

From: Joseph Kintz <josephkintz@fastmail.net>
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2021 2:50 PM
To: Vojin Janjic <Vojin.Janjic@tn.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Permit TN0005452

Dear Mr. Vojin:

I'll be out of town and unable to attend Monday's public meeting regarding TVA's water emissions permit request for their Kingston Fossil Plant.

I live on Watts Bar Lake. My drinking water and irrigation water come from the lake. I like to swim in the lake, fish, and occasionally eat the fish I've caught, when I can catch them.

I don't have enough information to formulate an educated opinion about whether TVA should be granted the permit they've requested or not. What I do know is that everyone I've asked thinks that Watts Bar Lake, the Emory and Clinch Rivers that feed into it, and the water bodies further downstream should all contain clean water that is healthy for humans and the environment. It distresses me that TVA has reportedly been discharging unlimited amounts of water containing lead, arsenic, selenium, radioactive isotopes, and I'm sure many more hazardous substances without limit for many decades. It also distresses me that their apparent failure to design and maintain their coal ash slurry pond was responsible for dumping enormous quantities of hazardous materials into our local waterways. While I'm sure they and Jacobs Engineering made a valiant effort to remove much of the toxic coal ash after the spill, let's not kid ourselves into believing that they got it all. I'm sure there's a lot still sitting on the bottom and along the shoreline that continually leaches into the water or spreads throughout the reservoir whenever it's disturbed. It further disturbs me that, after committing to comply with the 2015 EPA standard for water emissions from such plants, TVA no longer wants to do that. From what I've heard, they want to either comply with the looser 2020 EPA standard or, since they intend to retire the Kingston Fossil Plant, claim an exemption from the 2020 requirement altogether.

I'm not one who believes that zero pollution is realistically achievable. Hopefully someone has done the proper science to determine the acceptable levels of coal ash toxins in our local waterways that won't harm the environment, wildlife, or humans. Hopefully they've taken into account the toxins from the 2008 coal ash disaster that are already in these waterways. Hopefully the water and sediments are being adequately and regularly tested for the likely pollutants to support this science. In my opinion, the decision about whether to grant TVA's permit should be based on a complete and thorough scientific analysis of the issue. If such an analysis hasn't been done, it should be done before TVA is granted the permit they've requested, and it should be done by qualified independent contractors under the supervision of TDEC or EPA, and paid for by TVA.

One additional point I will make is that, despite the fact that TVA has committed to retiring the Kingston Fossil Plant gradually over the next dozen years or so, they have not committed to removing the mountain of coal ash that is being stored at the site. My understanding is that leachate from this coal ash is major source of the heavy metals and other pollutants TVA wants to discharge to our local waterways. Unless TVA commits to promptly and safely removing all of the coal ash from the Kingston Fossil Plant site, I don't believe the plant can be considered retired and, therefore, TVA should not be granted a retirement exemption from the EPA emissions requirements.

Thank you for considering my comments,

Joe

Joseph Kintz
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From: Margaret Cowan <cowanmp@me.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 21, 2021 6:14 AM
To: Vojin Janjic <Vojin.Janjic@tn.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kingston Fossil Fuel plant emissions

Dear Vojin Janjić:

I was very disappointed to read about TVA's plans to move to following the 2020 federal regulations governing discharges of pollutants into the Clinch River. These regulations follow a pattern of recent changes that allow greater amounts of pollutants to flow into Tennessee's waters. Regulations established in 2015 provided for increased safety for residents and healthier waters downstream. It is much easier and cost-efficient to remove pollutants at their source than to try to clean them up later, so following the earlier, more stringent rules would be safer for Tennessee. Since the current regulations are currently under review, it would be reasonable to wait until 2022 when science-based standards can be established. As our country faces a complex set of threats related to climate change, pollution, and other threats to our environment, I would urge TVA to provide leadership in moving toward decreasing pollution, increasing reliance on sustainable energy, and working toward providing a healthy environment for the future.

Thank you,
Margaret Cowan
143 E. Harper Ave.
Maryville, TN 37620

From: Stacy Jacobs <stacyjacobsphoto@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 21, 2021 12:48 PM
To: Vojin Janjic <Vojin.Janjic@tn.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] comments on Kingston coal plant

I read in today's paper that the TVA is looking to roll back environmental protections as they apply to the Kingston, TN coal ash plant. I think this would be a terrible mistake. All you have to do is google that plant to see the destruction it's already wrecked on the local environment. To allow more pollutants into the wastewater would be very short sighted.

Please do not loosen regulations on this plant. Protect the water for us all.

Sincerely,
Stacy Jacobs

From: Jared Sullivan <sullivanjared90@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 21, 2021 3:02 PM
To: Vojin Janjic <Vojin.Janjic@tn.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] TVA Clinch River Discharge Permit

*** This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. ***

I implore TDEC not to allow TVA permission to reduce water-discharge restrictions into the Clinch River from the Kingston Fossil Plant. The Clinch, and the Tennessee further downriver, is the drinking source for millions of people, and TDEC should do everything in its ability to protect this resource from TVA, objectively one of the most pollutionous organizations in the history of this country. TDEC works for the people, not TVA, but you wouldn't know it: TDEC has already done enough damage to the people of this state in covering up the true radiological harm of TVA's coal ash. It would be nice if, for once, the department actually acted in the interest of the citizenry.

Jared Sullivan
jr-sullivan.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Joe Ben Wilson <wilsonjb2002@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021 6:12 PM

To: Vojin Janjic <Vojin.Janjic@tn.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] TVA

Dear Sir:

We disagree with TVA's attempt to use the 2020 discharge standards. An agency created to help the people of the Tennessee Valley should not use standards which would hurt them.

Charline and Joe Ben Wilson

From: Andrew Wiseman <awiseman@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021 9:35 PM

To: Vojin Janjic <Vojin.Janjic@tn.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Kingston Fossil Plant TVA request to change environmental regulations

Hello,

I recently read in the Knoxville News-Sentinel about a TVA request to change and lessen regulations about the Kingston Fossil Plant and saw I could email you for public comments. Here are mine.

I am shocked and amazed that TVA would ask for this, to make regulations weaker at the very plant where there was the largest industrial spill in US history, spilling more than 1 billion gallons of ash slurry, which cost more than \$1 billion dollars to clean up — and most appallingly, a cleanup which sadly has led to dozens deaths.

It is stunning to me that TVA believes this plant should have fewer regulations. It's almost insulting — do they think we don't remember this environmental disaster? That we forgot about the people who died because they were cleaning up TVA's mistakes? The optics alone on it are stunning. It's unbelievable.

In no way whatsoever should these regulations be lessened. We must continue strong, active oversight to prevent any other mistakes and environmental disasters from happening, at Kingston or anywhere else TVA works. Lives are quite literally at risk. TVA's own website says "TVA exists to make our region the best place in the country to live, work and play." The website talks about being stewards of the Tennessee River watershed. Lessening environment regulation at the very place of one of the worst environmental disasters in history, pouring coal ash into the river, is the opposite of this. People died fixing their mistakes. Don't insult their memory and the people of Tennessee by doing this. TVA should be ashamed for even asking.

Thank you,

Andrew Wiseman

-----Original Message-----

From: Joe Ben Wilson <wilsonjb2002@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021 6:06 PM

To: Vojin Janjic <Vojin.Janjic@tn.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] TVA

We disagree with the 2020 Federal regulations on pollution discharge. An agency designed and created to help people of the Tennessee Valley should not hurt us.

Respect,

Charline and Joe Ben Wilson

Sent from my iPad