



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
**HERCULES INCORPORATED SITE**  
HATTIESBURG, FORREST COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

November 2012

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

For more information on investigation efforts, or should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to phone, write, or email one of the following:

**Melissa Collier, Community Engagement**  
MDEQ  
Office of Community Engagement  
(601) 961-5025  
Melissa\_Collier@deq.state.ms.us

**Rick Sumrall, Environmental Engineer**  
MDEQ  
Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Division  
(601) 961-5791  
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**ONLINE COPIES OF REPORTS AND OTHER INFORMATION**

[www.deq.state.ms.us](http://www.deq.state.ms.us) –  
Office of Community Engagement/  
Electronic File Room

**COMMUNITY UPDATE**

**Demonstration of odor mitigation method conducted  
November 16, 2012  
Hercules Impoundment Basin Dewatering**

In a continuing effort to manage the Hercules Incorporated site, MDEQ is overseeing the dewatering of the Impoundment Basin (IB). The Hercules IB was used as part of the wastewater treatment system at the Hercules site. The IB contains about 4,700 cubic yards of sludge which will be mechanically dewatered in preparation for offsite disposal.

The demonstration of proposed odor mitigation method was conducted on November 16, 2012. Those in attendance for the demonstration of odor mitigation included MDEQ staff, Hercules/Ashland representatives, City of Hattiesburg Police and Fire Department representatives, and Forrest County Emergency Management representatives.

All of the equipment was in place and the procedures as outlined in the IB Decommissioning Work plan were followed for the test run of sludge dewatering. No nuisance odors were detected during the test run. The demonstration was satisfactory and MDEQ will approve Hercules' intent to begin removal activities.

**WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT TO SEE**

The activities that you will notice on the Hercules site are:

- 1) A pump being held over the impoundment basin with a crane.
- 2) Mistlers to disperse a fine mist of a harmless, biodegradable anti-odor compound that removes H<sub>2</sub>S from the ambient air.
- 3) Ambient air monitors- Monitoring for benzene, odors, and hydrogen sulfide while the sludge is being removed from the IB and dewatered.
- 4) A weather station including an anemometer used to track the direction and speed of the wind. Extra caution will be employed when the wind is in the direction of the neighbors.
- 5) Increased truck traffic- required during the removal of the dewatered sludge from the site.
- 6) Hours of activity from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m

MDEQ will continue to keep you updated on this project. If you have questions or concerns, please call one of the numbers on this page or you can dial (601) 961-5171.

**NEXT STEPS:**

**2012- Sludge is removed from Hercules and disposed in a permitted landfill**

**2012- Collect confirmatory samples from the impoundment basin sidewalls and bottom after sludge removal**

**2012- If samples meet regulatory criteria, the impoundment basin will be filled with clean soil**

**2013 – Sludge removal from wastewater treatment tanks**

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
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