

**Fact Sheet – Ash-Slide at TVA’s Kingston Fossil Plant  
December 22, 2008 – 3:30 p.m. EST**

TVA and local and state agencies are responding to a failure of a retention wall for an ash containment area at TVA’s Kingston Fossil Plant in East Tennessee. The failure of the retention wall resulted in an ash-slide.

The ash-slide has now stopped and is estimated to be from 4 to 6 feet deep over an area of 250 acres to 400 acres.

No injuries have reported at this time. About 15 homes have been affected, including one pushed from its foundation; local residents have been evacuated.

An analysis and investigation into the incident is in progress.

TVA is preparing to support affected families with temporary lodging, food, water, transportation, and other immediate needs.

TVA is mobilizing approximately 30 pieces of equipment and 90 individuals to place barriers to prevent the movement of the ash and to begin clean-up. Teams also will be sampling water in the area and conducting damage assessments.

The plant is located on the Emory River, which feeds into the Tennessee River. The river flow at Kingston is being reduced to a minimum to keep ash from moving downstream.

As a precaution, flows also are being reduced downstream at Watts Bar Dam. No impact is expected to Watts Bar or Sequoyah nuclear plants.

All nine units at Kingston are continuing to operate. An adequate supply coal is onsite.

The ash-slide, which occurred just before 1 a.m., also caused downed power lines, blocked Swan Pond Road, and ruptured a gas line. Efforts are under way to address the gas line rupture. Swan Pond Road remains closed at this time.

A train delivering coal to Kingston that entered the affected area early this morning has been removed from the area early this afternoon.

**Ash Containment Area**

Ash, a by-product of a coal-fired power plant, is stored in containment areas. The one for which the retention wall failed covers about 80 acres. It is one of three containment areas at the Kingston plant.

At the time of the slide, the area contained about 2.6 million cubic yards of ash. This was within guidelines for the area.

Containment areas are inspected annually by TVA.

**Kingston Fossil Plant**

Kingston Fossil Plant is located at the confluence of the Emory and Clinch Rivers near Kingston, Tennessee.

Kingston is one of TVA’s larger fossil plants. It generates 10 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity a year, enough to supply the needs of about 670,000 homes in the Tennessee Valley.

Plant construction began in 1951 and was completed in 1955.