Closing ash ponds safely and permanently

Numerous advanced engineering technologies go above and beyond closing in place.

THE CLOSURE PROCESS

**Remove water**

Advanced treatment ensures the water meets environmental standards before being removed.

**Excavate and reduce**

Material is carefully excavated and moved farther away from rivers and waterways, creating protective buffers while reducing the size of each pond.

**Additional protection**

Using advanced engineering, additional protections, such as redundant dike systems and other structures, are being constructed for increased, robust flood protection.

**Permanent closure and ongoing monitoring**

Finally, a specially engineered barrier is constructed over the material to keep it safely in place. Ongoing monitoring ensures water quality around the closed site is protected.

*Source: EPA, Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40 CFR 257.102(d)*
The company is treating and removing all water from the pond.

Material will be excavated and moved farther away from waterways, which creates a buffer up to 450 yards from the river—a distance longer than four football fields.

The facility’s size will be reduced by approximately 125 acres, or by more than a third.

Alabama Power is applying advanced engineering to construct a reinforced dike system to provide additional structural integrity.

A specially engineered drainage and collection system will be installed for additional long-term protection.

The company is installing a specially engineered barrier over the material to keep it safely in place.

Storm water systems will be added to manage rainwater runoff.

Alabama Power will monitor groundwater around the facility for at least 30 years to ensure ongoing protection of water quality.