

# TVA at a Glance



For more than seven decades, the Tennessee Valley Authority has provided affordable electricity, environmental stewardship and economic development opportunities in the Tennessee Valley region. TVA was established by Congress in 1933 to address a wide range of environmental, economic and technological issues, including the need for low-cost electricity and navigation and flood control along the Tennessee River system.

Initially, federal appropriations funded all TVA operations. Appropriations for the TVA power program ended in 1959, and appropriations for TVA's environmental stewardship and economic development activities were phased out by 1999. TVA is now fully self-financing, funding operations through electricity sales and power system bond financing. TVA makes no profit and receives no tax money.



Today, TVA's power service territory includes most of Tennessee and parts of Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina and Virginia, covering 80,000 square miles and providing electricity to more than 9 million people at prices below the national average. TVA sells electricity to 155 local power companies and 57 directly served industries and federal facilities.

## VISION

IN 2010, THE TVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPTED A RENEWED VISION FOR TVA TO BE A LEADING PROVIDER OF LOW-COST, CLEANER ENERGY BY 2020.

### The vision embraces three specific goals:

- Lead the nation in improved air quality
- Lead the nation in increased nuclear production, and
- Lead the Southeast in increased energy efficiency.

*TVA is pursuing this vision through its work in three key areas: energy, environment and economic development.*

## ENERGY

As the nation's largest government-owned power provider, TVA delivers reliable, competitively priced electricity to homes and businesses.

- In fiscal year 2011, TVA sold more than 171 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity for revenue of about \$11.8 billion. Net income from energy sales are reinvested into system improvements and economic development initiatives.
- TVA's average retail price ranked 40th lowest among the nation's 100 largest utilities in fiscal year 2011.
- TVA's transmission system achieved 99.999 percent reliability for the 12th year in a row and plant availability improved for the second straight year.
- TVA's 20-year Integrated Resource Plan proposes a diverse power mix that includes more reliance on nuclear generation and energy efficiency to meet future power needs.

### TVA's generating assets:

- 11 fossil plants (48 active units)
- Three nuclear plants (six units)
- 29 hydro plants (109 units)
- One pumped storage hydroelectric plant (four units)
- Nine combustion-turbine plants (87 units)
- Four natural gas combined-cycle plants (11 units)
- Two diesel-generator sites (nine units)
- 16 solar energy sites
- One wind-energy site
- One methane-cofiring site
- One biomass-cofiring site



## ENVIRONMENT

The Tennessee Valley Authority is committed to limiting the environmental impact of its operations and protecting the natural resources of the region.

- TVA is working to improve air quality by reducing emissions at coal-fired plants. TVA has announced plans to replace its older and less-efficient coal units with cleaner sources of power.
- A 2010 EPA study found that TVA had reduced two key air pollutants – sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide – faster than the U.S. utility average. Currently, TVA sulfur dioxide emissions are 90 percent below peak levels, and nitrogen oxide emissions are 86 percent below peak levels.
- TVA manages 650,000 acres of surface water; 293,000 acres of reservoir land; 11,000 miles of shoreline; and more than 100 public recreation areas.
- TVA is improving its environmental performance by integrating renewable energy, such as wind and solar, into its generating mix.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

TVA helps strengthen the regional economy by building partnerships with communities and the business sector to foster job growth and retention.

- TVA helped attract or retain 43,000 jobs in the region during 2011.
- Businesses receiving TVA financial or technical assistance represented \$4.9 billion in new capital investments.
- Site Selection, a national industrial development magazine, ranked TVA among North America's top 10 utilities for economic development for the sixth consecutive year.
- In a slowly improving economy, TVA renewed its rural development initiative to help smaller and economically distressed communities by providing grants for resources and counsel on development strategies.
- TVA evaluated more than 50 locations and identified prime locations for the growing high-tech data center industry.
- TVA's Megasites program partners TVA with communities to market large industrial tracts for large-scale manufacturing operations, including Volkswagen's new auto factory in Chattanooga, Tenn., a new Toyota plant near Tupelo, Miss., and a Dow Corning/Hemlock plant in Clarksville, Tenn.