



MANUFACTURE *Alabama!*

Making the best in Alabama!

November 1, 2012

Mr. Lance LeFleur, Director
Alabama Department of Environmental Management
P.O. Box 301463
Montgomery, AL 36130

Dear Mr. LeFleur:

On behalf of Manufacture Alabama, I appreciate the opportunity to comment of the "Water Management Issues in Alabama." Manufacture Alabama is Alabama's only trade association representing exclusively the competitive, legislative and related interests of manufacturers. Manufacture Alabama represents hundreds of companies in a wide range of industries including aerospace, chemical, pulp and paper, shipbuilding, and iron & steel. Our members share common interests and goals and face common competitive challenges in today's tough global marketplace. Some of our members are among the nation's largest, most recognized corporations. Many are mid-sized or small Alabama based family-owned manufacturers or manufacturing suppliers and vendors. All of them are vital parts of a manufacturing base crucial to Alabama's economy and job base.

While we absolutely support the idea of planning for the management of Alabama's bountiful water resources, we believe and submit that there should be a clear science based understanding of the real issues, problems, and opportunities. This understanding should be well established before policy can be written and enacted into law. Manufacture Alabama's opinion is that much more information on resource availability, resource demands, legal rights, existing and potential stresses on water systems, and policies that have worked/not worked in other states with laws similar to Alabama needs to be gathered.

Given the need for more information, we support AWAAG's efforts to obtain funding for further studies. We appreciate our opportunity to participate and want to continue to be involved in discussions regarding water management issues.

Sincerely,

George Clark
President