5 very worse situations, but there's not a one		1	in the certification training the notification		
	6 size fits all situation. You can have a very			standards so as new operators come online that		
	7 small SSO incident that's contained very		1	that's part of their initial training. Thank		
	8 quickly without any potential without any		_	you.		
	9 potential of .harm and then, of course, you do		9	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you,		
1	0 from time to time have unfortunate situations		10	Mr. Shugart.		
1	1 where you have worse situations.		11	The Chair now recognizes David		
1	2 But for this group to enact a one		12	Denard from Jefferson County.		
1	3 size fits all regulation will do nothing but		13	MR. DENARD: Thank you. I		
1	4 increase cost for the public, will make public		14	appreciate the Commission's attention to the		
1	5 utilities a litigation target because if you			subject. I think it's very important to our		
1	6 have all of these additional regulations			community. I think it's important to the		
1	7 it's it becomes somewhat impossible to			public and public health and to our customers		
1	8 comply.		1	as well.		
1	9 But the most important thing is		19	As an operator, our job is to		
2	0 we want the public to understand when they're		20	we're in the clean water business and we make		İ
2	1 really at risk. And everybody knows if you're		21	clean water. But I will also say there is		
2	2 constantly flooding the public with warnings		22	room to do better and there was room to do		
2	3 and notices and things like that they become		23	better. Whether from a lack of resources or a		
L						
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	1 tone deaf, and they don't respond. Everybody		1	lack of knowledge, I think all of us as		
Ì	2 knows the tornado watches and the sever		2	operators can and should do better in SSO		
	3 thunderstorm warnings that are endless.		3	response and in public notification. It is		
	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you,		4	our responsibility as operators to do that and		
	5 Mr. Sefton.		5	to do that responsibly.		
l	6 MR. SEFTON: Thank you.		6	I did want to provide some		
	7 DR. RICHARDSON: Appreciate your		7	perspective from the ground though because		
	8 comments. I'm going to start for the		8	every SSO is unique, and it does require		
	9 speaker's benefit just raising my hand when		9	individual judgment. A small SSO in dry		
1	0 there's thirty seconds left. That way you		10	weather is completely different circumstances		
1	1 kind of know you need to start wrapping it		11	than perhaps a larger SSO, which you may end		İ
1.	<b>2</b> up.		12	up containing. That happens in wet weather.		
1	8 - 1 - 1		13	And so you have to have the operator exercise		
1			14	judgment to know what the proper response is.		
1.	•		15	And if you are overly		
1	<i>y y</i>			prescriptive, I think you can limit the		
1	,			judgment of the operator. As an example, our		
1	, <u>,</u>			plant permits requires the operator maintain		
1				our plants in a responsible manner, to be		
2				overly prescriptive to that. We rely on the		
2	•			judgment of our maintenance staff and the		
	2 on the fact that we think it's good enough			judgment of our operators to still meet the		
2.	3 doesn't really capture the advancement of		23	requirements of a permit.		
1						

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1	But I will say that prescriptive		1	what we have now is in many cases inadequate.		
2	rulemaking can be problematic because every			I will argue with others who have spoken. The		
1	system is different as well. A large system		l	response plans and actions do not have to all		
	such as ours of thirty-five hundred miles and		l	be one size. You know, I would like to see		
	four hundred and fifty square miles of service		į	protection in place by the 2019 recreational		
	area may have the resources but we lack the		l	season. We have a growing a rapidly		
1	knowledge. We don't know where every fishing			growing water recreational touristry industry		
- 1	hole is and where every point of public			in Alabama. There are close to ninety		
ı	contact is. A smaller system may have the			outfitters now in Alabama.		
- (	knowledge but they lack the resources to enact		10	When the Scenic River Trail		
11	that.		11	started up, there was less than a dozen.		
12	So one of the problems or lessons		12	There might have been less than ten. But		
13	for that is over saturation of public notice.		1	serious spills, serious incidents, at critical		
14	Part of our consent degree, we began doing		14	high use areas could have a tremendous public		
15	public media notice for all SSOs, and		15	information impact. You know, we potentially		
16	eventually those SSO notices were ignored by		16	have maybe thousands or tens of thousands of		
17	the media. So our message never gets out.		17	people now in Canada that have learned about		
18	And so being able to prioritize those messages		18	our trail that may be coming to Alabama as		
19	is very critical to responsible and effective		19	they go to Florida and elsewhere using these		
20	notification.		20	trails.		
21	Having too much rulemaking in the		21	My request is regardless of what		
22	end makes you respond to the response as	:	22	you do is these utilities should be tasked to		
23	opposed to responding to the actual problem.		23	work with their outfitters, work with Scenic		
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1	And so mitigation is the primary mitigation		1	River Trails and the chapters we're developing		
	and stopping an SSO is the primary		l	around the state, work with (inaudible),		
	responsibility and what we do.		l	identify where your significant recreational		
4	And so I would say responses		į.	use areas are. If you don't have any, you		
5	the responses that the Commission and ADEM			know, the process we have now is perfectly		
6	staff to date are appropriate. Lack of new		6	adequate, but if you do have significant		
7	rules doesn't mean that there's no further		7	recreational areas, identify where they are.		
8	need for action. We, as an organization, need	:	8	That will help you identify and you may not		
9	to develop best practices and SSO response		9	have to cover three thousand miles of streams		
10	plans and continue to adopt those and		10	in your response plan. But develop a plan		
11	communicate with the petitioners and the		11	that prevents us from creating an image.		
12	public to make this better and to continue to		12	I know years ago they had a		
13	make it better. So thank you.		13	problem in Lake Jackson in Florala and		
14	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you,		14	there's that problem has not existed for		
15	Mr. Denard.		15	years and years and years in the severity that		
16	The Chair now recognizes Michael		16	it once was, and there's people that still ask		
17	Mullen, Choctawhatchee Riverkeeper and		17	me do we still have this problem in Lake		
18	Southeast Alabama Division of ASRT.		18	Jackson.		
19	MR. MULLEN: Thank you,		19	So we can create an image for		
20	Dr. Richardson. My comments are much		20	some of our recreational use areas that may		
21	condensed from what I originally had because a		21	create a stigma that lasts many years.		
1	lot of them have been covered already. I'm in		22	So I would just really criticize		
23	agreement with Eva, our first speaker, that		23	people saying there's one size, one plan. I		
1			i			

