



PUBLIC STATEMENT
January 4, 2010

National Coal of Alabama, Inc., has applied for a surface mining permit (Permit No. P-3939) in the Brushy Pond community of Cullman County Alabama. National is aware of the public's concern and the sensitivity surrounding mining in the Smith Lake watershed. National Coal of Alabama, Inc., originally Mann Steel Corp., has been mining coal in an environmentally sound and safe manner in Alabama since the 1980's. Property owners in the Brushy Pond area have expressed a desire to have the coal mined under the land that they own. National has submitted a permit application and mining plan that will allow for the recovery of coal while protecting the environment. National has every intention of being a responsible and safe good neighbor to the people in the Brushy Pond Community and to work closely with local, state and federal agencies and their respective officials.