

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Environmental Protection Division • Air Protection Branch

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Chris Clark, Commissioner

Carol A. Couch, Ph.D., Director

Date: August 25, 2009
Contact: Thomas Smith - 404-362-2790

For Immediate Release

EPD to Host a Public Hearing at the International Tradeport Business Complex on the State's Plan for Regional Haze

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) will host a forum to receive formal comments on Thursday, August 27, 2009 regarding the State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision that will implement provisions to reduce regional haze.

EPD will hold the meeting beginning at 5 p.m. in the Training Room of the International Tradeport Complex. The International Tradeport is located at 4244 International Parkway in Atlanta.

“The EPD is confident that the SIP amendments we’re considering will help to reduce regional haze and improve air quality in the region’s national parks and wilderness areas, said Jac Capp, EPD Air Protection Branch Chief. We are required by federal regulations to submit State Implementation Plans on how we plan to ensure that air quality remains within acceptable levels, and this is an opportunity for Georgians to be involved in this process.”

The proposed State Implementation Plan revision incorporates Georgia’s Regional Haze State Implementation Plan for improvement of visibility in Georgia’s three federally-designated wilderness areas:

- Cohutta Wilderness Area
- Okefenokee Wilderness Area
- Wolf Island Wilderness Area

At the hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument either orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted in writing for the official record. Oral statements should be concise.

Written comments are welcomed. To insure their inclusion in EPD's final submission of the SIP revision to EPA, written comments should be received by close of business on August 27, 2009. Written comments may be emailed to EPDComments@dnr.state.ga.us or sent via regular mail addressed to: Branch Chief, Air Protection Branch, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 120, Atlanta, Georgia, 30354.

For information on the State Implementation Plan, please contact Jimmy Johnston at 404-363-7014 or Jim Kelly at 404-363-7131. For information about the public hearing, please contact Thomas Smith, 404-362-2790.

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