

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
ROLL FORM STEEL**

**Provision of Financial Assistance and
Administration of Appalachian Regional Commission Grant
for Site Development**

Tishomingo County, Mississippi

The Proposed Actions and Required Reviews

The Yellow Creek Port Authority intends to provide a 26 acre site in its industrial park located at Yellow Creek Port near luka for the location of a new industrial facility. The facility would be built and occupied by Roll Form Group, Inc, a company which would fabricate steel for construction and to make rail cars. The plant would employ about 80 jobs at an above average skill and wage level.

To assist with the establishment of the new facility, TVA proposes to administer an already-approved Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant and provide additional financial assistance. The ARC grant would be \$300,000 and would be used for site excavation and drainage and potable water lines. The financial assistance would be used for excavation and drainage, a parking lot, and a roadway into the site. There would be other federal involvement in the form of a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) of \$500,000. This grant would also be used for site excavation and drainage. The federal funds would supplement state and local funds and investment by the company for an estimated total cost of approximately \$26,700,000. The federal share of the project cost would be slightly more than 5%.

As permitted by HUD regulations, the Northeast Mississippi Planning and Development District (NEMPDD) prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the CDBG, and the Tishomingo County Board of Supervisors issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on December 9, 2005. A copy of the EA and FONSI is attached. Based on its independent review, TVA is adopting the CDBG EA as its review of the impacts of administering the ARC grant and providing the financial assistance.

Impact Assessment

As discussed in the CDBG EA and the engineering report for the project, there would be beneficial impacts to the economy of the area, and all other impacts are expected to be minimal. Grading could allow erosion of sediment which would pollute storm water, but use of routine best management practices would adequately minimize any impact to water quality. Grading and construction equipment would cause minor air quality impacts from fugitive dust and engine emissions. There would be no coating

operations or other manufacturing processes creating air pollutant emissions. Based on the scale of the industrial park and new site being created, impacts from construction and industrial traffic and noise are expected to be minor. The site has been intended for industrial use since before 1971, when TVA prepared an Environmental Statement on the Yellow Creek Port Project, so the new site would be consistent with existing and planned land uses. No jurisdictional wetlands would be affected. There would be no process wastewater, and employee sanitary sewage would be treated by a permitted on-site septic system.

There would be no effect on federally-listed endangered or threatened species. In response to concerns of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) about possible impacts on nesting bald eagles, TVA inspected the project area in February of 2006, confirmed that no bald eagles or eagle nests were present. Based on archaeological reconnaissance of the site in 1971 and 1983, and an abbreviated survey in 2006, TVA determined that there would be no potential for the proposed facility to affect cultural resources eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

TVA review of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for the area showed that the site is outside the 500-year floodplain, and TVA has determined that the project would not directly or indirectly support floodplain development. Therefore, TVA support for the project would be consistent with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management).

Mitigation

Based on the analysis in the EA and TVA's review, no mitigation measures would be needed.

Public and Intergovernmental Review

In preparing the CDBG EA, The NEMPDD requested comments from local, state, and other Federal agencies. The FWS expressed concern about the possible impacts on bald eagles, and the State Historic Preservation Officer requested a cultural resources survey, leading to the 2006 survey noted above. No other concerns were raised.

On November 24, 2005, the County published in the Tishomingo County News a combined notice of a finding of no significant impact and notice to public of request for release of funds. There were no comments from the public in response to the notice.

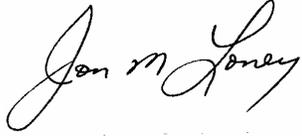
Cumulative Impacts

Based on the limited impacts expected from the project, TVA has determined that any cumulative impacts would be insignificant.

Conclusion and Findings

TVA has independently reviewed the CDBG EA and confirmed its findings. Based upon review of the CDBG EA, the engineering report for the project, cultural resource surveys of the site, and the FIRM of the area, as well as a staff site visit, TVA concludes that providing financial assistance and administering the ARC grant to assist site development for Roll Form would not be major federal actions significantly

affecting the quality of the environment. Accordingly, an environmental impact statement is not required.



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Date Signed