

**For Immediate Release**

June 6, 2003

**Contact:** Shannon McMullan

601-359-3227

## **Governor Musgrove Announces Grant for Oktibbeha County**

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove has awarded Oktibbeha County a grant in the amount of \$12,600. The county proposes to utilize this funding assistance to clean up unauthorized dump sites and for employment assistance for a local solid waste enforcement officer. The grant was awarded from the Local Government Solid Waste Assistance Fund.

“The investments we make in our environment are a major part of our economic growth as a state,” Musgrove said. “These funds will enable communities in Oktibbeha County, as well as across the state, to have healthier and cleaner communities.”

Cities and counties throughout Mississippi can compete for Solid Waste Assistance Grants through the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality. These grants may be utilized by local communities for programs to prevent and clean up unauthorized dumps; to aid in hiring local solid waste enforcement officers; for public education efforts on solid waste disposal and recycling; and to establish collection programs for the collection of white goods, bulky wastes and recyclables.

The competitive grant applications are accepted twice annually: On the first of April and October of each year. For more information and to receive a grant application, contact Luis Murillo or Denise Wilson, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 10385, Jackson, MS 39289 or (601) 961-5171.

###