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1	. think ADEM is smart enough. You guys are	1	outreach opportunities we're given, we're	
2	smart enough to write to write regs that	- 1	seeing, you know, better and better response	
1	aren't one size fits all, and I would urge you	ļ	out of that. We're seeing that it is working.	
	to act to keep our public, our recreational		And, granted, you know, it may not have been	
	public, and our growing tourist industry safe	1	working as well as some may indicate, you	
-	from unnecessary impacts. Thank you.	1	know, in the past. We feel like this move	
7		1	that we've enacted over the past several years	
8	Mr. Mullen.		is getting the word out. We are seeing a	
9	Next The Chair will recognize		transformation of what we're doing.	
10	Scott Cummings from Alabama Water	10		
11	Environmental Association.	11	additional rulemaking, not because we are	
12	MR. CUMMINGS: Thank you,		opposed to public notification, but it is a	
13	Mr. Chairman.		very customizable matter. And it needs to be	
14	I represent the Alabama Water		handled on the local front through the	
15	Environmental Association. They've asked me	15	response plans, and we would encourage the	
16	to represent them as the advocacy committee	1	citizen groups to work with the local	
17	chairman.	17	utilities to, you know, provide input. We	
18	My committee along with the	18	invite that. We invite that to input on the	
19	collections committee have been working	19	types of training that we provide. We request	
20	diligently over the past several years	20	and invite that from ADEM.	
21	providing public education and outreach to our	21	So our idea is more for continued	
22	members. We represent the waste water	22	collaboration and what ADEM has already laid	
23	industry across the state, and our main	23	out, and we would you know, we would	
-	Page	22		D 04
	raye	22		Page 24
	primary goals of our organization is to		appreciate your consideration and not carrying	
	provide training and network opportunities for	1	this on to further rulemaking considerations.	
3	these utilities.	3	Thank you.	
4	F	4	· · · · · · · · · · ·	
	know, we work very closely with ADEM. We	1	Mr. Cummings.	
	review very closely EPA regulations in order	6		
	to provide the best information we can to	1	Kinney, Black Warrior River Keeper.	
	not only dealing with, you know, the SSO response itself but also with public	8	MR. KINNEY: Good morning. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to talk	
	notification and better documentation of SSOs.			
11		11	with y'all.  Like Ms. Dillard, I would like to	
12		i	recognize ADEM for instituting the new E-SSC	,
13			program. I think it is a wonderful step in	,
14		1	the right direction. I know that it's taken a	
15		į į	lot of hard work by ADEM. But like	
16			Ms. Dillard, I just don't think that it is	
17		17		
18		18	reasons why.	
19	and environment. They enjoy it as much as	19	I analyzed sixty consecutive	
20	anyone else in the state does. So, you know,	20	initial SSO reports in April. And in looking	
21	that is their life that they're working	21	at those, there was an average of forty-five	
22	towards.		hours delay between when the SSO started and	and the same
23	And, you know, with the education	23	when it was sent out through the E-SSO	
1				

