

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI PHIL BRYANT, GOVERNOR

## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2015 Contact: Robbie Wilbur 601/961-5277

## **MDEQ and EPA To Host Hercules Public Availability Sessions**

(Jackson, Miss.) -- The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will host three public availability sessions on Tuesday, March 24, to inform local residents on the Hercules, Inc. investigation, environmental work, and future plans for site remediation. The meetings

will be held at the C.E. Roy Community Center located at 300 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Hattiesburg. The public is invited to attend one of the three public availability sessions being offered from 10:00 a.m. to noon, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

EPA, MDEQ, and Hercules representatives will be available to talk one-on-one with citizens regarding current aspects of the Hercules site approved work plan. EPA and MDEQ will also provide information and answer questions pertaining to the various phases of the approved work plan for the site.

"It's paramount to garner feedback from community members on projects that will not only impact them but generations to come," said Hattiesburg Mayor Johnny DuPree. "The partnership with MDEQ and EPA has proved invaluable in our commitment to keep the public abreast of the progression of the Hercules Facility."

Melissa Collier, Director of MDEQ's Office of Community Engagement added: "As long as the investigation of this property continues MDEQ will make sure the community is informed."

For more information about the meetings, please contact Cassandra Johnson at 601.961-4247.

###