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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

January 28, 2025

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

STATE OF GEORGIA

NOTICE OF DRAFT REGIONAL HAZE PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE SECOND PLANNING PERIOD

To All Interested Parties:

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) announces its intent to submit the *Regional Haze Progress Report for the Second Planning Period*, which includes the years 2019 to 2028 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Georgia EPD is required to post a draft *Regional Haze Progress Report for the Second Planning Period* for a 30-day public comment period in accordance with regulatory requirements in 40 CFR 51.308(g) and the U.S. EPA's guidance for implementing the rule to comply with Section 169 of the Clean Air Act (CAA).

The Regional Haze Rule requires each state to periodically submit a report to the U.S. EPA evaluating progress towards the reasonable progress goal for each mandatory Class I Federal area located within the State and in each mandatory Class I Federal area located outside the State that may be affected by emissions from within the State. Georgia EPD prepared a long-term strategy in order to establish reasonable progress goals for three Class I areas within its borders: Cohutta Wilderness Area, Okefenokee National Wilderness Area, and Wolf Island National Wilderness Area.

Georgia EPD provided Federal Land Managers (FLMs) from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and U.S. Forest Service the opportunity for consultation as required by 40 CFR 51.308(i)(2). Per Section 169(A)(d) of the of the CAA, the comments received from the FLMs during consultation can be found in Appendix A of the proposed Progress Report.

The draft *Regional Haze Progress Report for the Second Planning Period* is posted for review on the Georgia EPD Air Protection Branch website: <u>https://epd.georgia.gov/regional-haze-progress-report-second-planning-period</u>.

Those wishing to comment on the draft *Regional Haze Progress Report for the Second Planning Period* are required to submit their comments, in writing, to Georgia EPD. Written comments can be emailed to <u>EPD.comments@dnr.ga.gov</u> or sent via regular mail addressed to: James W. Boylan, Air Protection Branch, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 120, Atlanta, Georgia, 30354. Comments must be received by Georgia EPD no later than 4:30 PM on February 28, 2025. After the comment period has expired, Georgia EPD will take into consideration all comments received prior to the deadline. Georgia EPD's responses to comments and any other relevant information will be included in the final *Regional Haze Progress Report for the Second Planning Period* submitted to EPA.

For additional information, please contact Anna Aponte at (470) 251-2942, and refer to this notice when requesting information.