Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Environmental Protection Division • Air Protection Branch 4244 International Parkway • Suite 120 • Atlanta • Georgia 30354 404/363-7000 • Fax: 404/363-7100 Noel Holcomb, Commissioner Carol A. Couch, Ph.D., Director

For Immediate Release

Date: March 18, 2009

Contact: Thomas Smith – 404-362-2790

EPD to Host Q & A Session and Public Hearing in Fort Gaines on Proposed Biomass-Fired Plant Application Submitted by Yellow Pine Energy Company, LLC

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) will host a forum to present information and to answer questions on an Air Quality Operating permit application submitted by Yellow Pine Energy Company, LLC to construct and operate a proposed 110-megawatt (MW) biomass-fired power plant. The company is seeking to locate the plant in Clay County and south of Ft. Gaines.

EPD will hold a question-and-answer (Q&A) session and a public hearing, on Tuesday, April 7, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at George T. Bagby State Park in Fort. Gaines. The park is located at 330 Bagby Parkway (Georgia Highway 39 South).

"The protection of Georgia's air quality is our ultimate concern," said Jac Capp, chief of the Air Protection Branch of EPD. "And, the purpose of this meeting is to present information and to answer questions about the permitting review process for the Air Quality Operating permit application required to operate this type of power generating facility. We also will host a public hearing after the Q&A session to receive official comments from those in attendance. We invite all who are interested to come to the meeting and to learn about this process."

Yellow Pine Energy Company, LLC submitted the environmental permit application as federal and state laws require this specific permit for such a facility. The company wants to build and operate a 110-MW biomass-fired power plant. The company plans to use wood as its primary source to generate power. It would be located on a 200-acre parcel of land approximately eight miles south of Fort Gaines on Georgia Highway 39.

For information on the permit applications review process, please contact Jac Capp, Air Protection Branch chief, at 404-363-7000. For information about the Q&A Session and public hearing, please contact Thomas Smith, 404-362-2790.