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1	system. I've also noticed as I'm getting		1	That concludes the list of folks	
2	these SSO reports through email that I'm		2	that have signed up. I will open the	
	almost never seeing any SSO reports come in on			opportunity for anyone else that would like to	
4	weekends, and then we get flooded with them			make a brief comment.	
5	during the week. So I analyzed those numbers		5	Please state your name.	
6	for this summer.		6	MR. TURNER: Ed Turner, Anniston	
7	On an average weekend day, we get		7	Water Works.	
8	0.7 SSO reports per day. On an average		8	Just in response to the previous	
9	weekday, we get 4.3 SSO reports per day. So		9	speaker, I want to make it clear that it's	
10	that's seven times more SSO reports coming in			twenty-four hours to be reported for an SSO,	
11	on a weekday than there are on a weekend day.	1		and that's enforced. So I'm not sure where	
12	Now, I don't think that SSOs are		12	the two-day window has occurred or where he's	
13	just not happening on the weekend. It's just	ļ	13	getting that information. And working with	
14	that the notifications aren't going out or the		14	ADEM on a regular basis, we've improved our	
15	operators aren't noticing these SSOs on the		15	notification, our SORT and everything. And	
	weekend. Maybe they've got fewer employees on		16	the way the rule sits now, I think it's	
į.	the ground on the weekends. But, if anything,	Ì	17	adequate, actually more than adequate.	
i	more people are recreating on the weekends and		18	And the other day we had	
į	it's more important that we get those reports			notification from an SSO that was sent out.	
	at that time.	İ	20	WBRC notified me and asked me if I would like	
21			21	to speak about it. I said, of course, I	
l	with this E-SSO system. While it is a step in			would. Give me the opportunity to notify the	an parameter and an analysis a
23	the right direction, I don't believe it's		23	public what causes these SSOs. And that's the	
	D	age 26			<b>D</b> 00
		age 20			Page 28
ł	sufficient.			thing. That's where the notification needs to	
2	And I want to appeal to you as a			go, public education on what causes these	
ł	father who takes my kids swimming in our		3	SSOs. That's what helps the utilities.	
	streams routinely. I've gone swimming with my				
	•		4	And that's all I have, sir.	
l .	kids in Locust Fork and Mulberry Fork at least		5	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you. And I	
6	kids in Locust Fork and Mulberry Fork at least twelve times this summer. And I check the SSO		5	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you. And I might suggest that the two of you may want to	
6 7	kids in Locust Fork and Mulberry Fork at least twelve times this summer. And I check the SSO before I go out. I look to see if there's		5 6 7	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you. And I might suggest that the two of you may want to get together after the Committee meeting and	
6 7 8	kids in Locust Fork and Mulberry Fork at least twelve times this summer. And I check the SSO before I go out. I look to see if there's been an SSO upstream of where I'm going. But		5 6 7 8	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you. And I might suggest that the two of you may want to get together after the Committee meeting and discuss the data that you have.	
6 7 8 9	kids in Locust Fork and Mulberry Fork at least twelve times this summer. And I check the SSO before I go out. I look to see if there's been an SSO upstream of where I'm going. But knowing what I know, that there's an average		5 6 7 8 9	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you. And I might suggest that the two of you may want to get together after the Committee meeting and discuss the data that you have.  I will take one more. I believe	
6 7 8 9	kids in Locust Fork and Mulberry Fork at least twelve times this summer. And I check the SSO before I go out. I look to see if there's been an SSO upstream of where I'm going. But knowing what I know, that there's an average of two days wait in between when an SSO starts	i	5 6 7 8 9	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you. And I might suggest that the two of you may want to get together after the Committee meeting and discuss the data that you have.  I will take one more. I believe a hand was up over here. Please when you get	
6 7 8 9 10	kids in Locust Fork and Mulberry Fork at least twelve times this summer. And I check the SSO before I go out. I look to see if there's been an SSO upstream of where I'm going. But knowing what I know, that there's an average of two days wait in between when an SSO starts and when it's reported, that's always in the	;	5 6 7 8 9 10	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you. And I might suggest that the two of you may want to get together after the Committee meeting and discuss the data that you have.  I will take one more. I believe a hand was up over here. Please when you get to the podium state your name and who you're	
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	1 And I just wanted to talk about		1	process.	
	2 two other things that has come up a couple of		2	But when the petition was first	
ı	3 times is, you know, one argument against this		3	presented, the Department did a thorough study	
	4 petition is the added expense. And I think,		4	of the rulemaking petition before making a	
	5 you know, just like the operators, we are			recommendation to the Commission. Since then,	
ĺ	6 dedicated employees who do all the same			the Department has engaged numerous interested	
	7 things. We spend our nights and weekends, and			parties on many occasions to consider the	
	8 we do a great job of public notification for			costs, benefits, alternatives, and other	
	9 very little money. And so I don't look at the	į		matters related to public notification and	
-	10 expense of this notification system as a	1		rulemaking.	
1	11 burden.	1	L1	ADEM has implemented several	
:	And as far as the potential to	1	12	programs that address many, if not most, of	
1	13 make these utilities a greater target for			the concerns that have been expressed by the	
1	14 litigation, I think every step you take of	1		petitioners. All of these have been	
1	15 better public notification limits that			well-documented and I would commend	
1	16 liability instead of expands it. With the	1	L 6	recommend for everybody's examination the list	
1	17 system that we have now, we have seen	1		of those things that have been undertaken, as	
1	18 instances where there have been overflows that	l l		well as some things that are going on within	ļ
1	19 there was little to no notification of major	1	L 9	the Department to try to keep everybody	
2	20 events. And I think that by itself is much	2	20	informed.	
2	21 more concerning from a liability standpoint	2	21	We have tried to get that into	
2	22 than a measured process that intends to notify	2	22	the hands of all interested parties. The	
2	23 as many people as possible. Thank you.	2	23	Department has concluded that the information	
L					
		Page 30			Page 32
	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you, David.		1	presented during this process would not	
	2 I will now ask the ADEM Director,			warrant a change in the Department's	
	3 Lance LeFleur, if he has any comments that he			recommendation to the Commission, that	
	4 would like to share with the Committee,		4	rulemaking is not required at this time, and	
	5 reminding him that he will be under the same	i		that the process that's being implemented in	
	6 three minute limitation.		6	the Department will address the concerns that	
	7 MR. LEFLEUR: Noted. I want to			have been raised.	
	8 thank each of the people who spoke today.		8	I'd be pleased to answer any	
	9 This is a continuation of the conversation		9	questions.	
1	10 that's been going on for some time regarding	1	.0	DR. RICHARDSON: Any questions from	
1	11 this matter. Not surprisingly, for the	1	.1	the Committee?	
1	12 Department, in all activities it seems like	1	.2	Thank you, Director.	
1	13 that we're involved with there are two sides	1	.3	MS. MERRITT: Oh, I do have one.	
1	14 to the question.	1	4	MR. LEFLEUR: Yes, ma'am.	
1	When the petition first came	1	5	MS. MERRITT: How long has that	
1	16 up well, first, let me make one comment	1	6	ES the E-SSO folks, how long has that been	
1	17 related to the E-SSO program, the electronic	1	7	in place?	
1	18 reporting of Sanitary Sewer Overflows. It's a	1	8	MR. LEFLEUR: We began E-SSO	
	19 process that's being stood up over a period of	1	9	MS. BLANTON: Roughly 2013.	
1.	20 years. The infrastructure has been put in		0	MR. LEFLEUR: Right at 2013 was the	
	21 place and it's now being implemented			early beginnings of it, and it was implemented	
1	22 throughout the system, and it will take time	2		first with those people who had violations.	
2	23 for that to completely go through the	2	3	They were required to begin reporting	4
1		1			İ

