

DEPARTMENT OF STATE**[Public Notice 3738]****Fine Arts Committee; Notice of Meeting**

The Fine Arts Committee of the Department of State will meet on Friday, September 28, 2001 at 3:00 p.m. in the Henry Clay Room. The meeting will last until approximately 4:30 p.m. and is open to the public.

The agenda for the committee meeting will include a summary of the work of the Fine Arts Office since its last meeting on March 31, 2001 and the announcement of gifts of furnishings as well as financial contributions from January 1 through August 30, 2001. Public access to the Department of State is strictly controlled. Members of the public wishing to take part in the meeting should telephone the Fine Arts Office by September 17, 2001, telephone (202) 647-1990 to make arrangements to enter the building. The public may take part in the discussion as long as time permits and at the discretion of the chairman.

Dated: July 31, 2001.

Gail F. Serfaty,

*Vice Chairman, Fine Arts Committee,
Department of State.*

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BILLING CODE 4710-38-P

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY**Union County Multipurpose Reservoir/ Other Water Supply Alternatives Project**

AGENCY: Tennessee Valley Authority.

ACTION: Issuance of record of decision.

SUMMARY: This notice is provided in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 to 1508) and TVA's procedures implementing the National Environmental Policy Act. The Union County, Mississippi, Board of Supervisors and the City of New Albany, Mississippi, have decided to adopt Alternative 2: Multipurpose Reservoir, as described in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Union County Multipurpose Reservoir/Other Water Supply Alternatives Project. This alternative would result in the construction and operation of a multipurpose reservoir on Cane Creek in Union County, Mississippi. Implementing this alternative requires TVA to abandon a portion of an existing electrical transmission line right-of-way and

relocate the existing electrical transmission line from that right-of-way. TVA has decided to relocate the line to the Alternate 1 route. In the Final EIS, Union County and the City of New Albany identified Alternative 2 as their preferred water supply alternative, and TVA identified Alternate 1 as its preferred transmission line route. The Final EIS was made available to the public on June 30, 2000. A Notice of Availability of the Final EIS was published in the **Federal Register** on July 7, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Charles P. Nicholson, NEPA Specialist, Environmental Management, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, WT 8C, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1499; telephone (423) 632-3582 or e-mail cpnicholson@tva.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In July 1998, TVA was requested by the City of New Albany, Union County, and others to assist in assessing the environmental consequences of alternatives for meeting the future water needs of New Albany and Union County, Mississippi. TVA's assistance was requested because of its expertise in water supply issues, its experience in conducting environmental reviews, and because one of the proposed water supply solutions would require TVA to relocate a portion of an electrical transmission line. TVA responded to this request by preparing a Draft and Final EIS. TVA's action in this project is limited to the relocation of the transmission line. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would have actions under at least two of the alternatives.

TVA provided public notice of its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement on water supply alternatives for Union County on December 2, 1998. A public meeting on the proposal was held on December 10, 1998. TVA released its Draft EIS on April 14, 2000, and held a public meeting to receive comments on the document on May 1, 2000. Comments were received from two federal and three state agencies, one university institute, four representatives of local governments or development corporations, and thirteen individuals. After considering all comments, TVA revised the EIS appropriately. The Final EIS was distributed to commenting agencies and the public on June 30, 2000.

Alternatives Considered

The Final EIS evaluated a No Action Alternative and three Action Alternatives for meeting the future water supply needs of the Union County area. The No Action Alternative was

based on a normal growth scenario, i.e., that the local population and their water supply needs will continue to grow at the moderate rate experienced during the 1990s. The Action Alternatives are based on higher growth rate projections, which would result in an additional 0.74 million gallons per day (mgd) of water demand in 2020 and an additional 1.67 mgd in 2050. The Final EIS also evaluated two alternate routes for the relocation of a transmission line that would occur as part of one of the action alternatives.

Under Alternative 1: No Action, Union County and the City of New Albany would continue making incremental improvements to their existing water supply systems. Existing local water supply systems rely on groundwater pumped from several wells.

Under Alternative 2: Multipurpose Reservoir, Union County and the City of New Albany would construct and operate a reservoir on Cane Creek to supply the high growth water demands and provide other benefits such as recreation and flood control. The reservoir would be impounded by a 2,000-foot long earthen dam located northeast of New Albany about 1.75 miles upstream of the junction of Cane Creek and the Little Tallahatchie River. At normal pool level, the reservoir would impound about 960 acres. Associated water supply system components include a water treatment plant immediately downstream of the reservoir and a pipeline connection to the local water distribution system.

As part of this alternative, TVA would relocate a 5.5 mile segment of the Albany-Ripley #2 161-kV transmission line from the reservoir basin to one of two alternate routes north and east of the reservoir. The Alternate 1 route is about 6.4 miles long, and the Alternate 2 route is about 7.5 miles long. About 3.4 miles of both routes share a common corridor. About 1.9 miles of the Alternate 2 route are parallel to an existing 500-kV transmission line; along this segment, the existing right-of-way would be widened from 175 feet to 247.5 feet to accommodate the new line. All of the Alternate 1 route and 5.6 miles of the Alternate 2 route would be built on new 100-foot wide right-of-way. The line would use a combination of single and double pole metal structures with horizontal cross arms.

Under Alternative 3: Pipeline from Existing Water Supply, a pipeline would be constructed, most likely to the Northeast Mississippi Regional Water Supply District at Tupelo. This pipeline would be about 27 miles long and parallel U.S. Highway 78 West. It would