



## NEWS RELEASE

### **Regional Resource Stewardship Council to Discuss River Operations, Stewardship Partnerships**

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — The Tennessee Valley Authority's Regional Resource Stewardship Council will discuss TVA's river operations and stewardship role, and potential environmental enhancement partnerships across the Tennessee Valley at its April 19-20 meeting in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Regional Resource Stewardship Council meetings are open to the public. The council will be in session from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. EDT on April 19. The council will also be in session on April 20 from 8 a.m. to noon EDT. The sessions will take place at the Chattanooga Hotel, 1201 Broad St.

At its April meeting, the council will receive an overview of TVA's balanced management of the Tennessee River system, including its dam safety program and its role in maintaining navigation and flood control operations. TVA also will gather council input on avenues to expand shared stewardship of TVA-managed lands and waters through partnerships and volunteer initiatives.

"Because the Tennessee River system serves many needs, the way TVA manages priorities has a wide impact," said Bruce Schofield, vice president of TVA Land & Shoreline Management. "There are benefits everyone attributes to reservoirs and dams, such as recreation and flood control. Then there are less obvious functions, such as enhancing aquatic habitat for threatened species and cooling water for power plants in the summer. River stewardship is striking a balance that blends stewardship and human benefits."

The Regional Resource Stewardship Council advises TVA on the operation of its dams and reservoirs, including responsibility for navigation, flood control, reservoir water quality, cultural resources and wildlife protection, and management of public lands and recreation. Created in 2000, the 20-member panel was a key stakeholder review group for TVA's Natural Resource Plan.

A public comment session will be held at 9:30 a.m. EDT on Friday, April 20. Anyone interested in making comments should register at the door by 8:30 a.m. Speakers are asked to limit remarks to five minutes. Up to an hour will be allotted for public comments, with participation on a first-come basis. Written comments are also

invited and may be mailed to the Regional Resource Stewardship Council, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, WT 11B, Knoxville, TN, 37902, or faxed to (865) 632-2345. Comments may be made directly to council members through the council website at <http://www.tva.com/rrsc>. For more information, call the council records officer at (865) 632-6113.

The Tennessee Valley Authority, a corporation owned by the U.S. government, provides electricity for business customers and distribution utilities that serve 9 million people in parts of seven southeastern states at prices below the national average. TVA, which receives no taxpayer money and makes no profits, also provides flood control, navigation and land management for the Tennessee River system and assists utilities and state and local governments with economic development.

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