

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND HEARING REGARDING SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTATION FOR 2008 AMENDMENTS TO THE CHLOROPHYLL *a* CRITERIA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) will be holding a public meeting and hearing on November 17, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the EPD Training Center, Atlanta Tradeport, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 114, Atlanta, Georgia 30354. The purpose of the public meeting and hearing is to discuss and receive comments on the supporting documentation for the chlorophyll *a* standard specified in Rule 391-3-6-.03(17), Specific Criteria for Lakes and Major Lake Tributaries, adopted in December, 2008.

The December 2008 amendments revised the chlorophyll *a* standard for each lake by modifying the frequency (more than once in a five-year period) component of each standard. The previous chlorophyll *a* standards for lakes had been adopted primarily from data collected during a two-year monitoring period. Further monitoring and data performed by EPD has documented the cyclic variation of chlorophyll *a* in these lakes. The revisions to the frequency component in the standards will help account for the natural variability in chlorophyll *a* levels documented through these additional monitoring efforts.

Supporting documentation of these revisions to the chlorophyll *a* standard was not specifically referenced in EPD's public notice for the December, 2008 amendments. Supporting analyses for these revisions included the monitoring data collected for each lake, as well as a document prepared by EPD entitled "Designated Use Support on Lake Standards Reservoirs and Compliance with Growing Season Mean Chlorophyll *a* Standard."

EPD is making the supporting documentation available for public review and is accepting comments on whether or not further amendment of Rule 391-3-6-.03(17) relative to the chlorophyll *a* standard should be initiated by EPD based on public review of that documentation. A copy of the supporting analysis document, as well as the monitoring data collected, may be reviewed during normal business hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (except October 12, 13, and 30 and November 11, 25, 26, and 27 when offices are closed) at the following location: Environmental Protection Division, Watershed Protection Branch, 4220 International Parkway, Suite 101, Atlanta, Georgia 30354, (404) 675-6236. In addition, the supporting analysis document can be viewed at the Georgia DNR/EPD Web page at:

http://www.gaepd.org/Files_PDF/whats_news/ChlorophyllaSupportingDocument_Y2008.pdf

A single copy of the document is available by written or phone request to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. Please direct your call or correspondence to Ms.

Theresa Hankerson at the address or phone number given above. If additional copies are requested, a copying charge of \$0.25 per page will be assessed.

Written comments are welcomed. To ensure their consideration, written comments should be received on or before 4:30 p.m. November 30, 2009. Written comments should be addressed to the Watershed Protection Branch Chief, 4220 International Parkway, Suite 101, Atlanta, Georgia 30354 or faxed to (404) 675-6244 to the attention of Elizabeth Booth. In addition, comments may be emailed to EPDComments@dnr.state.ga.us. If you choose to e-mail your comments, please be sure to include the words "Chlorophyll *a* Supporting Documentation" somewhere in the subject line to help ensure that your comments will be forwarded to the correct staff. Following consideration of all comments on the documentation, EPD will determine whether or not a rulemaking process to revise the chlorophyll *a* standard specified in Rule 391-3-6-.03(17) should be initiated. Any such rulemaking would be conducted in accordance with requirements of the Administrative Procedures Act.

For further information, contact Elizabeth Booth, Watershed Planning and Monitoring Program Manager, at (404) 675-6236. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of persons whom you believe would be interested in this matter.