

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND SOLICITATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Mississippi Environmental Quality Permit Board,

P. O. Box 2261, Jackson, MS 39225

515 East Amite Street, Jackson, MS 39201

Telephone No. (601) 961-5171

Public Notice Date: February 13, 2025

MDEQ Contact: Charity Rockingham

Public Comment End Date: March 20, 2025

Public Hearing Date: March 20, 2025

The Tallahatchie County Board of Supervisors (County) has submitted a permit application to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) for the operation of a new municipal solid waste transfer station, known as the Tallahatchie County Waste Transfer Station, to be located at 15660 MS Highway 35, Charleston, MS 38921. The facility will primarily accept garbage and other nonhazardous municipal solid wastes from residential, commercial, industrial, or institutional sources for temporary storage prior to transporting the wastes to a permitted solid waste disposal facility. MDEQ will hold a public hearing on the proposed project at 6 PM on March 20, 2025. This public hearing is being held at the Tallahatchie County Courthouse located at 150 Court Square, Charleston, MS 38921.

The MDEQ, as the staff of the Mississippi Environmental Quality Permit Board (Permit Board) has developed a draft permit based on our review of the information submitted by the applicant to the MDEQ. Copies of the draft permit may be found on the MDEQ website at: <https://www.mdeq.ms.gov/ensearch/epd-permits-at-public-notice/>. The available information also includes a rationale document that contains information on the proposed project and development of the draft permit. These documents and additional information may also be found on the MDEQ Online Public Hearing link at <https://opcgis.deq.state.ms.us/ensearchonline/public-hearings.aspx>.

The draft permit for the proposed municipal solid waste transfer station, Solid Waste Management Permit No. SW0680680620, would authorize the operation of the facility. The submitted solid waste permit application proposes to allow the facility to collect and temporarily store locally generated municipal solid waste, transfer the waste to long haul vehicles, and transport the waste to an approved municipal solid waste landfill. Municipal solid wastes and garbage will be off-loaded and managed within a partially enclosed, three (3) walled, 2,300 square foot building. Wastes must be removed from the site at least weekly and collection of any litter and the washdown of contact surfaces is conducted daily. The total property area owned by the County is approximately 51.89 acres. The approved service area for the facility, as approved by the Tallahatchie County Board of Supervisors, includes Tallahatchie County and the municipalities therein. Additionally, the site will provide a drop of location for the collection of waste tires from local residents and other small quantity generators.

The MDEQ is soliciting public input on this proposed project and draft permit on behalf of the Permit Board. Persons wishing to comment on or object to the draft permit are invited to submit comments either through participating in the public hearing hosted by MDEQ or by submitting comments in writing to Ms. Charity Rockingham or the Waste Division Chief at the Permit Board's address shown above or by email to [crockingham@mdeq.ms.gov](mailto:crockingham@mdeq.ms.gov), no later than March 20, 2025, the end of the public comment period.

The purpose of the public hearing is to describe the proposed project and to receive comments from the public regarding the project and the draft permit. Upon arrival at the public hearing, everyone will be asked to register and note if they expect to make a statement. Statements will be received in the order of registration (i.e., first to register will be the first to give public comment). However, everyone will be given an opportunity to comment, including those who indicated during registration that they did not expect to comment. Persons commenting should keep comments reasonably concise and relate, at least generally, to the responsibilities of the Permit Board. Because a large number of people may wish to speak, a reasonable time limit on each speaker may be imposed during the hearing. During the public hearing, comments can also be presented to MDEQ in writing, in lieu of or in addition to verbal comments, if preferred.

All comments made during the public hearing will be transcribed and made a part of the Permit Board file. In making a final decision, the Permit Board may consider all issues and concerns raised that fall within the Board's jurisdiction over the proposed project. Please be advised that comments or concerns related to local zoning or land use are generally within the jurisdiction of the local government and not the Permit Board. The Board may make a decision to approve, modify, or deny the draft permit for the proposed project. Any interested party aggrieved by the Board's decision may file a written request for a formal hearing on the decision. A final decision would then be made by the Permit Board after that formal hearing. Any person aggrieved by that final Permit Board decision may appeal to the Chancery Court in the county of the proposed project.

The Permit Board was created by Mississippi Law for the purpose of issuing or denying environmental protection permits to control or prevent the release of contaminants into the air and waters of the State under such conditions and limitations as it may prescribe. By law, the Board is composed of the Chief of the Bureau of Environmental Health within the State Department of Health; the Director of the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, the Director of the Office of Land and Water Resources within the Department of Environmental Quality, the Supervisor of the State Oil and Gas Board; the Director of the Department of Marine Resources; the Director of the Office of Geology within the Department of Environmental Quality; and the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce or their respective designees.

Any person that does not have internet access or that is interested in additional information on the draft permit or permit application may contact Mr. Trent Jones or Ms. Charity Rockingham at the Permit Board's address and telephone number above. The draft permit and supporting documents are also available for review at the office of the MDEQ at the Permit Board physical address shown above during normal business hours.

Please bring the foregoing to the attention of persons whom you know may be interested.