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1	electronically as a part of the enforcement	1	MS. LUTZ: For the electronic, yes.	
	action. As permits have been renewed, all	2	MR. LEFLEUR: For E-SSO.	
	permits now that are renewed have a	3	MS. MERRITT: E-SSO. Got it.	
	requirement for electronic reporting, and we	4	MR. LEFLEUR: That's one of the	
1	have a federal mandate to have electronic	5	reasons we're pushing E-SSOs so hard is it's	
	reporting by 2020.		immediate or within twenty minutes. But the	
7	So we are well on our way. We		paper that comes in still has to go whether	
8	are up to I don't know what's the	Į.	it's snail mail or fax or email or however, it	
9		1	still has to be entered, and then it goes into	
10	MS. LUTZ: Eighty-five percent is	1	the reporting system. Eventually, paper will	
11	now registered.	1	go away.	
12	MR. LEFLEUR: Eighty-five percent	12	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you. Any	
13	of the systems are now registered for		further questions for the Director?	
1	electronic SSO reporting.	14	Thank you, Director.	
15	DR. RICHARDSON: Can you or a	15	MR. LEFLEUR: Thank you.	
16	member of your Department comment on whether	16	DR. RICHARDSON: I now will open	
17		1	this agenda item two up for Committee	
18	notified by the facility and then the email	1	discussion and ask if my fellow Committee	
1	release to the public, where that glitch is?	1	members have any comments that they would like	
1	Is it in notification of ADEM or is it	1	to make at this time.	
ļ	something that's taking ADEM time to process	21	MS. MERRITT: I do have one, but I	
	things and get it out? Is it because the		wanted to ask Ms. Dillard. She was trying	
	Department is basically closed on the weekend	1	can I ask her? I want to ask her a question	
	Page 34			Page 36
1	that they don't get out on the weekend, they	1	on	
1	that they don't get out on the weekend, they wait till Monday to do it? Can you comment on	1 2	on You were saying about you would	
2	•	2		
3	wait till Monday to do it? Can you comment on	2	You were saying about you would	
3	wait till Monday to do it? Can you comment on any of that or someone in your Department	2 3 4	You were saying about you would think the media the media, I guess,	
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1	to E-SSO to have a local component of		1	The Environmental Management Commission has	
1	notification to include, you know, posting			been spoken to no fewer than seven times since	
1	notifiable spills, which is defined by the			this issue was raised in April of 2017. We	
	regulation, and also other means, you know,	ŀ		have had plenty of information put before us.	
1	for local operators to make sure that that			We know the Department has taken a number of	
1	word is getting out. And then those efforts			steps and a number of actions.	
i	ultimately complement each other and, you		7	Based on the extensive record of	
8			8	information presented regarding the SSO public	
9	Does that answer your question?			notification activities, it seems to me that	
10	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			nearly all of the petitioner's concerns have	
11	DR. RICHARDSON: I'd like to make a	ŧ		been addressed. Not all of them certainly,	
12	few comments myself. And I'll begin by making	i		but many of them have been addressed.	
13			13	And I think the Rules Committee	
14			14	has ample basis now to conclude that human	
15				health and the environment are protected by	
16	I speak for all of the Commissioners sitting			the regulatory activities that are currently	
17			17	being undertaken pursuant to the existing	
18				rules.	
19			19	Additional rulemaking regarding	
20	received the petition with too little time for		20		
ì	critical review and consideration. So we			effective, efficient, or measurable	
22	thought the appropriate route was to deny it.			additional additional protection to human	
1	We only had two options, approve it or deny			health or the environment. Therefore, I think	
				,	
		Page 38			Page 40
1	it.	ĺ	1	it would be well-supported and reasonable that	
2	In an effort to move forward and			the Rules Committee recommend to the	
	take this to the Rulemaking Committee, some of			Commission that rulemaking related to public	
1	you know the history after that point, the			notice of SSOs need not be initiated at this	
	Rulemaking Committee lost a member, and I was			time.	
	not willing to convene this Committee with two		6	That is my personal position and	
	people and not until I had a full Committee in			take on this. And I will again ask if there's	
1	order to convene. That has only just taken			any further discussion from my fellow	
9			9	Committee members.	
10			10	MS. MERRITT: I don't have any.	
11	earliest opportunity following that.		11	MR. MASINGILL: I would just like	
12	Since that time we did have a			to state that, of course, I'm late to this	
13			13	party. This is I've only been to one	
14	believe it was, in which environmental			Commission meeting, and we didn't make a	
ĺ	believe it was, in winen environmental		14		
122	organizations along with the regulated			quorum. So this is really going to be my	
			15		
16	organizations along with the regulated community were all present and represented. I		15	first meeting. I just wanted kind of for the	
16 17	organizations along with the regulated		15 16 17	first meeting. I just wanted kind of for the record to let you all know that I went back	
16 17	organizations along with the regulated community were all present and represented. I was at that meeting and was able to listen to the comments and things that were said. I		15 16 17	first meeting. I just wanted kind of for the	
16 17 18	organizations along with the regulated community were all present and represented. I was at that meeting and was able to listen to the comments and things that were said. I have transcripts of that meeting, and have had		15 16 17 18	first meeting. I just wanted kind of for the record to let you all know that I went back and I read every one of the transcripts going	
16 17 18 19	organizations along with the regulated community were all present and represented. I was at that meeting and was able to listen to the comments and things that were said. I have transcripts of that meeting, and have had the opportunity to look over that, as have my		15 16 17 18 19	first meeting. I just wanted kind of for the record to let you all know that I went back and I read every one of the transcripts going back to April of '17. I didn't just show up	
16 17 18 19 20	organizations along with the regulated community were all present and represented. I was at that meeting and was able to listen to the comments and things that were said. I have transcripts of that meeting, and have had the opportunity to look over that, as have my		15 16 17 18 19 20 21	first meeting. I just wanted kind of for the record to let you all know that I went back and I read every one of the transcripts going back to April of '17. I didn't just show up at this Committee meeting.	
16 17 18 19 20 21	organizations along with the regulated community were all present and represented. I was at that meeting and was able to listen to the comments and things that were said. I have transcripts of that meeting, and have had the opportunity to look over that, as have my fellow Committee members.		15 16 17 18 19 20 21	first meeting. I just wanted kind of for the record to let you all know that I went back and I read every one of the transcripts going back to April of '17. I didn't just show up at this Committee meeting.  I met with Ms. Dillard and	

