



Parish of Ascension

Department of Communications

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Ascension Parish Government Announces Completion of Partial Closure Plan at LAlumina Site

ASCENSION PARISH, LA. — Ascension Parish Government (APG) today announced the conclusion of its cooperative agreement with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) and LAlumina, marking the site's official transition into full, long-term closure under LDEQ oversight effective July 1, 2026.

Ascension Parish Government voluntarily entered the interim agreement to deliver immediate relief to nearby residents while the long-term, permanent remediation strategy for the former LAlumina facility was being finalized.

"Our priority has always been to do everything we can to protect the families who live near this site," said Ascension Parish President Clint Cointment. "We weren't willing to sit around while our residents continued dealing with red dust blowing onto their homes, vehicles, and property. That's why Ascension Parish Government partnered with LDEQ and LAlumina to implement an interim partial closure plan while the permanent closure strategy was being finalized."

Under Louisiana's environmental regulatory framework, industrial facility owners are required to establish approved closure plans and financial assurance to ensure funds are set aside for full site remediation at the end of operations. LDEQ serves as the regulatory authority reviewing and overseeing that work, while property owner LAlumina is directly responsible for executing the closure.

To address urgent resident concerns during the planning phase, APG provided personnel, heavy equipment, project coordination, and suitable soil harvested directly from parish drainage projects. Parish crews successfully covered more than 40 acres across Ponds 4 and 5—the areas closest to adjacent homes and the primary source of airborne bauxite residue during dry, windy conditions.

Throughout the mitigation process, parish leadership prioritized direct engagement with neighboring communities.

"Our commitment extended beyond the work on the site," President Cointment added. "We regularly attended neighborhood association meetings to keep residents informed, answer questions, and hear directly from the families living with this issue. Their feedback helped shape our approach and kept our focus on protecting the people most affected."

With the highest-impact areas now stabilized by APG crews, LAlumina is expected to begin implementing the full, permanent closure plan under LDEQ's regulatory oversight in the coming weeks.

"I'm incredibly proud of our crews and staff, who covered more than 40 acres across the portions of the site closest to the surrounding neighborhoods where red dust has historically blown onto nearby homes and properties during dry, windy conditions," Cointment said. "Their work has significantly reduced the exposed areas that allow dust to become airborne and has made a real difference for the families living closest to the site."

Although APG's formal involvement under the interim cooperative agreement has fulfilled its purpose, the parish will continue to assist the ongoing effort by making suitable soil from parish drainage maintenance available on an as-needed basis.

"We're excited that LAlumina is expected to begin implementing the full closure plan under LDEQ's oversight in the coming weeks, bringing this community one step closer to a permanent solution," Cointment concluded.

Please visit ascensionparish.net and follow us on social media channels for further information and updates.