



# MANUFACTURE ALABAMA

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# **Alabama Department Of Environmental Management**

**Report**

**To**

**Manufacture Alabama  
Safety & Environmental Conference**

**November 18, 2021**



# Alabama Department Of Environmental Management

## Mission

Assure for all citizens of the State a safe, healthful and productive environment.



# Alabama Department Of Environmental Management

## Today's Topics

- Current EPA Initiatives
- Budget issues
- ADEM Challenges



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## Current EPA Initiatives

- Administrator & Deputy named
- 6 of 11 Assistant Administrators named
- 2 of 10 Regional Administrators named
- Numerous Executive Orders, policy statements, whitepapers

## Current EPA Initiatives

- Strategic Plan Priorities:
  - 1. Climate change
  - 2. Environmental Justice
  - 3. Enhanced enforcement
  - 4. Clean Air
  - 5. Clean Water
  - 6. Clean Land
  - 7. Chemical safety

## Current EPA Initiatives

- Enhanced Enforcement Issues
  - Presumes lack of enforcement
  - Proximity to EJ area is criteria
  - All industry in geographic area
  - Seeking criminal when possible
  - Possible unintended consequences



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## Current EPA Initiatives

- Greater Federal Control
- Rollback prior admin actions
  - Core Mission Focus
  - Procedures – NEPA, OMB cost/benefit analysis
  - Definitions / Regulations - WOTUS, ACE
  - Maintained standards – PM2.5





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## ADEM Budget Issues

- Funding dead last and will continue
- Sources – Regulated Industry (54%), Federal (40%), General Fund (7%)
- Trends:
  - Regulated Industry Flat since 2016
  - General Fund Flat since 2019
  - 2024 increase will be necessary



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## ADEM Challenges

- Pendulum at EPA
- Drinking water & Wastewater infrastructure
- PFAS regulation
- Reducing hazardous waste SNCs
- Communicating with the public



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## ADEM Challenges

- Completing software upgrades
  - Internal, Regulated Industry, Public Facing
  - Cyber security
- Personnel issues
  - Attracting / retaining new engineers
  - Teleworking
  - Staying current, competitive, innovative & motivated

## Current EPA Initiatives

- 1/27/21 Presidential Executive Order
- EJ Centerpiece
- Enhanced Enforcement to implement EJ
  - Presumes lack of enforcement
  - Proximity to EJ area is criteria
  - All industry in geographic area
  - Seeking criminal when possible