APPENDIX J

Joint Public Hearing
TDEC, TVA, Corps

File No. 2002-00017

Laurel Marina and Yacht Club, Inc.

South Fork Holston River Mile 56.5, Sullivan County, TN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Public hearing #2005-012

A public hearing will be held by the Tennessee Division of Water Pollution Control on Tuesday, September 20, 2005 at 7:00 P. M. Eastern Daylight Time at the South Holston Ruritan Clubhouse; 415 Meadow Creek Road; Bristol, Tennessee 37620. The public hearing is to discuss the proposal by the Laurel Marina and Yacht Club, Inc. to expand the existing commercial harbor limits and marina facilities at the Laurel Marina and Yacht Club on South Fork Holston Reservoir in Sullivan County. The project requires a water quality permit from the state of Tennessee under *The Tennessee Water Quality Control Act of 1977* and a §401 Water Quality Certification under the *Clean Water Act.*

The Laurel Marina and Yacht Club presently operates a commercial harbor and marina on the South Fork Holston Reservoir. The Club proposes to expand its existing commercial harbor limits and marina facilities. The expansion would include an additional 230 boat slips and 63 house boat slips. Also, the Club proposes to fill an embayment to construct additional parking facility. Approximately 58,284 cubic yards of fill needed to fill the embayment would be below the normal summer pool. An additional 20,886 cubic yards of fill would be above normal summer pool. The fill material would be excavated from 3 different areas of shoreline located near the embayment to be filled.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposal are invited to deliver oral or written comment at the public hearing. The hearing officer will limit testimony to relevant water quality issues and may limit testimony in the interest of time, however, all persons desiring to speak will be afforded an opportunity to do so. Written testimony will be accepted for at least 10 days following the hearing and will be considered part of the official record. The public is also invited to submit comments in writing to the Division of Water Pollution Control at the address printed below. The comments must be received by Friday, September 30, 2005. After considering all public comments, the division will publish a final permit decision and a notice of the division's determinations.

Individuals with disabilities who wish to participate in these proceedings (or to review these filings) should contact the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to discuss any auxiliary aids or services needed to facilitate such participation. Such contact may be in person, by writing, telephone, or other means and should be made no less than ten days prior to September 20, 2005, to allow time to provide such aid or services. Contact the ADA Coordinator at 1-866-253-5827 for further information. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service (1-800-848-0298).

The permit application and supporting documentation are available for review at the division office during business hours at the following address:

Division of Water Pollution Control
attn: Robert Baker
7th Floor, Life and Casualty Annex
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243-1534

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PUBLIC NOTICE # 05-43

TN DEPT OF ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL
NATURAL RESOURCES SECTION
401 CHURCH ST 7TH FL L & C ANNEX
NASHVILLE TN 37243-1534
FAX # 615-532-0046

ISSUE DATE: **August 18, 2005**

EXPIRATION DATE: **September 17, 2005**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The applications described herein have been submitted for Aquatic Resource Alteration Permits pursuant to *The Tennessee Water Quality Control Act of 1977*, T.C.A. §69-3-108.

The purpose of this notice is to advise all concerned of the proposals for which permits are sought and to solicit comments and information necessary to evaluate the probable impact of the activities upon the respective water resources. The decision whether to issue or deny will in part be based upon that evaluation. All factors that may be relevant to the proposals will be considered.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the issuance of a proposed permit are invited to submit comments in writing to the address listed above. Written statements received in this office on or before the date of expiration of the comment period on **September 17, 2005** will become part of the record and will be considered in the determination. The public notice number, applicants name, permit number and coordinator should be referenced.

Interested persons may also request in writing that the director of the Division hold a public hearing on any application. The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person requesting it, and the reasons that the hearing is warranted. When there is sufficient public interest, the director shall hold a hearing in accordance with Rule 1200-4-1-.05(3)(G).

After consideration of comments submitted during the public comment period, the hearing record if any, and the requirements of federal and State law, the director of the Division will make determinations regarding the final action on each permit. Permit applications, supporting documentation, and related comments are available for review and/or copying.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action. Contact the EEO/AA Coordinator at 1-888-867-7455 or the ADA Coordinator at 1-866-253-5827 for further information. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service (1-800-848-0298).

