

## **Georgia Department of Natural Resources**

2 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive, Suite 1152 East, Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Mark Williams, Commissioner

F. Allen Barnes, Director

Environmental Protection Division

(404) 656-4713

### **NOTICE:**

## **LOWER FLINT- OCHLOCKONEE REGIONAL WATER PLANNING COUNCIL NOTICE OF SUBMISSION OF INITIAL RECOMMENDED REGIONAL WATER PLAN TO EPD AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Announcement Date: May 9, 2011

### **TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:**

The **Lower Flint-Ochlockonee** Regional Water Planning Council has submitted its Initial Recommended Regional Water Plan to the Environmental Protection Division.

As required by the State Water Plan, the initial recommended regional water plans are subject to a public notice and comment period prior to EPD adoption. Therefore, EPD is releasing for public notice and comment, each of the ten initial recommended regional water plans. This 45-day public notice and comment period will begin on May 9, 2011.

More information about the public comment process for all plans, the Lower Flint-Ochlockonee's included, may be found at the Georgia State Water Planning website at the following link - <http://www.georgiawaterplanning.org>


The **Lower Flint-Ochlockonee** Initial Recommended Regional Water Plan and associated materials may be found at the Lower Flint-Ochlockonee Council website at the following link (in addition to the State Water Planning website):

<http://www.flintochlockonee.org/>

For additional information about the **Lower Flint-Ochlockonee** Regional Water Planning Council please contact:

Tim Cash, Assistant Branch Chief  
Georgia Environmental Protection Division  
[Tim.Cash@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:Tim.Cash@dnr.state.ga.us)  
404-675-1766

**NOTE** – the plan transmittal letter to EPD is attached to this notice



Georgia's  
**State Water Plan**  
Lower Flint-Ochlockonee Water Planning Council

April 29, 2011

F. Allen Barnes, Director  
Georgia Environmental Protection Division  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., Suite 1152 East  
Atlanta, GA 30334-9000

Subject: Submittal of Recommended Regional Water Plan for public comment

Dear Director Barnes:

I am pleased to submit the Lower Flint-Ochlockonee Water Planning Council's Recommended Regional Water Plan. With the assistance of Georgia EPD and numerous stakeholders, our Council voted on April 19, 2011 to recommend that our plan be submitted to Georgia EPD and released for public comment.

Our recommended plan was prepared in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement executed by our council, EPD and the Department of Community Affairs, as well as the rules for Regional Water Planning, Chapter 391-3-32, and the regional planning guidance issued by EPD. Our council members invested a considerable amount of time, effort, and energy in developing the Recommended Regional Water Plan. We look forward to reviewing and considering comments collected through the public comment process.

As I understand it, our regional water plan can be (1) adopted by you as recommended by the Council, (2) referred to the Council for revisions at your request prior to adoption, or (3) revised by EPD prior to adoption. The Council has concerns about the last option. On April 19<sup>th</sup>, the Council unanimously approved a motion requesting that EPD notify the Council of any revisions to the plan and provide the Council an opportunity to meet and respond to any revisions. Furthermore, if revisions are made without Council input, we would like for the plan to indicate so.

Given the good working relationship that the Council has developed with EPD in this planning process, I expect that this concern should not be an issue. We welcome continued coordination to address any issues or concerns. I am sure that we can work together to ensure that the adopted plan has the full support of all parties involved in its development.

Regardless of whether EPD chooses to make revisions to the plan, our Council requests EPD and planning contractor support for at least one additional plan review committee meeting and one full council meeting to allow the Council to adequately consider public comments and to take final action on our Regional Water Plan later this year.

Sincerely,



Richard Royal, Chairman  
Lower Flint-Ochlockonee Water Planning Council

Cc: Mr. Tim Cash, Georgia EPD  
Mr. Bill Morris, Georgia EPD  
Mr. Stephen Simpson, Black & Veatch