

**APPENDIX B – CORRESPONDENCE WITH AGENCIES AND
PUBLIC NOTICES AND NEWS RELEASES**

		<i>fyi</i> from <i>tva</i>
		

**Draft Environmental Assessment for
Colbert Fossil Plant is Now Available**

The Tennessee Valley Authority is proposing to install and operate equipment for removal of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) from coal combustion flue gases at Colbert Fossil Plant.

Colbert Fossil Plant is located in Colbert County, Alabama about 10 miles west of downtown Tuscumbia, Alabama, and 3 miles east of Cherokee, Alabama. Through the installation and operation of the NO_x control equipment at Colbert and other coal plants, TVA expects to reduce NO_x emissions from its coal plants by 75 percent by 2005. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, TVA has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) which describes three variations on the proposed action and possible effects on the environment.

TVA is interested in receiving comments on the potential of the proposed action to affect the environment, historic properties and to identify any other issues associated with this proposal. These comments will be addressed in the decision-making process.

Copies of the draft EA are available at the Helen Keller Public Library, Tuscumbia, AL, the Cherokee Public Library, Cherokee, AL, and the Chattanooga Hamilton County Bicentennial Public Library. Comments must be received no later than December 5, 2002. Requests for additional copies, or questions should be directed to Tina Tomaszewski at the address listed below.

Tina Tomaszewski, TVA
1101 Market Street, MR 2T
Chattanooga, TN 37402
Phone: (423) 751-7291
Fax: (423) 751-3230
E-mail: tmtomaszewski@tva.gov



Colbert Fossil Plant Units 1 Through 5
Reduction Systems for Control of Nitrogen Oxides



Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1499

November 4, 2002

Dear :

REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT – COLBERT FOSSIL
PLANT UNITS 1 THROUGH 5 REDUCTION SYSTEMS FOR NITROGEN OXIDE CONTROL

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) is proposing to install and operate Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) reduction technology at the Colbert Fossil Plant by the year 2005. This action would improve air quality by reducing NOx emissions from the plant by as much as 90 percent, meet Title 1 Clean Air Act (CAA) requirements for ozone for which NOx is a precursor, and address the systemwide goal to reduce NOx emissions to meet the 110 State Implementation Plan call limits.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), TVA has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) on No Action and Proposed Actions to comply with CAA requirements regarding NOx. Enclosed is a copy of the Draft EA entitled, *Colbert Fossil Plant Units 1 through 5 Reduction Systems for Nitrogen Oxide Control*. We would appreciate review and comments from your agency by December 6, 2002. Additionally, TVA has announced in local news media the availability of the EA for public comment between November 5 and December 6, 2002; and has placed copies of the EA in local libraries of Colbert County. Comments, requests for additional copies, or questions should be directed to Tina Tomaszewski at the address listed below.

Tina Tomaszewski
Tennessee Valley Authority
1101 Market Street, MR 2T
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402
Phone: (423) 751-7291
Fax: (423) 751-3230
e-mail: tmtomaszewski@tva.gov

Sincerely,

Jon M. Loney, Manager
NEPA Administration
Environmental Policy and Planning

Enclosure

Letter sent to those listed in Chapter 5 transmitting a copy of the EA

Comments from Alabama State Historic Preservation Officer November 13, 2002



STATE OF ALABAMA
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
468 SOUTH PERRY STREET
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-0900

LEE H. WARNER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 13, 2002

TEL: 334-242-3184
FAX: 334-240-3477

J. Bennett Graham
Manager and Senior Archaeologist
Cultural Resources
TVA
P.O. Box 1589
Norris, TN 37828-1589

Re: AHC 03-0064; Cultural Resource Assessment of Colbert Fossil Plant Improvements, Colbert County

Dear Mr. Graham: *Bennett:*

Upon review of the cultural resource assessment conducted by TRC for the above referenced project, the Alabama Historical Commission has determined that the project activities will have no effect on any known cultural resources listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, we can concur with the proposed project activities.

However, should artifacts or archaeological features be encountered during project activities, work shall cease and our office shall be consulted immediately. Artifacts are objects made, used or modified by humans. They include but are not excluded to arrowheads, broken pieces of pottery or glass, stone implements, metal fasteners or tools, etc. Archaeological features are stains in the soil that indicated disturbance by human activity. Some examples are post holes, building foundations, trash pits and even human burials. **This stipulation shall be placed on the construction plans to insure contractors are aware of it.**

We appreciate your commitment to helping us preserve Alabama's non-renewable resources. Should you have any questions, please contact Amanda McBride of this office and **include the AHC tracking number referenced above.**

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elizabeth Ann Brown".

