

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

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February 6, 2024

NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION AIR PROTECTION BRANCH

STATE OF GEORGIA

NOTICE OF DRAFT SECOND ADDENDUM TO 2023 AMBIENT AIR MONITORING PLAN – February 2024

To All Interested Parties:

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) announces its intent to issue the *Second Addendum to 2023 Ambient Air Monitoring Plan* to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in February 2024. The GA EPD is required to produce this annual plan as part of EPA's amended ambient air monitoring regulations established October 17, 2006.

Georgia EPD's 2023 Ambient Air Monitoring Plan shows how the state agency plans to meet EPA regulations for monitoring air quality in the state by assessing monitoring objectives, site appropriateness for air quality characterization, spatial scale represented by each monitor and appropriate new technologies.

GA EPD's air monitoring network consists of a number of stations located throughout the state. GA EPD uses the air monitoring data to track if air quality standards are being met, to assist in enforcement actions, to determine the improvement or decline of air quality, to trace the extent of allowable industrial expansion and to provide air pollution information to the public.

The *Draft Second Addendum to 2023 Ambient Air Monitoring Plan* will be available for review on the GA EPD Air Protection Branch internet site: <u>https://epd.georgia.gov/air-protection-branch-public-announcements</u> and the Ambient Air Monitoring Program website: <u>https://airgeorgia.org/</u>.

Persons wishing to comment on the *Draft Second Addendum to 2023 Ambient Air Monitoring Plan* are required to submit their comments, in writing, to GA EPD at the following address:

Air Protection Branch Attn: Annual Air Monitoring Plan Comments 4244 International Parkway, Suite 120 Atlanta, Georgia 30354 In addition, public comments can be submitted in writing to Jaime Gore, Program Manager of the Ambient Monitoring Program, at Jaime.Gore@dnr.ga.gov or to EPD.comments@dnr.ga.gov.

Comments must be received by GA EPD no later than March 8, 2024. Should the comment period end on a weekend or holiday, comments will be accepted up until the next working day. GA EPD, in soliciting comments for the final draft before submittal to EPA as required by 40CFR58, will consider all comments received on or prior to that date.

After the comment period has expired, GA EPD will consider all comments received. GA EPD's responses to comments and any other relevant information will be included in the final document published on <u>https://airgeorgia.org/</u>.

For additional information, contact the manager of the Ambient Air Monitoring Program, Jaime Gore at the Atlanta address, or by phone at 404-363-7000. Please refer to this notice when requesting information.



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Air Protection Branch Ambient Monitoring Program

Draft Second Addendum to 2023 Ambient Air Monitoring Plan

Per the Environmental Protection Agency regulations, the Georgia Ambient Air Monitoring Program (GA AAMP) produces an annual network monitoring plan to show how the ambient air monitoring requirements are met (40 CFR 58.10). If that plan is modified during the year after it is published, it is the state's responsibility to let the public know of those modifications. Since the publication of the 2023 Ambient Air Monitoring Plan in June 2023, the GA AAMP is in the process of making the following changes to the ambient air monitoring network. For more information regarding the 2023 Ambient Air Monitoring Plan, refer to the GA AAMP website at https://airgeorgia.org/networkplans.html.

For the following site changes, GA AAMP worked closely with EPA Region 4 to find a suitable monitoring location for the ambient air monitoring equipment. Obstructions, monitoring path and fetch, distances from roadways, power availability, and access for staff are all considered when considering the feasibility of a potential site. All GA AAMP sites must be selected such that the requirements of 40 CFR 58 Appendix E are met upon the site being commissioned. This addendum will cover the establishment of a new site to monitor lead in the Hapeville area within Fulton County. In addition, it will cover a request for a waiver for the siting criteria of this new lead site.

