CHAPTER 6 - SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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6.2 GLOSSARY OF TERMS

action alternative - one of the alternatives that would involve doing something to meet the purpose(s) of the project. Opposite: No Action Alternative

algae - small (generally microscopic) plants which live either floating in the water or attached to submerged objects.

best management practices - construction or maintenance practices which have been shown to be the most effective and practical ways of preventing impacts to environmental resources.

cfs - cubic feet per second. Typically used as a measure of flow in a stream.

CMCP - Cumberlandian Mollusk Conservation Program - a TVA program (active in 1980 through 1984) originally intended to mitigate the likely impacts of building Columbia Reservoir on the endangered and other mussel and snail species living in the Duck River.

Columbia Dam Project - the part of the Duck River Project which, originally, was intended to be the construction of a dam and reservoir at Duck River Mile 137.

Columbia Project lands - land acquired by TVA to be part of Columbia Dam and Reservoir.

designated uses - categories of beneficial uses of water in a stream that have been specifically identified by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC).

DRDA - the Duck River Development Agency.

Duck River Project - originally, a TVA project to construct two dams (Normandy and Columbia) on the Duck River. Funded by federal appropriations starting in 1969.

EIS - environmental impact statement. This is the most detailed type of environmental assessment document identified in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

endangered species - an animal or plant which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant part of its range.

Endangered Species Act - a federal law, first passed in 1973, establishing federal lists of endangered and threatened wildlife and plants, and which requires federal agencies to insure that any action they authorize, fund, or carry out is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species.

Executive Order 11988 - an order to federal agencies signed by the president requiring them to avoid or mitigate any actions which could result in impacts to the floodplains of streams.

Executive Order 11990 - an order to federal agencies signed by the president requiring them to avoid or mitigate any actions which could harm wetlands.

Executive Order 12372 - intergovernmental review of federal programs, provides for federal agencies to consult with state and local elected officials regarding federal development activities and programs that may affect community and area development planning and to accommodate their comments in the form of recommendation to the greatest extent possible. TVA and most states have a "Single Point of Contact" (SPO) for Executive Order 12372. TVA's SPO is the NEPA staff representative involved in the project.

Executive Order 12898 - federal actions to address environmental justice in minority populations and low-income populations, signed by President Clinton on February 11, 1994.

floodplain - the part of a stream valley which is covered with water during a flood situation. Typically used associated with a flood which could occur at a given frequency (for example, the edges of a 100-year floodplain would be covered with water only during floods expected to occur less frequently than once in 100 years).

genus (plural: genera) - the next larger grouping of animal or plant species which are assumed to be closely related to each other.

glade - a terrestrial habitat where extremely shallow soils and, usually, little moisture hinder the growth of trees and shrubs but favor the growth of smaller plants which can survive there.

gpm - gallons per minute. Typically used as a measure of water use or availability.

invertebrates - animals which do not have backbones. Used to refer to all animals except fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals.

karst - an irregular limestone region with sinks, underground streams, and caverns.

Land Use EIS - the abbreviated title for the 1999 TVA EIS "Use of Lands Acquired for the Columbia Dam Component of the Duck River Project."

mgd - million gallons per day. Typically used as a measure of water treated or handled in some facility.

minimum flow - the amount of water that would be expected or, in the case of a controlled stream, would be released to flow in a stream during dry conditions.

Needs Analysis - an evaluation of the present water use in an area accompanied by the estimation of future water demand based on anticipated population and economic growth in the area.

NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) - a 1970 federal law which requires agencies to determine the environmental impacts of proposed actions, to consider alternatives to those actions, and to include a consideration of the environmental impacts when deciding which actions to conduct.

NHPA (National Historic Preservation Act) - A federal law which requires agencies to avoid or mitigate impacts to significant archaeological or historic resources.

OMB (Office of Management and Budget) - an Executive Branch office which authorizes the use of funds provided by the Congress.

order of magnitude cost estimate- a cost estimate based the cost of previous projects adjusted up or down for the size or capacity of new project. When comparable data are not available for one or more project components, a separate cost estimate is developed. This type of cost estimate, with an likely accuracy of $\pm$ 30 percent, is less accurate than any of the three other recognized cost estimate levels (conceptual, preliminary, and definitive).

periphyton - aquatic life which lives attached to material submerged in the water.

plankton - small (generally microscopic) animals and plants which live floating in the water.

PMF - probable maximum flood.

programmatic review - a type of environmental review that looks at a broad class of possible projects, typically in more general terms, instead of evaluating specific ways of meeting a particular need.

pumping station - a structure housing two or more pumps used to move water through a pipeline from one location to another over some higher elevation.

scoping - an early part of the NEPA process when agencies and members of the public are encouraged to help focus the planned evaluation on important subject areas.

sinkhole (sink) - a place on the earth where surface water is able to flow down into the ground and has created an obvious depression.

taxon (plural: taxa) - a general term used to refer to an unknown or unspecified level of animal or plant classification. Typically used as a plural when a total includes a mixture of species, genera, and higher taxonomic categories ("28 insect taxa were found").

TDEC - the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

threatened species - animal or plant which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

TVA - the Tennessee Valley Authority.

TWRA - the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

USACE - the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

USFWS - the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

USGS - the U.S. Geological Survey.

wastewater discharge - water released into a stream or reservoir after being processed through a wastewater (sewage) treatment plant.

water intake - a pipe or more complex structure designed and used to withdraw water from a stream or reservoir.

water quality - the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of water compared to recognized standards of quality necessary to maintain certain uses.

Water Service Area - typically, the area served by a public water supply utility. In this document, modified slightly to include more than one utility located in essentially the same area. The three water service areas discussed extensively in this document have boundaries closely associated with the county lines.

water supply - water removed from a stream or reservoir for municipal or industrial use.

wetlands - land areas adjacent to, or away from flowing streams which support plants and animals that have high water requirements.

zooplankton - small (usually microscopic) animals which live floating in the water.

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