## JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSION



LARRY P. LANGFORD, PRESIDENT MARY M. BUCKELEW BETTYE FINE COLLINS SHELIA SMOOT GARY WHITE

## **GARY WHITE-COMMISSIONER**

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES** 

Environmental Services Department Suite A-300 716 Richard Arrington, Jr. Blvd. N. Birmingham, Alabama 35203 Telephone (205) 325-5801

July 25, 2006

Reggie Cheatham Director, Quality Staff Mail Code 28221T U.S. EPA 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Washington, DC. 20460

Dear Mr. Cheatham:

This letter is an inquiry as to the status of your response to our Request For Correction of data as exhibited in the EPA Region IV Final Report "EPA Cahaba River: Biological and Water Quality Studies, Birmingham, Alabama, March/April, July, and September, 2002" (IQG RFC# 06002). Our initial correspondence to you dated October 26, 2005, referenced two categories of concern regarding the EPA report in question

- 1) Failure to discuss comprehensively the data collected as the QA/QC component of the macroinvertebrate assessments during the 2002 study.
- 2) Conclusions based on opinion without measured field data to support the opinions cited.

We are in receipt of two letters from your office, each stating that an additional 90 days would be needed to prepare a response to our request, with your last correspondence dated January 31, 2006. We respectfully request an update from you regarding your response. As mentioned in our initial request, the pending Cahaba River Nutrient TMDL is being based, in part, on the EPA Regions IV report in question. We believe that the concerns raised by Jefferson County must be addressed before this TMDL becomes final. We trust that you are in consultation with EPA Region IV regarding this matter, and will coordinate resolution of the issues proceeding EPA Region IV's approval of any nutrient TMDL for the Cahaba River.

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Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Røbert Henderson

Director, Jefferson County Environmental

Services Department

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cc: J. Lynn King, Barton Laboratory Tom McGill, EPA, Region IV Ed Decker, EPA, Region IV Mary K. Lynch, EPA, Region IV Lynn Sisk, ADEM Chris Johnson, ADEM