



**For immediate release:**

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## **ADEM Providing Decatur Utilities with \$740,000 in Low Interest Loans and Grant**

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management has announced that it is providing Decatur Utilities with approximately \$740,000 in low interest loans and grant funds to support energy efficiency upgrades at one of their drinking water treatment plants. The majority of the funds, \$530,000, will originate from a clean air agreement that was signed between the Tennessee Valley Authority, the State of Alabama, and other entities while the remaining \$210,000 will originate from the ADEM Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

The funds will be utilized to support the installation of variable frequency drive pumps at the Decatur Water Treatment Plant. These energy efficient pumps will result in significantly reduced operational energy costs and an energy savings of approximately \$12,000 per year. Once installed, the energy efficient pumps will reduce energy consumption at these plants by over 130,000 kilowatt hours per year. In addition, this project is one of several projects that will be implemented in north Alabama resulting in an overall reduction of approximately 20 tons per year of sulfur dioxide.

“I am pleased that ADEM can use its financial and technical resources to support these energy efficient upgrades,” said ADEM Director Lance LeFleur. “These funds will allow Decatur Utilities to continue to provide its customers with clean, safe drinking water but will allow them to do it in an energy efficient manner which will save money, reduce air emissions, and conserve natural resources.”

The ADEM Drinking Water State Revolving Fund provides financial assistance for local communities to ensure the proper treatment, storage, and distribution of drinking water for the local citizens.

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