AUG 2005

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
September 20, 2005
Public Hearing Participants

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Bristol, TN 37620

Robert Clemons
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Johnson City, TN 37604

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Jennifer Wilson
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Bristol, VA 24203-5500

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Local News

Comments sought on revised expansion plan for marina

BY JENNIFER WIG
BRISTOL HERALD COURIER
Sep 15, 12:00 AM EDT

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BRISTOL, Tenn. – Residents will get two chances to voice their views on revisions to Laurel Marina's expansion plan.

The marina's owner, Dale Thomas, announced a $3 million expansion plan earlier this year that would add 293 boat slips and fill in a 1.7-acre section of the lake to create a 196-space parking lot. It drew opposition from some people who live near South Holston Lake and who use it.

This week, Thomas scaled back that plan to 211 boat slips and dropped a request for 1,000 feet of shoreline.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued a new public notice because of the changes, said Carl Olsen, a Corps project manager.

"We're issuing this public notice to see if that makes a change in the way that the general public feels about his proposal," he said.

Comments will be accepted by mail for 30 days after a public hearing set for Tuesday. Olsen said he wasn't sure how the changes in the project's scope would affect an environmental study already under way.

"A reduction in the number of slips would result in a reduction of impact, naturally," he said.

Some opponents said Wednesday they needed more information before deciding whether the new plan would be more agreeable to them.

One of them, Robert Todd, an environmentalist with the Tennessee

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- Yes
- No
- Undecided

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Wildlife Resources Agency, said he had not seen the changes and could not comment on them.

Robbie Sykes, a biologist with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, also said he was not prepared to comment.

The Corps of Engineers, the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation will assess Thomas' plans.

Thomas made the changes to appease those against his expansion, he said. He believes many people would be against any expansion.

"The opposition is opposed to Laurel Marina in particular for using any public land for commercial profit," he said.

More than half of the marinas in the United States use public lands, he said.

Other South Holston Lake marinas have expanded in the past few years and did not encounter heavy opposition, Thomas said.

Painter's Creek Marina last expanded in 1999, owner Sabrina Brown said. It added 40 covered slips, a new store, a restaurant and showers.

Lake View Dock Marina has added between eight and 12 slips every year for the past five years, according to owner John Slagle. He built a new dock store last year.

jwig@bristolnews.com (276) 645-2518

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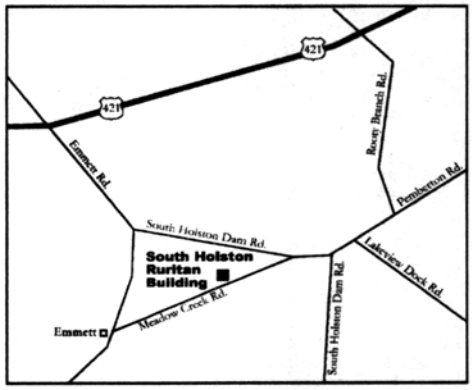
fyi from tva

USDA Forest Service and TVA Invites You to Attend an Open House on the Proposed Laurel Marina Expansion and Road Construction

The USDA Forest Service (Forest Service), TVA and Laurel Marina will hold an open house on November 19, 2002 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the South Holston Ruritan in Bristol, TN to provide information and to solicit pubic input on a proposal by Laurel Marina for a marina expansion and road construction.

This proposal involves about 2,800 feet of TVA and national forest shoreline. New slips would accommodate approximately 232 motorized boats and houseboats. Laurel Marina proposes fill material be placed below elevation 1729 to provide parking for new facilities and to extend an existing road within the Cherokee National Forest. This road expansion would be 2800 feet long and 20 feet wide, affecting 8 acres of Cherokee National Forest.



The Forest Service and TVA are 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 used in reaching a decision concerning the proposed action.

There will be brief presentations about the proposal at 4:00 and 6:30 p.m. Forest Service and TVA staff will provide information on the environmental review process and Laurel Marina will provide specific information on the proposed harbor expansion and road construction. Staff from the Forest Service, TVA, and Laurel Marina will be available to answer questions and discuss any resource related issues.

For more information, contact Bucky Edmondson with TVA at (423) 239-2000 or Frank Lege with the Forest Service at (423) 735-1500. If you have special needs, please call Bucky Edmondson at the number listed above at least five days prior to the meeting.

OPEN HOUSE
Tuesday, November 19, 4 - 8 p.m.
South Holston Ruritan
(near South Holston Dam)
Bristol, TN

TVA