

## **TVA's Integrated Resource Plan: Focus on Climate Change**

### **How is TVA addressing its impact on climate change in the IRP process?**

TVA's potential carbon footprint is included as an element of how TVA evaluates its possible resource strategies. This allows TVA to compare various strategies based potential greenhouse gas emissions. The three strategies that TVA has selected as preferred strategies range from about 25% to 35% reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2025.



**The cost-effective transition from coal-fired power will require a strong commitment from TVA to efficiency and renewable energy.**

### **Does this range adequately reflect all that TVA could do to minimize its impact on climate change?**

No. While a 35% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions would certainly reduce TVA's impact on climate change, TVA could be doing more to reduce its emissions. TVA's proposed strategies to meet future energy demand leave significant amounts of energy efficiency and renewable energy undeveloped, meaning additional reductions in greenhouse gas emissions are being left on the table.

### **Why is minimizing TVA's greenhouse gas emissions important to the Valley?**

Climate change is the most significant environmental challenge that we face. In the Valley, climate change may lead to reductions in biodiversity, dramatic weather events, reduced agricultural productivity as well as a host of economic and social impacts we adapt to global warming. Reducing our dependence on coal is necessary to protect our way of life in the Valley.

### **Why isn't TVA committing to larger reductions in greenhouse gas emissions?**

As the primary source of TVA's generation for almost 50 years, TVA has become addicted to coal. The transition away from coal will take aggressive commitments to efficiency and renewable energy, resources that TVA is relatively inexperienced with. The economic, environmental and human health risks of nuclear power, TVA's preferred option, make it our absolute last option to address climate change. Fortunately, the Valley has abundant efficiency and renewable energy resources available to TVA.

### **What can we do to convince TVA to pursue greater reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions?**

Tell TVA that it must protect our way of life here in the Valley and reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. TVA's is accepting comments on its draft Integrated Resource Plan through November 8<sup>th</sup>. **Our voice can make the Valley's future cleaner, safer, and brighter!**

For information on the Valley's clean energy resources and how your voice can make a difference, visit us at [www.cleanenergy.org](http://www.cleanenergy.org).

## Integrated Resource Planning: Preparing for an uncertain future

### **What is Integrated Resource Planning?**

Integrated Resource Planning, or “IRP,” is a process that evaluates all of a utility’s resource options to find a strategy to meet future energy demand with the least amount of cost and risk. Both supply side resources, such as new power plants, and demand-side resources, such as energy efficiency, are evaluated as possible options.

TVA’s IRP process also takes into account its statutory directives to keep rates low, protect the environment, support economic development and be a leader in technological innovation. To accomplish these objectives, TVA evaluates possible strategies based not only on cost and risk, but also on environmental impact, contribution to the Valley’s economic development, and the advancement of various technologies.



**TVA’s IRP process seeks the best combination of resources to meet the Valley’s energy demand.**

### **How will this process impact the Tennessee Valley?**

What strategy TVA ultimately pursues will determine how much our electricity costs, how healthy our regional economies are, and how clean our land, skies and waters are. Having a coherent plan that prioritizes energy efficiency and renewable energy will create jobs, strengthen local economies and reduce our impact on the environment. The IRP process is the tool by which TVA can achieve this energy future, but it will take our voice to get it done.

### **Why does TVA need to hear from us?**

TVA needs to hear from you because TVA was created to serve the people of the Valley. Our voice will have an impact on how aggressively TVA develops the efficiency and renewable energy resources of the Valley. Prioritizing these resources will create jobs, strengthen local economies, and protect our environment for generations to come. Developing these resources should be TVA’s top priority, but TVA must hear from us that this is the future we want for the Valley.

### **How can someone participate in this process?**

TVA’s draft plan has been released for public review and comment. Comments can be submitted through November 8<sup>th</sup> by mail, online, or in person at one of the hearings being held in October. After comments are received, TVA will re-evaluate its recommended strategies and present a preferred strategy to the Board of Directors in spring 2011. For more information on submitting comments, go to <http://www.tva.gov/environment/reports/irp/index.htm>.

To learn more about clean energy in the Southeast, visit us at [www.cleanenergy.org](http://www.cleanenergy.org).