

Alabama power company to reduce polluting

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says the Alabama Power Co. has been ordered to reduce emissions of two harmful pollutants by 28,000 tons per year.

The U.S. Department of Justice and the EPA announced a partial settlement Tuesday of a case alleging violations of the Clean Air Act by the company's James Miller Jr. Plant, a coal-fired generating facility near West Jefferson, Ala.

The EPA said the consent decree will reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides using pollution controls and other measures expected to cost more than \$200 million.

"The combined reductions (of sulfur dioxides and nitrogen oxides) and particulate matter mandated by this settlement will greatly improve the air quality in Alabama and downwind states," said Sue Ellen Wooldridge, assistant attorney general for the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division.

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