

## Ormet to shutter terminal

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Ormet Corp. will shutter its Burnside terminal and lay off the 25 people working there as of Jan. 11, Vice President of Operations Tommy Temple said Thursday.

The terminal served Ormet's Burnside alumina plant, which closed in late 2006, and also provided third-party stevedoring services on the Mississippi River, Temple said. With the alumina plant closed, there was little demand for loading and unloading ships at the terminal.

"We've entertained a number of business proposals for lease or purchase of the terminal," Temple said. "None have been successful."

Ormet's Burnside properties include the bulk marine terminal and nearly 3,000 acres.

Ormet is closing the terminal to reduce overhead, Temple said. In another cost-cutting move, Ormet will also lay off half of the 12 people now working at the alumina plant.

Ormet officials had said slumping prices for alumina, a key ingredient in making aluminum, and high natural gas prices forced the Ascension Parish plant's closure. Around 250 people lost their jobs last December.

During the first nine months of the year, Ormet has lost around \$47.6 million on revenue of \$330.5 million.