At Alabama Power we are committed to providing value for the customers we serve - safe and reliable energy – and being good stewards of our communities. As part of our work to maintain reliable service, we make strategic investments in technology that support our customers' needs and contribute to the growth of our state.

The fiber project in Leeds is being conducted to strengthen Alabama Power's infrastructure by installing underground fiber along existing rights of way. It is a vital component to enhancing reliability and service to our customers. Installation of fiber leads to fewer outages and the ability to restore power to our customers more quickly. It also helps us address the digital divide in Alabama communities.

Early last year, while our contractor, REM Directional, Inc., was performing an underground boring in one of our rights of way to install underground fiber, a significant flow of groundwater was encountered. This was followed by notifications from landowners located a considerable distance from the work that their water wells were dry or improperly functioning.

We understand the challenges this situation caused and have worked diligently alongside our contractor and other experts to identify and implement solutions for impacted residents.

Following the incident, Alabama Power, through our contractor, provided the following temporary assistance:

- Potable water (from public water system) via 500-gallon food-grade tanks connected into the mainline for each home and inspected for water level and water quality.
- Delivery of cases of drinking water and new 5-gallon water bottles with dispenser, replenished on demand.
- Offer of hotel accommodations for any homeowner without temporary water.

As a permanent solution, Alabama Power arranged for a specialty contractor to install 11 new wells to replace old wells that were "dry" or poorly performing, without cost to the landowners, including all equipment recommended by the contractors. All the work was done under a plan reached in consultation with Terracon, a respected national geotechnical consulting firm with offices in Birmingham.

This plan was first provided to the lawyers for the landowners on March 21, 2025 and each landowner authorized the work on his or her property. The work was monitored by Terracon, which produced a full hydrogeologic report on each well, hundreds of pages in length, including water quantity and water quality findings and conclusions. These reports were provided to lawyers representing the landowners on January 6, 2026. New wells were connected to the homes as each well was completed and testing concluded, between July 11 (when the first well was connected) and December 10, 2025 (when the last well was connected).

Each well was tested in accordance with the Alabama Extension Service Private Well Program and met mandatory primary drinking water standards and non-mandatory secondary drinking water standards. The primary standards are legally enforceable standards that apply to public drinking water systems. The secondary standards are non-mandatory water quality standards for aesthetic considerations such as taste, color, and odor. Based on initial test results, recommended equipment (e.g. chlorinators, and filters, water softeners) was installed at each well. Further testing was conducted, and any equipment adjustments needed were made, until all parameters tested below the Environmental Protection Agency's "Primary and Secondary Drinking Water Parameters". This is essentially the same testing parameters as nearby municipal water systems, including testing for bacteria, volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds, herbicides, pesticides, metals, and general water quality parameters. The water testing samples were obtained by Terracon, and the testing was performed by qualified laboratories.

The wells were not connected to the homes until testing showed that the water met these standards. Water quality test results were provided to lawyers for landowners on November 19, 2025, and were also included in the final Terracon reports provided on January 6, 2026.

The testing parameters can be found on pages 75-82 of Alabama Extension Service Private Well Program's "Owning a Private Well in Alabama" handbook. This handbook was also provided to all landowners at completion of well installation.

Alabama Power teams have worked diligently to support impacted residents throughout this process, including remediation of the water issue and related construction impacts to as good or better condition. Examples of applicable landscape or construction work are included below.

All homeowners have had their water source restored, resolving the initial complaint. Because homeowners have elected to continue litigation, we cannot comment further at this time.


COMPLETED INSTALLATION

BEFORE

AFTER