

[Listen Live \(http://www.radiobookmark.com/listener-interactive/flashwidget/index.html?station_id=5AcVb4TpHk9xZ2Ep&autostart=true\)](http://www.radiobookmark.com/listener-interactive/flashwidget/index.html?station_id=5AcVb4TpHk9xZ2Ep&autostart=true)

Gulf Coast Hotel Lawsuit, Cell Phone Suit Claims Deadline

By [ALEX AUBUCHON \(/PEOPLE/ALEX-AUBUCHON\)](#) • DEC 29, 2015

[Twitter \(http://twitter.com/intent/tweet?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.tinyurl.com%2Fpgrqbuu&text=Gulf%20Coast%20Hotel%20Lawsuit%\)](http://twitter.com/intent/tweet?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.tinyurl.com%2Fpgrqbuu&text=Gulf%20Coast%20Hotel%20Lawsuit%)



An environmental group has asked a judge to hear oral arguments in its lawsuit challenging the state of Alabama's plans to use oil spill settlement funds to build a beachfront hotel.

The Gulf Restoration Network filed the request earlier this month in federal court. The group asked for expedited arguments, citing Alabama's continued work on the project. The state is building a new 350-room beach hotel and conference center at Gulf State Park in Gulf Shores.

[http://mediad.publicbroadcasting.net/p/wual/files/styles/x_large/public/201511/GulfStateParkSign.j](http://mediad.publicbroadcasting.net/p/wual/files/styles/x_large/public/201511/GulfStateParkSign.jpg)

The Louisiana-based environmental group argues a hotel development isn't a proper use of funds meant to restore the coast after the largest oil spill in United States history. The state contends that the hotel and conference center, designed to handle gatherings of up to 1,500 people, will help bring people to the coast.

The state of Alabama is also using nearly two million dollars in additional settlement money to renovate a gubernatorial beachfront mansion.

Time is running out for Verizon and Sprint customers to make claims on a multi-million dollar settlement the wireless companies agreed to earlier this year. APR's MacKenzie Bates has the details.