Elizabeth Ann Brown
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

EAB/ALM/alm

THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
www.presvsysla.org

Comments from Alabama State Historic Preservation Officer December 2, 2002



STATE OF ALABAMA
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
468 SOUTH PERRY STREET
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-0900

LEE M. WARNER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

December 2, 2002

Jon M. Loney, Manager
NEPA Administration
Environmental Policy and Planning
TVA
400 West Summit Hill Drive
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1499

Re: AHC 2003-0064
CRA Colbert Fossil Plant Improvements
Colbert County

Dear Mr. Loney:

The Alabama Historical Commission previously concurred that the above referenced project will have no adverse effect on cultural resources listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. This concurrence was based on the result of a cultural resource assessment by TRC. We continue to concur.

However, should artifacts or archaeological features be encountered during project activities, work shall cease and our office shall be consulted immediately. Artifacts are objects made, used or modified by humans, they include but are not excluded to arrowheads, broken pieces of pottery or glass, stone implements, metal fasteners or tools, etc. Archaeological features are stains in the soil that indicated disturbance by human activity, some examples are post holes, building foundations, trash pits and even human burials. This stipulation shall be placed on the construction plans to insure contractors are aware of it.

We appreciate your efforts on this issue. If we may be of further service or if you have any questions or comments, please contact Stacye Hathorn of our office and include the AHC project number referenced above.

Very truly yours,

Handwritten signature of Elizabeth Ann Brown in black ink.

Elizabeth Ann Brown
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

EAB/SGH/sgh

RECEIVED
Environmental Policy and Planning

DEC 02 2002

Type: EA Adm. Record
Field: Agency Comment
Name: COE SCR EA

ID 2002-30

TEL: 334-242-3184
FAX: 334-240-3477

Comments from National Park Service



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

Natchez Trace Parkway
2680 Natchez Trace Parkway
Tupelo, Mississippi 38804

Document Type: EA Administrative Record
Index Field: Agency Correspondence
Project Name: COF SCR EA
Project ID: 2002-30

L7617 (NATR)

Ms. Tina Tomaszewski
Tennessee Valley Authority
1101 Market Street (MR 2T)
Chattanooga, TN 37402

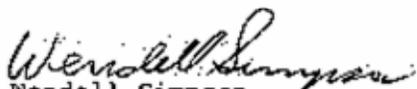
Dear Ms. Tomaszewski,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) considering reduction systems for Nitrogen Oxide control at Colbert Ferry Fossil Plant, Units one through five. The Natchez Trace Parkway is in relative close proximity to the Colbert plants and therefore, potentially impacted by high Nitrogen Oxide emissions generated from the TVA plants. The proposed action by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), if selected, is expected to reduce Nitrogen Oxide emissions as much as 90 percent of current levels and permit the plants to meet Clean Air Act requirements.

Based on the analyses of alternatives contained in the DEA, the Natchez Trace Parkway supports implementation of one of the action alternatives (A, B, or C). Each of these alternatives is expected to achieve a similar level of Nitrogen Oxide reduction with minimal impacts to the human environment and federal resources.

Should you have any questions or if there is a change in project status, please contact Natural Resource Specialist Bill Whitworth by telephone at (662) 680-4004 or E-mail at Bill Whitworth@nps.gov.

Sincerely,


Wendell Simpson
Superintendent

Comments from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service November 26, 2002



IN REPLY REFER TO:
03-0150

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
P. O. Drawer 1190
Daphne, Alabama 36526

November 26, 2002

RECEIVED
Environmental Policy and Planning

DEC 15 2002
Type: EA Adm. Record
Index Field: Agency Comment
Sheet Name: COF SCREB
No.: 2002-30

Jon M. Loney
Manager, NEPA Administration
Environmental Policy and Planning
Tennessee Valley Authority
400 West Summit Hill Drive
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1499

Dear Mr. Loney:

The Daphne Field Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received and reviewed Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) Draft Environmental Assessment - Colbert Fossil Plant Units 1 Through 5 Reduction Systems for Nitrogen Oxide Control. We understand, in order for TVA to reduce nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions to meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards of the Clean Air Act (CAA), regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), TVA proposes (starting in 2003) the installation of NO_x reduction systems for Units 1 through 5 at its coal-fired Colbert Fossil Plant on the Tennessee River Mile 245 Left Bank, Pickwick Lake, Colbert County, Alabama. TVA has prepared a No Action and three Proposed Action Alternatives for the proposed project. The No Action Alternative, however, would not comply with the NO_x State Implementation Plan under Section 110 of the Clean Air Act. Therefore, TVA seeks to implement one of the three Proposed Action Alternatives.

