

Economic Development

TVA makes the Tennessee Valley's economy stronger by building business and community partnerships that bring jobs to our region and keep them here. TVA partners with other groups throughout the region—including public power distributors, regional and local economic development associations, state agencies, chambers of commerce, and communities—to support economic growth in the Valley by:

- Delivering reliable, affordable TVA power that makes the Valley an attractive place to start or expand a business.
- Working with Valley communities to help businesses thrive and to help bring new high-quality jobs to the people of our region.

In 2007, TVA:

- Sold 174.8 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity and met an all-time high peak demand of 33,482 megawatts.
- Maintained 99.999 percent transmission reliability for the eighth year in a row.
- Paid state and local governments in the Tennessee Valley region a record \$452 million in tax equivalent payments that are used to support local education and other vital community needs.
- Purchased \$2.4 billion in goods, fuel, and services from businesses and industries in the Valley region.
- Contributed \$700,000 to support local chambers of commerce and economic development agencies.
- In partnership with distributors of TVA power, provided \$2.2 million in support to regional industrial development associations in the Valley.
- Administered \$5.1 million in Appalachian Regional Commission funding for projects supporting economic development in the region.
- Invested in economic development efforts to support the expansion of businesses and industries. These investments helped create or keep 45,000 jobs in our region and leveraged \$5.6 billion in capital investment.

Also during the year,

- For the second year in a row, Site Selection magazine named TVA one of the “Top Utilities of the Year” for outstanding economic development achievements in the Tennessee Valley.
- TVA was also a CoreNet Global Innovators finalist for its Megasites Program in the category of innovations in corporate real estate.

- Toyota Motor Corporation announced plans to build a vehicle-assembly plant in Mississippi on 1,700-acre megasite next to Interstate 22 at Blue Springs, Mississippi, 10 miles west of Tupelo and 76 miles southeast of Memphis International Airport. Toyota's \$1.3-billion investment is expected to create more than 2,000 direct jobs paying above average wages.
- An additional megasite suitable for automobile manufacturing plants was independently certified in the Tennessee Valley. By the end of 2007, nine megasites have been certified since the program began in 2004. Three of these sites have been sold to major industries.