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1	wanted to state that, that I feel like I'm		1	DR. RICHARDSON: The motion has	
1	informed on the issue before I take any		2	been made. Do I hear a second?	
	action.		3	MS. MERRITT: Second.	
4	DR. RICHARDSON: Thank you.		4	DR. RICHARDSON: Motion has been	
5	And I would like to add one more		5	made and seconded. Do the Committee members	
6	thing. I commend Ms. Dillard immensely for			have any discussion regarding the motion?	
i	her efforts in this. I've been on this		7	(No response.)	
8	Commission for eight years, and one time		8	DR. RICHARDSON: Hearing no	
1	one time I've had a person from an		-	discussion, I will call the question. All in	
1	environmental organization or representing an		1	favor of the motion as presented signify by	
1	environmental organization ask for an audience		1	saying I aye.	
1	with me, and that was Ms. Dillard back some		12	MR. MASINGILL: Aye.	
1	time I don't remember if it was this spring		13	MS. MERRITT: Aye.	
1	or last fall, but she came in with a member		14	DR. RICHARDSON: All opposed same	
1	from		ì		
16	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Andy		16	Sign.	
1	Shugart.			(No response.)	
i			17	DR. RICHARDSON: Any abstentions? The motion carries. We will now	
18	DR. RICHARDSON: Yes, exactly. And		18		
	we had a good, long, lengthy conversation. My		İ	sign the order.	
1	door is open. My door has always been open to		20	(Order signed.)	
	the environmental community and to the		21	DR. RICHARDSON: This brings us up	
1	regulated community. It's unfortunate to me		İ	to agenda item three, other business. Is	
23	that that open door policy has been used so		23	there any other business that my fellow	
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1	little in my eight-year tenure as a Commission		1	Committee members know of to be brought before	
2	member.			this Committee?	
3	A lot can be accomplished on a		3	MR. MASINGILL: No.	
4	one-on-one conversation that is difficult to		4	DR. RICHARDSON: Then we'll move on	
5	accomplish in a public forum. And I think		5	to agenda item four, the future Rulemaking	
6	people need to understand that and utilize		6	Committee meeting. At this point, I know of	
7	that availability and that ability as it		7	no issue before the Commission to be put	
8	exists.		8	before the Commission for rulemaking. So I	
9	At this point, I will entertain a		9	see no reason for us to set a Rulemaking	
10	motion from the Committee regarding a proposed		10	Committee meeting for the future.	
11	recommendation to the full Commission		11	I will now entertain a motion to	
12	regarding ADEM Administrative Code Rule		12	adjourn.	
1	335-6-612 and the need for any additional		13	MR. MASINGILL: I move to adjourn.	
1	rules or modifications to the rules for public		14	DR. RICHARDSON: Been moved to	
1	notification of separate Sanitary Sewer		15	adjourn.	
1	Overflows. The Chair will stand for a motion.		16	MS. MERRITT: Second.	
17	MR. MASINGILL: I move that the		17	DR. RICHARDSON: Seconded. All in	
18	Committee recommend the Commission not proceed		18	favor, vote with your feet.	
1	to rulemaking with ADEM Administrative Code		19	Thank you all for coming.	
	Rule 335-6-612 with additional rules or		20	- v	
	modifications to the rules for public		21	(The Rulemaking Committee meeting	
21					
1	notification of separate Sanitary Sewer		22	concluded on August 17, 2018, at	
22	notification of separate Sanitary Sewer Overflows.		22		

