

February 10, 2010

Robert M. Deacy Sr., LP 5D-C

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA) AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI) – JOHNSONVILLE FOSSIL PLANT – DIKE STABILIZATION OF NORTHEAST SIDE OF ASH STORAGE AREA NO. 2, HUMPHREYS COUNTY, TENNESSEE

In accordance with the *National Environmental Policy Act* (NEPA) and TVA's implementing procedures, NEPA Compliance is issuing the attached EA as documentation of the potential environmental consequences of TVA's action to stabilize the northeast side of the Ash Storage Area No. 2 at its Johnsonville Fossil Plant (JOF). The EA is incorporated by reference in this FONSI.

In the EA, TVA determined that implementation of the Action Alternative is likely to adversely affect pink mucket by means of indirect long-term habitat alteration. TVA has formally consulted with the USFWS regarding these impacts, and has received an incidental take statement for these adverse effects. In response to the likely to adversely effect determination made by the USFWS, TVA will be adopting mitigation measures prescribed by USFWS.

Mitigation measures adopted by TVA include conducting two post-project surveys of the mussel community and habitat adjacent to the project to monitor project impacts on the federally listed as endangered pink mucket mussel and its habitat. The surveys will follow the methods used in the preproject survey of the site and will be conducted at one and three years after completion of the project (i.e., 2011 and 2013). Reports detailing the survey results, including comparison to the preproject survey, will be provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Cookeville Office, within 30 days of completing fieldwork for each survey. Further, TVA will adhere to the reasonable and prudent measures identified by the USFWS in the Biological Opinion to minimize impacts on the federally listed mussel, the pink mucket.

All work near the water will be stopped when the reservoir pool level is above elevation 356 feet above mean sea level or forecasted to be higher during a work shift.

Based on the findings in the EA and the implementation of the above-stated mitigation measures, we conclude that the proposed action of stabilizing and regrading the northeast embankment of the JOF Ash Storage Area No. 2 is not a major federal action significantly affecting the environment. Accordingly, preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required.



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NEPA Compliance  
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LBS:PER

Attachment: EA dated February 2010

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Prepared by Linda B. Shipp (EP&C) with concurrence of Khurshid K. Mehta (OGC)