

## **Suggested Talking Points on Building a Second Reactor at TVA's Watts Bar**

Building an additional nuclear reactor at Watts Bar would exacerbate existing safety and environmental problems, harm TVA ratepayers, and further stress the Tennessee River. TVA should pursue clean, safe, affordable ways to produce electricity that don't cause the headaches of more reactors in Tennessee!

### **Water Use & Supply:**

*-The Tennessee River is already incredible stressed; building more nuclear reactors will only make this situation worse. The Kingston coal ash spill disaster proves that TVA can't be trusted to do the right thing.*

*-The existing nuclear reactor withdraws an average 188.2 million gallons per day (mgd) from the Tennessee River, and returns an average of 173.9 mgd, meaning that everyday 14.3 million gallons of water are lost through evaporative cooling.*

*-Adding a second reactor on site will only make this worse. TVA says an additional reactor at Watts Bar would increase the water intake by 33%.*

### **Water Quality**

*-The water discharged from a nuclear reactor is already hotter than what is withdrawn; more reactors will only make this situation worse. Temperature changes negatively affect the fish, plant, and animal life that depend on the river. The Tennessee River is already at great risk, we can't afford TVA making it worse.*

*-The water intake systems at nuclear power plants can kill fish and fish larvae, among other organisms; having more reactors on site will only make this worse.*

### **Nuclear Waste**

*-Highly radioactive nuclear waste (used nuclear fuel) has no place to be stored or disposed, nor is it likely that a 'solution' will be found in our lifetimes; building more nuclear reactors will only make this situation worse here in Tennessee.*

*-Existing and future radioactive waste will likely remain onsite at Watts Bar for generations and generations, threatening indefinitely the health of nearby communities and the environment. Yet the NRC in previous licensing cases has refused to even address or consider this very important issue!*

### **Security**

*-Nuclear plants are vulnerable to terrorist attack and sabotage; building more nuclear reactors will only make this situation worse by providing more targets.*

*-Both the existing and proposed nuclear reactors at Watts Bar are ice condenser reactors. This type of reactor, commonly referred to as having "eggshell-like" containment, is considered to have serious design flaws. If an accident or successful terrorist attack occurred, the full impacts to human health and the environment in this region could be immense.*

### **Human Health**

*-A 1982 Congressional report estimated that if a meltdown occurred at just one of Watts Bar's reactors it could cause 11,000 peak\* early injuries, 4000 peak cancer deaths, and 5,000 peak early fatalities with costs over \$88.3 billion; building more reactors will only worsen these terrible impacts and put more people's lives and health at risk. (\*Peak means highest calculated value from the study – it does not necessarily mean worst case. Statistics in 1980 dollars and Census figures.)*

For more information on Watts Bar, visit [http://www.cleanenergy.org/index.php?/Take-Action.html?form\\_id=51&item\\_id=93](http://www.cleanenergy.org/index.php?/Take-Action.html?form_id=51&item_id=93)

For the NRC's information on the Watts Bar application process, <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/plant-specific-items/watts-bar.html>

Review TVA's final EIS on the second reactor at Watts Bar to find points of contentions:

<http://www.cleanenergy.org/images/files/Final%20TVA%20Watts%20Bar%20SEIS%20Feb%202008.pdf>