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L	Page 45  REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE	
	STATE OF ALABAMA )	
	JEFFERSON COUNTY )	
	I, Elaine Scott, Certified Court	
	Reporter and Commissioner for the State of	
	Alabama at Large, hereby certify that on	
	August 17, 2018, I reported the Rulemaking	
}	Committee meeting, and that pages 1 through 45	
	contain a true and accurate transcription of	
	the hearing by counsel for the parties set out	
	herein.	
	I further certify that I am neither	
	of kin nor of counsel to any of the parties to	
	said cause nor in any manner interested in the	
,	results thereof.	
,		
3		
)	/s/Elaine Scott, CCR ELAINE SCOTT, Court Reporter	
	and Commissioner for the State	
	of Alabama at Large CCR NO. 354, Expires 9/30/18	
!	MY COMMISSION EXPIRES NOVEMBER 16, 2019	
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upstream (1)	weekend (7)	10:00 (1)		
26:8	25:7,11,13,16;33:23;	1:8		
urge (2)	34:1,23	10:47 (1)		
10:10;21:3	weekends (4)	44:23		
use (4)	25:4,17,18;29:7	11:00 (1)		
7:15;19:14;20:4,20	weeks (1)	6:15		
used (1)	40:23	1400 (1)		
41:23	well-documented (1)	1:17		
using (1)	31:15	17 (4)		
19:19	well-supported (1)	1:7;38:13;40:19;		
utilities (8)	40:1	44:22	1	
11:9;12:21;13:15;	wet (1)	19th (3)		
19:22;22:3;23:17;28:3;	16:12	3:9,11,15		
29:13	what's (1)		1	
utility (1)	33:8	2		
11:11	willing (1)		1	
utilize (1)	38:6	2013 (2)		
42:6	window (2)	32:19,20		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	26:14;27:12	2016 (3)		
${f V}$	within (4)	3:9,11,15		
***	31:18;34:7,18;35:6	2017 (2)		
various (1)	without (4)	37:13;39:3		
12:15	7:5;8:21;13:8,8	2018 (2)		
violations (1)	wonderful (1)	1:7;44:22		
32:22	24:13	2019 (1)		
vote (1)	word (3)	19:5		
44:18	15:1;23:8;37:6	2020 (1)		
	work (15)	33:6		
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	

