

## **Ash Release at TVA's Kingston January 2, 2009 7 p.m. EST**

TVA, local, state and federal agencies continue to work on recovery and clean up of a release of ash caused by a failure of a coal ash containment retention wall at TVA's Kingston Fossil Plant in East Tennessee.

### **Community Assistance**

TVA continues to assist residents affected by the incident and has scheduled meetings with homeowners to answer their questions and listen to their concerns. TVA has activated a 1-800 number that property owners should call if they need an assessment of property damages. An Outreach Center is opening Tuesday, January 6, at 509 North Kentucky Street in Kingston. The center will be open the first week Tuesday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Sundays.

All other members of the public should continue to use 865-717-4006 with their questions or concerns.

### **Roadway and Railway Cleanup**

Public access on Swan Pond Road past the Kingston plant remains closed except for construction use. Safety is the priority for anyone entering the area. Currently, there is no estimate for when the road will reopen for public use.

All rail and ties have now been removed. TVA is now beginning the process of rebuilding the railroad base.

### **Air Monitoring**

Air Monitoring continues with both mobile air quality testing and at five residential locations in the community near the plant. Nearly 500 mobile air quality tests have been performed. Air quality remains good. Concentrations of air particulates remain below levels of concern.

### **Water Quality**

TVA continues to manage river flows on the Clinch and Tennessee Rivers to minimize impact on recovery and monitoring activities associated with the ash release. The Kingston water supply intake is located on the Tennessee River about one half mile upstream from its confluence with the Clinch River coming from the Kingston Fossil Plant. By managing river flows through the Kingston area, TVA expects to keep ash that might be flowing down the Clinch River from moving upstream toward the water intake.

Samples closest to the Kingston water treatment plant continue to meet requirements for primary drinking water standards.

TDEC is sampling the Kingston and Rockwood Water Plant intakes and processed water through mid-January. These samples will be taken daily and analyzed for Safe Drinking Water Act standards. The analysis will be performed by the Tennessee Department of Health Laboratory in Nashville. The laboratory data is released by TDEC.

The most recent results of water sampling near the ash release area indicate that the concentrations of sampled contaminants either met or were below detection levels established by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to protect fish and aquatic life.

TDEC has sampled 40 private wells near the plant. In addition, a third party, independent of TVA, is collecting and analyzing samples.

### **Soil Sampling**

TVA has taken offsite soil samples to test for toxic metals in areas where there were ash deposits. The results are being compared to the data for the ash that was known to be in the ash pond prior to the spill and to regulatory standards for hazardous materials. The results will be released as soon as they are available.

### **Emory and Clinch Rivers**

The Emory River remains closed from mile marker zero through mile marker 4. The Kingston Fossil Plant Boat Ramp and fishing area has also been closed due to large equipment being moved into the area for clean-up. Coast Guard and TVA Police marine units are assisting with security in the area.

Work is complete on a rock weir built on the Emory River, just north of the existing intake skimmer weir. The weir is about 615 feet long. The weir will allow water to continue flowing, but will contain the ash. TVA is coordinating with the Corps of Engineers to address the dredging process on the Emory River in the vicinity of the release.

A second weir has been designed and when complete will confine the ash and keep it from entering the river during the river dredging process. This approximately 2000-foot rock weir will extend from Swan Pond Circle south to the plant river bank.

### **General Information**

Two of the nine units at Kingston are operating today. The other seven units are shutdown due to reduced demand for electricity as the relatively mild weather remains in the Tennessee Valley.

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