

1 HJR325
2 128616-1
3 By Representative Johnson (R)
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 12-APR-11

URGING ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT TO BEGIN OPERATIONS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THE
REEF FACILITY IN TALLADEGA COUNTY.

WHEREAS, the REEF Industrial Wastewater Pretreatment
Facility located in Talladega County pretreats various and
complex industrial wastewaters from multiple locations and
discharges to the J. Earl Ham Wastewater Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, the REEF facility consists of two
equalization basins with a reported capacity of approximately
3.5 million gallons each and an aeration basin with a capacity
of approximately seven million gallons; and

WHEREAS, due to concern about the levels of Total
Kjehldahl Nitrogen in the water in these basins, discharges to
the Ham Plant were suspended in June 2010, and terminated in
March 2011; and

WHEREAS, the basins at the REEF facility are
believed to be full; also there are several above-ground tanks
and numerous movable containers at the REEF facility
containing waste; and

1 WHEREAS, on September 16, 2010, the Alabama
2 Department of Environmental Management conducted a complaint
3 investigation at the REEF facility and found non-stormwater
4 discharges seeping into Shirtee Creek northwest of the
5 facility; ADEM has further determined that the non-stormwater
6 discharges seeping into Shirtee Creek appear to be originating
7 from the REEF facility; and

8 WHEREAS, ADEM's report of its investigation states
9 that chemicals of concern (COCs) from the REEF facility have
10 been released to soils beneath the facility and it appears
11 that the COCs have migrated in groundwater through fracture
12 flow in bedrock and karst-like structure to seep locations in
13 Shirtee Creek, and these soils represent a potential source of
14 pollutants to waters of the state; now therefore,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
16 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That, by copy of this resolution to
17 the ADEM Director, we urge ADEM to immediately begin
18 operations necessary to ensure the environmental safety of the
19 REEF facility.