New Site in Hapeville

In accordance with 40 CFR 58.10 regarding modifications to the 2023 Ambient Air Monitoring Plan, the GA AAMP provides the following documentation in support of establishing a new site in Hapeville within Fulton County, in the Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Alpharetta MSA. The new site ID will be 13-121-0057. The GA AAMP will have collocated lead monitors at this site. The primary lead data will be collected on a 1 in 6 day sampling schedule, while the collocated lead data will be collected on a 1 in 12 day sampling schedule, both utilizing monitors with the EPA Manual Equivalent Method EQL-0995-110. The lead samples will be analyzed with the Inductively Coupled Plasma/Mass Spectrometry (ICP/MS) laboratory analysis method. The lead data will be compared to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and submitted to the EPA's Air Quality System (AQS). The following information shows the site details for the new site.

New site details:

Hapeville



AQS ID: 131210057 Address: 3325 Empire Blvd SW, Atlanta, GA 30354 Site Established: To be determined Latitude/Longitude: N33.664476, W-84.391869 Elevation: 280 meters Area Represented: Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Alpharetta MSA Site History: Established as Lead site



Parameter	Monitoring Objective	Sampling Schedule	Probe Inlet Height	Spatial Scale	Begin Date
Lead	Source Oriented	Every 6 days	2 m	Micro	TBD
Lead	Quality Assurance	Every 12 days	2 m	Micro	TBD

TBD: To be determined when building the new site is complete.

The following windroses show the annual average for January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 and a 10-year average from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2023, respectively. These windroses were considered when selecting the new location at the Hapeville site.





The next map shows five proposed locations (in yellow) that GA AAMP considered when deciding on the new location. Site B would be on a roof, which is a safety concern for the Site Operators/Field Auditors. Site C is adjacent to trees, and the height of the wall may cause an obstruction to wind flow. Site D is difficult to access, and it would require clearing heavy vegetation from the area. Additionally, at Site D the height of the trees and wall may cause an obstruction to wind flow (similar to Site C). Because Site E is more secluded, the location gives rise to safety and security concerns. Therefore, after considering the locations, Site A is the best option. Site A is close to a power source, the existing fence can be tied into the new fence that would be built, and the Site Operators/Field Auditors would have direct, visible access for safety and security, without clearing heavy vegetation. The site will allow for unrestricted airflow of at least 270 degrees around the samplers.



The next photos show sites B, C, D and E that were considered for possible monitoring locations.









The following image is an aerial view of the proposed monitoring Site A.



The following image shows a detailed view of the proposed fence, deck, stairs and gate. The wooden deck will be 3-foot-tall with wood railing and stairs. The fence will tie into the already existing fence by installing an 8-foot-tall, galvanized chain link fence with barbed wire on top and a 3-foot-tall walk gate. The vegetative growth will be removed along the existing fence.



The following image depicts the distance from the wall to the proposed site (Site A). The approximate measured distance (symbolized by the yellow line) reads 27.84 meters, as stated via the measuring tool in the top right corner on the image in Google Earth.



In addition, the distance from the proposed lead monitoring site to the tree located directly across the street and in front of the wall is approximately 20.08 meters (also shown with a yellow line), as shown in the image below.



The map below is from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GA DOT) (<u>https://gdottrafficdata.drakewell.com/publicmultinodemap.asp</u>) and shows the traffic counts in the area. The black circle shows the location of the proposed lead monitoring site in Hapeville. The closest approximate annual average daily traffic (AADT) count is 2,780, indicated by the black rectangle.



Waiver Request

Per 40 CFR Part 58, Appendix E, Section 10, GA AAMP is requesting a waiver for the location of the monitors at the new Hapeville site. Due to logistics of the microscale site, the monitors will be approximately 1-2 meters from the nearest road (Empire Blvd). After much consideration and discussion with EPA, GA AAMP and EPA are in agreement that the road has minimal impact on the air monitors and representative of the microscale. Empire Blvd has less than approximately 2,780 annual average daily traffic count, as shown on the above map from GA DOT. In addition, as explained above, after much examination of the property, the monitors cannot reasonably be located in another area to minimize safety concerns and have the least amount of unobstructed wind flow in the vicinity.