

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI PHIL BRYANT, GOVERNOR

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 15, 2015 Contact: Robbie Wilbur 601/961-5277

MDEQ Issues Beach Closure in Biloxi

(Jackson, Miss.) – The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), through its Beach Monitoring Program, issued a preemptive beach closure Thursday for a section of beach in Biloxi. The City of Biloxi notified MDEQ that a force main at the end of Sylvania Street cracked resulting in raw sewage entering into a storm drain and then into the Mississippi Sound. The city has repaired the leak, stopped the flow, and are continuing repairs to the system.

• The closure is issued for a segment of beach from Miramar Avenue to St. George Avenue.

MDEQ advises residents not to enter the water or consume any seafood collected from these nearshore waters until further notice.

MDEQ has begun monitoring the water and will lift the closure when bacteria levels indicate conditions are safe for water contact.

To receive beach advisories directly, send an email to rwilbur@deq.state.ms.us for inclusion in a public group email list, text "MDEQbeach" to 95577, or follow MDEQ on Twitter: @MDEQ.

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