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The Irresponsible Water Coalition is back!

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—A group calling themselves the Coalition for Responsible Water Rights will be speaking at Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry's 26th Annual Environmental Awards Conference at Montgomery Bell State Park on October 2, 2008, to discuss the deregulation of water.

Problem is, this group is anything but responsible.

This group was behind the Limited Resource Waters Bill (HB4185/SB4119)- a bill that would have removed protection from 30,000 miles of streams. Fortunately, the bill was defeated and rewritten as a clean up bill for the Nolichucky River.

“The coalition’s only responsibilities are to the developers they represent,” said Renée Victoria Hoyos, Executive Director of the Tennessee Clean Water Network. “These developers want to destroy streams without any accountability to the public.”

Also on the conference agenda is the announcement of the Chamber’s environmental award winners. Wayne Scharber is one of the recipients. Mr. Scharber worked hard to pass the Limited Resource Waters Bill last year, which raises questions about the Chamber’s commitment to environmental conservation.

The Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry’s 26th Annual Environmental Awards Conference will be held Oct. 2-3, 2008, at Montgomery Bell State Park in Burns, Tenn. To see the other environmental issues that will be addressed, visit <http://www.tnchamber.org/>, click on calendar, then October 2.

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