



Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1499

Kathryn J. Jackson, Ph.D.  
Executive Vice President  
River System Operations & Environment

May 17, 2004

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of everyone at the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), we would like to welcome you to Chattanooga and the Fourth National Monitoring Conference.

In May 1933, as part of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal, the United States Congress passed the TVA Act. Roosevelt envisioned TVA as a totally different kind of agency that was "a corporation clothed with the power of government but possessed of the flexibility and initiative of a private enterprise." Right from the start, TVA used a unique problem-solving approach to fulfilling its mission of integrated resource management. Each issue TVA faced—whether it was power production, navigation, flood control, malaria prevention, reforestation, or erosion control—was studied in its broadest context. TVA weighed each issue in relation to the others. From this beginning, TVA has held fast to its strategy of integrated solutions, even as the issues have changed over the years.

Today, TVA works in concert with other public agencies to protect the Tennessee Valley's waters for the present and the future. We achieve excellence in public service for the good of the people of the Tennessee Valley by supporting sustainable economic development; supplying affordable, reliable power; and managing a thriving river system.

Water monitoring is a critical component of TVA's work. We operate one of the most comprehensive river system monitoring programs in the United States. We monitor reservoirs and streams to assess ecological health, heavily used recreational waters to determine bacteriological levels, and chemical contamination to help the states decide whether to issue fish consumption advisories.

Our commitment to monitoring and water quality protection is why TVA has been an active member of the NWQMC since the Council's inception. As an agency that works in collaboration with all stakeholders, TVA is delighted to be the local host and chair of this year's conference, *Building and Sustaining Successful Monitoring Programs*.

We hope you will take this opportunity to enjoy Chattanooga and get to know a portion of the Tennessee Valley. Again, it is our pleasure to welcome you to Chattanooga, TVA, and the National Monitoring Conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathryn J. Jackson", written in a cursive style.

Kathryn J. Jackson