

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 Public Hearing at Early County High School on Longleaf Energy Associates, LLC's Proposed Air Quality Permit Amendment

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) will host a public hearing to receive formal comments on Thursday, July 1 regarding EPD's intent to issue an Air Quality Operating Permit Amendment to Longleaf Energy Associates, LLC related to its intentions to construct and operate a power plant located at State Highway 370 in Early County.

EPD will hold the public hearing from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Early County High School Auditorium located at 12020 Columbia Highway in Blakely, Georgia.

"We are committed to giving Blakely and Early County residents an opportunity to give us feedback on the Longleaf Energy project permit amendment," said James "Jac" Capp, chief of EPD's Air Protection Branch. "The proposed amendment further reduces allowable emissions from the proposed facility. Specifically, allowable emissions of mercury are reduced by 41 percent."

Longleaf Energy is proposing to construct and operate a coal-fired electric generation facility. The company proposes to generate electricity via the use of two 600-megawatt coal-fired generating units to produce as much as 1,200 megawatts of electric power. EPD issued the initial permit to construct and operate in 2007.

EPD will receive public comments on Longleaf Energy's permit amendment through Tuesday, July 6, 2010. EPD will consider all air quality related comments relevant to the proposed amendment prior to making a final decision whether to recommend final approval of the amendment.

For information on the permit application review process and amendment, please contact Eric Cornwell, 404-363-7020. For information about the public hearing, please contact Thomas Smith, 404-362-2790.

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