

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Environmental Protection Division • Air Protection Branch

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Chris Clark, Commissioner

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For Immediate Release

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EPD to Host Q&A Session and Public Hearing at the Jackson Co. Administration Building on Plant Dahlberg's Permit Application to Increase Power Generation Capacity

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) will host a forum to answer questions and also receive formal comments on Thursday, February 18, 2010 regarding Southern Company/Southern Power Company's Plant Dahlberg Application for an Air Quality Operating Permit to construct and operate additional equipment for increased power generation capacity.

EPD will hold the meeting from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Jackson County Administration Building. The administration building is located at 67 Athens Street, Jefferson, Ga. 30549.

Plant Dahlberg is located at 585 Jarrett Road, Nicholson, Ga. EPD is hosting the meeting in response to requests made by members of the public.

The purpose of this meeting is to present information and to answer questions about the application, the draft permit, and the air quality permitting review process. During the meeting, EPD representatives will make a brief presentation before holding a question-and-answer (Q&A) session. EPD will follow the first meeting with a public hearing to receive formal comments regarding the permit application and draft permit.

"We are committed to giving Jackson, Clarke and all Madison County residents an opportunity to give us feedback," said Eric Cornwell, manager of the Stationary Source Permitting Program of EPD's Air Protection Branch. "We will consider all air quality related comments prior to making a decision whether to recommend issuance."

If approved for the environmental permit, Plant Dahlberg would be allowed to construct and operate four new simple-cycle combustion turbines to increase total output from 770 megawatts (MW) to 1530 MW of electrical energy for sale.

EPD will accept formal comments at the public hearing and in writing until February 22. EPD has made the draft permit and supporting documents available for public review at our web site: www.georgiaair.org/airpermit, under the "Public Meetings & Hearings" tab.

For information on this permit application or EPD's review process, please contact Eric Cornwell at 404-363-7097. For information about the Q&A or public hearing, please contact Thomas Smith at 404-362-2790.

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