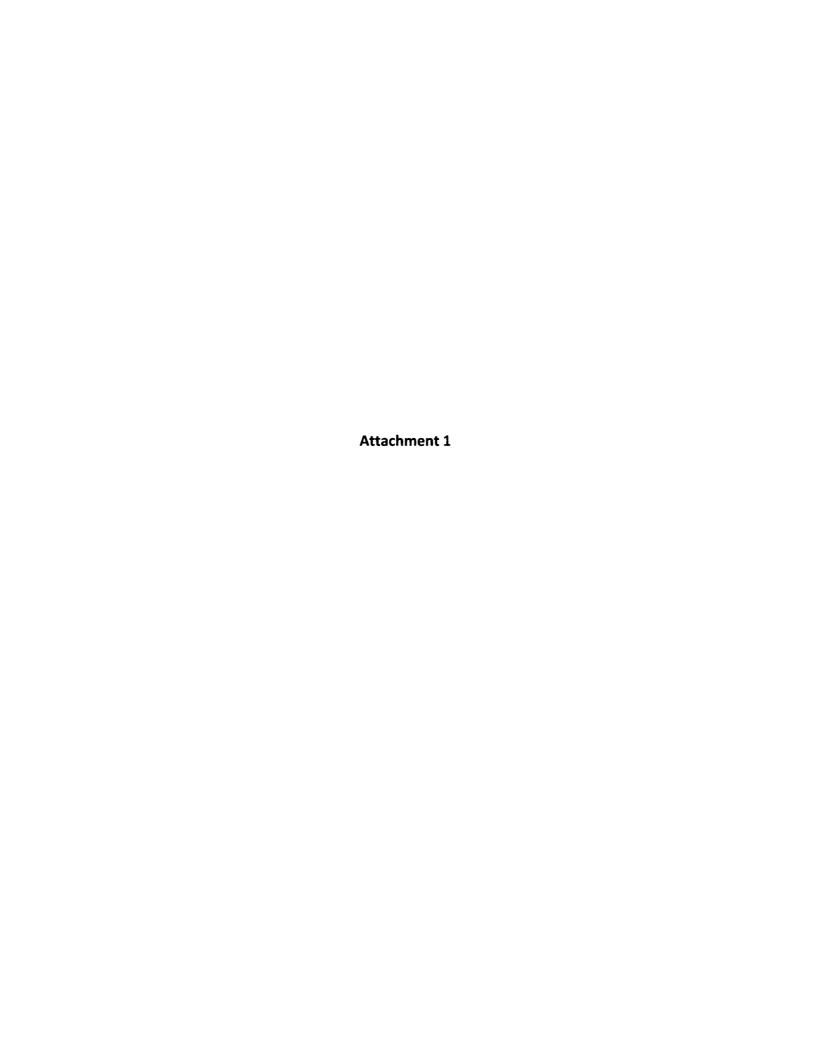


### **Attachment Index**

### Attachment 1 Agenda

Attachment 2 Order to adopt motion to recommend that the Commission not proceed to rulemaking with ADEM Administrative Code Rule 335-6-6-.12 with additional rules or modifications to the rules for public notification of Separate Sanitary Sewer Overflows

(Agenda Item 2)



## AGENDA\* MEETING OF THE RULEMAKING COMMITTEE OF THE

### ALABAMA ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

DATE: August 17, 2018 TIME: 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) Building
Alabama Room (Main Conference Room)

