

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION GRANT PROPOSAL FOR
AN INDUSTRIAL BUILDING, CITY OF WATER VALLEY, MISSISSIPPI
YALOBUSHA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) proposes to administer a \$195,000 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant to the City of Water Valley, Mississippi for the construction of an industrial building to accommodate a manufacturing company (see Attachment). The building would be used by Allied Group, Inc. which is committed to moving their operations to the City. The project involves the construction of a 16,200 square foot metal building, 200 linear feet of gas lines, and 400 linear feet of compressed air lines all on City property.

Allied Group of Mendham, New Jersey manufactures coalescing filters used to separate liquid water and oil from compressed air. Allied Group has continued to grow despite challenging times and would like to relocate its manufacturing operation to Water Valley. The construction of the building would provide an adequate facility for the Allied Group to operate within the City. This project would add 35 jobs to the City area.

The potential environmental effects of this proposed action are described in an environmental assessment (EA) which is incorporated by reference.

Alternatives

The subject EA evaluates two alternatives, i.e., the No Action Alternative and the Action Alternative. Under the No Action Alternative, TVA would not administer the ARC grant. In this event, the City could seek alternative funding for the industrial building and it could still be constructed. However, Allied Group could also decide to move to another location possibly outside the City or Mississippi. Under the Action Alternative, TVA would administer the ARC grant. The industrial building would be constructed as proposed and Allied Group would be able to use it for manufacturing. The Action Alternative is TVA's preferred alternative.

Impacts Assessment

The construction and operation of the Allied Group facility would not have impacts on wetlands, aquatic ecology, water quality, floodplains, threatened and endangered species, unique or important wildlife habitats, prime farmland, solid and hazardous waste, cultural resources, wetlands, environmental justice, natural areas, and wild and scenic rivers. The impacts on terrestrial plants and animals, noise, air quality, solid waste, and transportation, would be minimal and insignificant. The impacts on socioeconomics are considered beneficial but insignificant on a regional basis.

Part of the proposed facility site is located within a floodplain; however the proposed building location is not within the floodplain and would not affect floodplain values or functions. Thus, the proposed action is consistent with Executive Order (EO) 11988 Floodplain Management. No wetlands or streams occur on the site. Thus, the proposed action would not require permitting under Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act and complies with EO 11990 Protection of Wetlands. Adoption of the Action Alternative is not expected to cause direct or indirect impacts to any threatened or endangered terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal species

or their habitats. Therefore, the requirements of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act are satisfied.

The proposed project area does not contain archaeological or cultural resources; therefore the proposed undertaking has no potential to affect historic properties. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.3(1), the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act are satisfied.

Public and Intergovernmental Review

The North Central Planning and Development District solicited reviews of the proposed action by several federal and state agencies when the grant application was transmitted to ARC. Responses were received from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the United States Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

Mitigation

Best management practices and other routine measures will be implemented during installation activities. TVA has not identified the need for any other nonroutine mitigation measures to reduce potential environmental impacts.

Conclusion and Findings

Based on the findings in the EA, TVA concludes that the administrating and ARC grant as described under the Action Alternative will not be a major federal action significantly affecting the environment. Accordingly, an environmental impact statement is not required.



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Date Signed