



400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

January 25, 2024

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Energy Alabama  
P.O. Box 1381  
Huntsville, AL 35807

Gaby Sarri-Tobar  
Center for Biological Diversity  
1411 K St. NW Suite 1300  
Washington, DC 20005

Brianna Knisley  
Appalachian Voices  
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Jake Duncan  
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2201 Broadway, Fourth Floor  
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Bryan Jacob  
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy  
P.O. Box 1842  
Knoxville, TN 37901

Matthew Mayers  
Green Workers Alliance  
1833 Ontario PI NW  
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Mr. Tait, Ms. Knisley, Mr. Jacob, Ms. Sarri-Tobar, Mr. Duncan, and Mr. Mayers:

As provided through TVA's mission and as inscribed at many TVA facilities, TVA was built "for the people." Our processes work best when TVA's diverse stakeholders in the service territory are engaged in stakeholder processes such as the development of our Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP").

As TVA's Board Secretary and on behalf of the TVA Board of Directors, we acknowledge receipt of your letter<sup>1</sup> dated November 1, 2023. This letter follows a prior, June 2023 letter,<sup>2</sup> requesting that specific steps be taken as part of the IRP process. On behalf of the Board, I provided TVA's response to that letter on August 22, 2023.

We appreciate the interest that your organizations have expressed again in TVA's 2024 IRP process. We welcome continued engagement from all stakeholders as TVA seeks to provide affordable, reliable, and increasingly clean power. One of the many strengths of the public power model is the input from diverse stakeholders whose engagement creates a more robust final product. Unlike many other utilities across the country, TVA is able to invite stakeholders into our planning processes through well-defined public engagement mechanisms. In the case of the

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<sup>1</sup> The document provided on November 1, 2023 is styled as a Petition to Intervene and Request for Public Hearing, but states that the document "has no legal significance in any regulatory proceeding" and was sent with a "fictitious docket number" to "raise awareness." Therefore, TVA believes it is appropriate to refer to the document as a letter.

<sup>2</sup> Of the six organizations that signed the November letter, only Green Workers Alliance did not sign the June 2023 letter.

IRP, these processes include the IRP Working Group (“Working Group”), which is composed of diverse stakeholders from across the service territory. It also includes the Regional Energy Resource Council (RERC), a Federal advisory committee composed of members appointed by the governors of each state served by the TVA and other stakeholders. The Working Group and the RERC, along with TVA staff, hold public listening sessions in order to gather perspectives from members of the public who want to be heard. For those who are not able to attend a listening session, TVA accepts written comments. The final IRP, which will consider all stakeholder input, will be reviewed by the IRP Working Group and the RERC in addition to the TVA Board.

TVA’s efforts to seek public input on the IRP is significant and beneficial. It includes multiple opportunities for public comment. On the Working Group, it also includes 24 external stakeholders that represent a wide range of organizations. Of note, these external stakeholders involved in the Working Group have provided substantive and critical input that has shaped the scenarios and strategies that TVA will use as part of its IRP modeling. Also, TVA has received important and helpful information from the public. TVA will continue to put significant effort towards ensuring it receives beneficial, diverse, and representative engagement throughout the IRP process. Below is a non-exhaustive summary of past and planned opportunities for public engagement concerning the IRP:

- A 45-day public scoping process from May 25 to July 3, 2023, that allowed the public an opportunity to provide written comments on the scope of TVA’s IRP;
- Publication of an IRP website, with published content related to the IRP, including certain information from the IRP Working Group meetings;<sup>3</sup>
- Virtual public meetings relating to TVA’s scoping process;
- Publication of TVA’s IRP Scoping Report;<sup>4</sup>
- Monthly in-person IRP Working Group meetings, with additional virtual meetings, to provide input on the scope of the IRP, importance of the various inputs used in the IRP process, IRP methodologies, and the content of the IRP. The IRP Working Group has representatives from 24 stakeholders, including local power companies, directly served customers, regional officials and community organizations, research facilities, government agencies, and environmental organizations;<sup>5</sup>
- Periodic public webinars to share information and take questions about the IRP process and content, including information about TVA’s draft Scenarios and Strategies;
- Quarterly TVA Board listening sessions (announced in advance and held the day before TVA’s public board meetings, the next of which will be held February 13, 2024 in Johnson City, TN);
- Planned publication of a draft IRP and related draft EIS in the late winter or early spring of 2024, which will start a second 45-day public comment period on the draft EIS; and
- Planned in-person open houses and virtual public meetings following the publication of the draft IRP and EIS, with at least two TVA Board listening sessions to occur after the expected publication of the draft IRP.

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<sup>3</sup> [Integrated Resource Plan \(tva.com\)](https://www.tva.com).

<sup>4</sup> See [Scoping Report](#).

<sup>5</sup> TVA sponsors the IRP Working Group to receive broad stakeholder feedback and input on its IRP processes, even though the only participation required is that TVA “provide an opportunity for distributors of the Tennessee Valley Authority to recommend cost-effective energy efficiency opportunities, rate structure incentives, and renewable energy proposals for inclusion in [TVA’s least-cost planning] program[.]” 16 U.S.C. § 831m-1(c)(1)(A).

We appreciate the comments that some of your organizations have already provided through the public engagement process and at the Board's prior quarterly listening sessions. We encourage you to also provide those comments in writing through the avenues described above.

The Tennessee Valley is experiencing extraordinary economic and population growth, which is increasing electricity demand at the same time that our nation's energy sector is transforming and evolving towards decarbonization. Diverse stakeholders across our region have many perspectives about how TVA can move boldly into the future while continuing to execute on our nearly 90-year-old statutory mission of delivering affordable and reliable electricity, economic development, and environmental quality. We are better together, and in that spirit, we would again invite you to participate alongside your neighbors and colleagues in the robust public engagement opportunities that are before you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David B. Fountain". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

David B. Fountain  
Executive Vice President, General Counsel  
and Corporate Secretary

cc: TVA Board of Directors  
Jeff Lyash, TVA President and CEO  
Jeannette Mills, TVA Executive Vice President and Chief External Relations Officer