1400 Coliseum Boulevard

Montgomery, Alabama 36110-2400

	<u>ITEMS</u>	PAGE
1.	Consideration of minutes of meeting held on August 19, 2016**	2
2.	Discussion and consideration of ADEM Administrative Code Rule 335-6-612, Conditions Applicable to All NPDES Permits, to determine the need for any additional rules or modifications for public notification of Separate Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) and a possible recommendation from the Committee regarding the Commission proceeding to rulemaking and	
	Brief statements by members of the public registered to speak regarding the matters being discussed and considered by the Committee under Agenda Item 2	2
	(NPDES-Related Matter)	2
3.	Other business	3
4.	Future Rulemaking Committee meeting	3

<sup>\*</sup> The Agenda for this meeting will be available on the ADEM website, <a href="www.adem.alabama.gov">www.adem.alabama.gov</a>, under Environmental Management Commission.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The minutes of this meeting will be available on the ADEM website under Environmental Management Commission.

- 1. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 19, 2016
- 2. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ADEM ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 335-6-6-.12,
  CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL NPDES PERMITS, TO DETERMINE THE NEED FOR ANY
  ADDITIONAL RULES OR MODIFICATIONS FOR PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF SEPARATE
  SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOWS (SSOs) AND A POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE
  COMMITTEE REGARDING THE COMMISSION PROCEEDING TO RULEMAKING
  AND
  BRIEF STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC REGISTERED TO SPEAK REGARDING THE
  MATTERS BEING DISCUSSED AND CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE UNDER AGENDA ITEM 2
  (NPDES-RELATED MATTER)

The Committee will discuss and consider ADEM Administrative Code Rule 335-6-6-.12, Conditions Applicable to All NPDES Permits, to determine the need for any additional rules or modifications for public notification of Separate Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs). The Committee may also consider a recommendation from the Committee as to whether the Commission should proceed to rulemaking with additional rules or modifications for public notification of SSOs.

On April 21, 2017, the Environmental Management Commission adopted a motion denying the Petition for Rulemaking to Amend ADEM Administrative Code Rule 335-6-6-.12, Conditions Applicable to All NPDES Permits, EMC Rulemaking Petition 17-03, Petitioners Alabama Rivers Alliance, et al., based on ADEM Administrative Code Rule 335-2-2-.05, Consideration of Petition, paragraphs (g) and (i), with the reasons for denial being that adoption of the proposed rule would negatively impact the overall regulatory scheme of the Department and consideration of any other relevant factors, evidence, data, or information. The Petition for Rulemaking sought the amendment of Rule 335-6-6-.12 by expansion of the provisions of Rule 335-6-6-.12(1)(7)(v), Minimum requirements for public notification, and the addition of Rule (vii), Public notification plan.

The motion adopted by the Commission on April 21, 2017, also referred the proposed amendments in the Petition for Rulemaking to the Rulemaking Committee to determine by working with the Department and stakeholders the need for any additional rules or modifications to the existing rules in Rule 335-6-6-.12 for public notification of Separate Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs).

Members of the public that wish to make a brief statement regarding the matters being discussed and considered by the Committee under Agenda Item 2 may do so by first signing in on a register maintained by the Commission office prior to the Rulemaking Committee meeting. The register will close ten minutes prior to convening the Committee meeting. The Committee Chair will call on members of the public wishing to make a statement in the order their names appear on the register. 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 Committee may place reasonable limitations on the number of speakers to be heard.

### Rulemaking Committee Meeting Agenda Page 3

- 3. <u>OTHER BUSINESS</u>
- 4. FUTURE RULEMAKING COMMITTEE MEETING



### BEFORE THE RULEMAKING COMMITTEE OF THE

### ALABAMA ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

### MOTION

Recommend that the Commission not proceed to rulemaking with ADEM Administrative Code Rule 335-6-6-.12 with additional rules or modifications to the rules for public notification of Separate Sanitary Sewer Overflows

#### ORDER

This cause coming before the Rulemaking Committee pursuant to the motion referenced above, and the Committee having considered the proposed amendments in the Petition for Rulemaking to Amend Administrative Code R. 335-6-6-.12, EMC Rulemaking Petition 17-03, Petitioners Alabama Rivers Alliance, et al., referred to it by the Commission on April 21, 2017, to determine by working with the Department and stakeholders the need for any additional rules or modifications to the existing rules in Rule 335-6-6-.12 for public notification of Separate Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs), the Committee hereby ORDERS, ADJUDGES, and DECREES as follows:

- 1. That the motion referenced above is hereby adopted; and
- 2. That this action has been taken and this Order shall be deemed rendered effective as of the date shown below.

Issued this 17th day of August 2018.

APPROVED:

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member

This is to certify that this Order is a true and accurate account of the actions taken by the Rulemaking Committee on this 17th day of August 2018.

Terry D. Richardson, Chair

Rulemaking Committee

Certified this 17th day of August 2018