

### **Firm fined \$1.8 million for illegal dumping**

ACMAR (AP) — Federal prosecutors want a company to pay \$1.8 million in fines for illegally dumping garbage in a landfill near a creek that feeds Birmingham's drinking water supply.

In a case that took five years to investigate, the FBI, Internal Revenue Service and state investigators found that Acmar Regional Landfill Inc., had violated the federal Clean Water Act.

The corporation signed a plea bargain and filed it in U.S. District Court last week. Prosecutors will recommend the company pay \$500,000 of the \$1.8 million fine immediately.

U.S. District Judge Robert Propst is expected to hear the pleas March 11.

Investigators found that Acmar had gotten a permit from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management to operate a 50-acre landfill along Big Black Creek, a tributary of the Cahaba River in St. Clair County.

But once that landfill became full, officials began dumping garbage into a nearby 350,000-square-foot site that was not properly built to prevent leaks or runoff after rain, prosecutors said. More than 269,000 tons of garbage from a surrounding seven-county area was dumped into the site between September 1992 and October 1993.

Acmar continues to operate on the site after making some changes to fix the problems. The Birmingham Water Works and Sewer Board and others are trying to prevent the continued operation and expansion of the site.

## **Firm fined \$1.8 million for illegal dumping The Selma Times-Journal 3/5/1998**

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