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To: glen.zorn@adi.alabama.gov; stan.cook@dcnr.alabama.gov; ADEM Director Lance LeFleur

Subject: Comments to AWAAG

The Lake Martin Home Owners & Boat Owners Association (HOBO's) submit the following comments to Alabama Water Agencies Working Group concerning water management issues in Alabama.

1. The state would be best served in this endeavor if the process is treated with the great respect that should be given to the final product.
2. Alabama's water resources is not a political football and any State Policy must be formulated in such a way as to prevent any individual politician at any level from manipulating or controlling any aspect of the resource.
3. Any proceedings, or meetings between State agencies, or between State agencies, municipalities, and/or industry or utilities should be announced meetings with the public welcomed.
4. All decisions regarding policies must be vetted by all concerned parties.
5. Water policy must reflect the benefit to the greatest number of citizens. ie: Don't dredge the Alabama River for one politically connected company at the expense of the rest of the state's citizens.
6. Environmental concerns are important, but so are human concerns. The State must set up the policy to reflect the "greatest good" not the loudest voice. Water must be available for all users.
7. The minimum flows (4,640 cfs) on the Alabama River were claimed to be required for "navigation". Since navigation has been declared defunct by CoE, the minimum flows on the Alabama should be revisited. Understand minimum flows also support certain other activities such as the inefficient Montgomery sewage treatment plant, and the paper mill on the lower Alabama. A reduced minimum flow would make lake storage more beneficial during droughts. Remember all water that flows through the Claiborne Dam is gone.....to the Gulf of Mexico.
8. The State must better coordinate its policies with CoE, TVA, and other agencies that could affect the availability of water. There seems to have been little coordination in the past.
9. A strict and dependable enforcement program is vital.

10. Based on the concept that the citizens of Alabama own the water that flows through the state, the fact that APCo is allowed to charge Elmore County Water Authority for water drawn from Lake Martin under the guise of "lost electricity revenue" just does not meet the spirit of the concept.

Thank you for your consideration of our expressed interests.

David R. Heinzen
President, Lake Martin Home Owners & Boat Owners Association