In the Draft EA, TVA considered impacts from the proposed alternatives on federally listed threatened and endangered (T&E) species and determined there to be no potential impacts of the proposed actions on T&E species:

The following report was prepared in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Our evaluation of this project has included a review for Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species and/or their designated critical habitat in the proposed project area. According to our collection records, there are no known sites of T&E species or critical habitat in the proposed project site. Past land management practices have likely limited the potential for federally listed species to occupy this site. We note, however, that collection records available to the Service may not be all-inclusive. Our database is a compilation of collection records made available by various individuals and resource agencies. This information is seldom based on comprehensive

PHONE: 334-441-5181

www.fws.gov

FAX: 334-441-6222

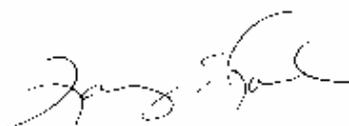
SHIPPING ADDRESS: 1208-B Main Street, Daphne, AL 36526

surveys of all potential habitat and thus does not necessarily provide conclusive evidence that protected species are present or absent at a specific locality. However, based on the best information available at this time, we believe that the requirements under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended, are fulfilled. Obligations under Section 7 of the Act must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner not considered, (2) the action is subsequently modified to include activities which were not considered in this consultation, or (3) new species are listed or critical habitat designated that might be affected by the proposed action.

The Service recommends strict adherence and proper implementation of Best Management Practices (BMP's) during and following construction activities and throughout the lifespan of this project at the Colbert Fossil Plant. Provided BMP's are utilized, none of the three above mentioned ESA conditions occur, and all appropriate permits are granted from the various state and federal agencies (i.e. NPDES, Clean Water Act/Section 404, etc...); the Service would have no objections to the proposed construction upgrades, continued operation, and maintenance of the existing facilities at the Colbert Fossil Plant. The Service realizes that by reducing NO_x emissions from the plant, T&F species and other Service trust resources are likely to benefit from this improvement.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this proposal and request that we be kept informed of the progress of this project. If you have questions regarding any information in this report, please contact Mr. Rob Hurt of my staff at (256) 353-7243.

Sincerely,



Larry E. Goldman
Field Supervisor

cc: Mr. Jon Hornsby, Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division, Montgomery, AL
Mr. Mitt Walker, ADEM, Montgomery, AL
Ms. Tina M. Tomaszewski, TVA, 1101 Market Street (MR 2T), Chattanooga, TN 37402
Mr. Bill Cox, EPA, Atlanta, GA
Mr. Rob Hurt, USFWS, Wheeler NWR, Decatur, AL

Comments from Alabama Department of Environmental Management

-----Original Message-----

From: Gean, Micheal A.
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2002 5:04 PM
To: Tomaszewski, Tina M.
Cc: Wells, Bryan; Stiefel, Mike
Subject: FW: TVA Colbert SCR EA

Tina,

ADEM called today with the below comments about the EA. Can you make sure this gets to the right people and gets addressed. Thanks

Micheal Gean

**Program Administrator, Environmental
TVA Colbert Fossil Plant**
Ph. 256-389-7152
Fax 256-389-7002
email: magean@tva.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Festoso, Sheri [mailto:SMFestoso@adem.state.al.us]
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2002 2:07 PM
To: 'magean@tva.gov'
Subject: FW: TVA Colbert

Michael,

I have forwarded the comments to the EA from our Drinking Water Branch. Please forward to the appropriate people.

Thanks for your help,

Sheri

-----Original Message-----

From: Garrett, Tom
Sent: Thursday, December 05, 2002 11:56 AM
To: Festoso, Sheri
Subject: FW: TVA Colbert

Sheri, we think that the assessment needs to address the drinking water intakes for the Colbert County and Cherokee systems. The assessment mentions the Sheffield intake, but that one is upstream. The TVA facility is located in the source water assessment areas for both of the water systems mentioned.

Tom Garrett

Surface Source Section

Drinking Water Branch

334/271-7931

-----Original Message-----

From: Griffin, Chris
Sent: Thursday, December 05, 2002 11:45 AM
To: Garrett, Tom
Subject: FW: TVA Colbert

E-mail from Sherri RE EA for TVA

Chris Griffin

*Surface Source Section
Drinking Water Branch
cmg@adem.state.al.us
(334) 271-7775*

-----Original Message-----

From: Festoso, Sheri
Sent: Thursday, November 07, 2002 8:34 AM
To: Griffin, Chris
Subject: TVA Colbert

Chris,

I spoke to Michael Gene my contact at TVA Colbert and he said that they are looking at two possible modifications to their air pollution control process (one is an SO₂ injection and the other is the SCR which reduces NO_x emissions and would include the addition of anhydrous ammonia). Both processes are in the initial stages of planning and they do not have the ammonia on-site and do not plan to until an Environmental Impact Statement has been conducted. The timeline on the SO₂ is next fall and the SCR is planned for spring 2004.

They know they have to submit the info to me before they do anything.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Sheri