

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

City of Scottsboro
Proposed Allocation Change Request
Goose Pond Island
Guntersville Reservoir
Jackson County, Alabama

Proposed Action and Need

On November 19, 2003, the city of Scottsboro, Alabama, (City) submitted a request to change the allocated use of portions of TVA Tracts XGR-108PT2, XGR-109PT2 and XGR-110PT2, located on Goose Pond Island, Guntersville Reservoir, between Tennessee River Miles (TRM) 378 and 382. The TVA tracts are currently allocated for Industrial/Commercial Development and Sensitive Resource Management. The proposed land use change request is to facilitate the City's plan to develop back lying private properties for a combination of residential, recreation and industrial or commercial use. The back lying property owners have deeded access rights across TVA property around Goose Pond Island to construct and maintain water-use facilities at locations and upon plans approved by TVA. If TVA approved the Scottsboro request, TVA would also take the opportunity to change the allocation of a TVA land parcel surrounding an existing navigation safety harbor to more accurately represent the use for TVA Project Operations.

Alternatives

Under the No Action Alternative, TVA would deny the City's land use allocation change request. Under the Proposed Allocation Change Request (Action) Alternative, the City's request to change the allocation of portions of TVA Tracts XGR-108PT2, XGR-109PT2 and XGR-110PT2 would be approved. In all, approximately 191.5555 acres would be changed in allocation, 142.9 of which would be moved from zone 3 to zones 2, 6, and 7, and 48.6 of which would be moved from zone 5 to zones 2, 6, and 7.

Impacts Assessment

The allocation change would not have the potential to affect endangered or threatened species. Cultural resources have been taken into account through a previously executed Programmatic Agreement with the Alabama State Historic Preservation Officer regarding land management planning, and no further impact assessment is needed for the allocation change. Depending on the nature of the residential and recreational development, a small portion of the mixed pine-hardwood forested shoreline would likely be cleared. However, the amount of clearing would be limited by the expected use of community docks and the results of individual TVA reviews for water-use facilities. Impacts of residential shoreline clearing would be limited by adherence to TVA shoreline management regulations. Because of the small acreage of terrestrial habitat potentially

affected and the common nature of the resources found on the affected land, impacts to terrestrial ecology would be insignificant. Wetlands and visually sensitive areas would be avoided by any water-use facility development. To ensure that the existing barge terminal site is available to a full range of industrial uses, water-use facility development would be restricted in the immediate vicinity downstream of the barge terminal and further navigation review would be required for private water-use facilities within the small upstream cove.

Under the No Action Alternative, shoreline clearing also would result from shoreline access that supports the back-lying industrial development; however, it would likely be less than would occur from numerous residential and recreational water-use facilities. Wetlands and visual resources would be protected by the sensitive resource management designation.

Mitigation

TVA will maintain adherence to special requirements for protection of commercial navigation facilities located on Goose Pond Island and contained on the attached commitments. Because of the sensitive visual resources located along the perimeter of TVA Tract XGR-108PT2, TVA will ensure Section 26a approvals along this reach give special attention to protect these resources. The following special commitments will be followed by TVA.

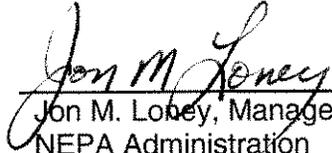
1. The construction of water-use facilities and shoreline alterations within the marked limits of safety landings and harbors will be prohibited. Construction also will be prohibited within 500 feet upstream and downstream of safety landings and within 100 feet of the mouth of safety harbors.
2. No water-use facilities will be allowed within 500 feet downstream of the terminal owners' downstream property boundary.
3. If the terminal becomes active in the future, TVA may require that the applicant place warning signs and/or buoys to aid in the safe navigation of the cove area.
4. Future requests for water-use facilities within the small cove upstream of the existing terminal site, along the main channel portion of Goose Pond Island and along the marked portions of Roseberry Creek would require further navigational review and approval.
5. At the time TVA reviews Section 26a actions on Goose Pond property, associated site development plans will be reviewed relative to external lighting and elements of proposed development otherwise potentially impacting the scenic value of TVA Tract XGR-108PT2.

Public and Intergovernmental Review

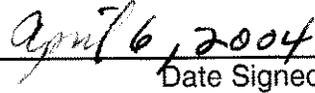
The Alabama State Historic Preservation Office was notified of the proposed allocation changes. No objections to TVA's determinations were received within the 30 day review period available to the SHPO. In addition, the city's proposed project has been publicized in the Scottsboro area. No additional public or agency review was conducted regarding the review of the pending action.

Conclusion and Findings

Based on the EA, we conclude that the proposed allocation changes to TVA tracts on Goose Pond Island would not be a major federal action significantly affecting the environment. The FONSI is contingent upon successful compliance with navigation restrictions and review of final site development plans relative to water-use facilities and aesthetic resources.



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Date Signed