TVA

Information for Submarine Utility Crossing Section 26a Permit Applications

In addition to the general information required for 26a permit applications, submarine utility crossings require other specific information.

What is needed for review of submarine utility crossings?

- Length of crossing and plan view of the cable or pipe route.
- The type material and diameter of pipe and weight in pounds per linear foot.
- If pipe, the kind of material to be conveyed by the pipe.
- Weight and type of anchorage.
- Depth the pipe will be buried down each bank below low water elevation.
- Depth of trench in riverbed, amount of cover for the pipe or cable, and details regarding disposal of trenching spoil.
- Provide site restoration and streambank stabilization details.
- Plans should identify erosion, sedimentation, and runoff control measures including both construction and operational measures.
- In general, plans should be sufficient to describe the extent of site disturbance from construction, maintenance and use of the facility.

Notes

Cable, water, and sewer lines crossing dredged channel cuts and all petroleum pipelines must be buried in the river bottom the entire length of the crossing. See attached sheet for location of dredged channel cuts. Others may be anchored to river bottom.

Main/secondary channel crossings (except petroleum pipelines and dredged channel cut crossings) should be buried down each riverbank to 3 feet below channel grade (see attached sheet for channel grade elevations), then anchored on the bottom for remainder of crossing. At other locations, the pipe should be buried to 5 feet below normal minimum pool.

Exceptions

Crossings alongside bridges and in one mile or wider expanses have been approved with the cable buried down each bank to 3 feet below minimum pool. This is permissible except across a commercial navigation channel or buoyed recreation channel. Other potential exceptions are reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

The navigation channel between Clinch River miles 56.5 and 61.5 was excavated to only 10 feet below minimum pool because of rock. In this area, pipeline crossings can be permitted at 2 feet below channel bottom grade.

If the pipe or cable is buried, the trench backfilled to original grade, and any spoil material is placed on private property above the 500-year flood elevation, TVA approval under Section 26a is not required. However, if TVA land or landrights will be affected, TVA's review would still be required.

A Section 26a permit application consists of a completed, signed and dated application form, plans with sufficient information to complete a review, map location, and a check or money order payable to: Tennessee Valley

Authority for the permit application processing fee.

Applications should be sent to :

