

**Fact Sheet – Ash-Slide at TVA’s Kingston Fossil Plant  
December 25, 2008 – 2:30 p.m. EST**

TVA, local, state and federal agencies continue to work on recovery and clean up of an ash-slide caused by a failure of a coal fly ash containment retention wall at TVA’s Kingston Fossil Plant in East Tennessee.

TVA continues to assist residents affected by the ash-slide. Certified inspectors completed initial assessments of damage to homes of residents in the affected area.

Results of water sampling downstream of the plant, including at Kingston Water District intake, indicate that the concentrations of sampled contaminants were below levels established by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to protect fish and aquatic life. Based on our current sampling, there is no indication, with normal treatment plant filtration, that the water would not meet drinking water standards.

Water sampling and analysis by TVA and other agencies will continue to monitor for contaminants in the river.

As of Thursday morning, Swan Pond Road past the Kingston plant remains closed (except for residents who live in the area). Though there is no estimate for when the road will reopen, about 350 feet of the road and the adjacent railroad tracks have been cleared of debris by heavy equipment operators using bulldozers, dump trucks and backhoes.

An aerial survey completed on Tuesday shows that 5.4M cubic yards (3347 acre-feet) of ash has been displaced. A LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging - a radar system using laser light) was used to survey the area. The data is being refined to determine the amount of ash in various locations. It is estimated that 78,000 cubic yards of ash are on the railroad tracks and Swan Pond Road. About 3000 feet of Swan Pond Road and 1500 feet of Swan Pond Circle have been affected by the slide.

One minor incident was reported when a vacuum truck slid on a small hill and turned over on its side. No one was injured.

TVA Police are assisting local law enforcement with maintaining security for the homes in the affected area. TVA Police marine units are assisting in the vicinity of the plant where the Coast Guard has established a safety zone on the Emory River to protect the safety of boaters in the area.

TVA continues to manage river flows on the Clinch and Tennessee Rivers to minimize impact on recovery and monitoring activities associated with the ash-slide. There are no expected impacts to any other TVA facilities downstream.

Seven of the nine units at Kingston are shutdown; along with 15 other TVA fossil units, due to reduced demand for electricity as milder weather moved into the Tennessee Valley.

### **Ash Containment Area**

Ash, a by-product of a coal-fired power plant, is stored in containment areas. The one for which the retention wall failed covers about 40 acres. It is one of three containment areas at the Kingston plant.

Containment areas and retention dikes are inspected annually by TVA.

### **Kingston Fossil Plant**

Kingston Fossil Plant is located at the confluence of the Emory and Clinch Rivers near Kingston, Tennessee.

Kingston is one of TVA’s larger fossil plants. It generates 10 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity a year, enough to supply the needs of about 670,000 homes in the Tennessee Valley.

Plant construction began in 1951 and was completed in 1955.