

## United States Senate

COMMITTEES:  
BANKING, HOUSING  
AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
FOREIGN RELATIONS  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

February 7, 2013

Statewide Organizing for Community eMpowerment  
Tennessee Environmental Council  
Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club  
Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning  
Tennessee Clean Water Network  
Tennessee Conservation Voters  
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy  
The Environmental Integrity Project  
The Natural Resources Defense Council

Dear Friends,

Thank you for taking the time to contact me regarding Dr. Marilyn Brown's nomination to the Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) Board of Directors.

I share your desire to appoint qualified professionals to the TVA Board, and I respect and appreciate Dr. Brown's academic credentials. Despite her scholarly achievements, among other concerns, I do not feel she shares the widespread appreciation in the Valley for the essential role that TVA plays in economic development in our state and our region and the quality of life of our fellow citizens.

In my discussions with Dr. Brown, she did not seem to share the concern of employers in our state that TVA's power rates are becoming less competitive compared to other power producers in our region. As you know, I have been heavily involved in recruiting employers to our state, and I can attest to the essential role TVA plays in the making our state an attractive place to live and do business. Economical power and economic development go hand in hand. The success our state has attracting major employers depends in no small part on competitive power rates. Economical power also is critical for lower income citizens, who cannot afford to spend increasing portions of their paycheck on utility bills. In this way, TVA directly impacts the standard of living of our neighbors.

For these reasons, producing economical electricity must continue to be a priority for TVA. TVA needs leaders who enthusiastically support this mission. I believe every board member must have an abiding appreciation of TVA's important economic development role and impact on the well-being of Valley residents. Unfortunately, Dr. Brown does not share that point of view.

Sincerely,



Bob Corker  
U.S. Senator