

DEPARTMENT OF STATE**[Public Notice: 11969]****Notice of Charter Renewal for the Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation**

The Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation has renewed its charter for a period of two years. This Advisory Committee will continue to make recommendations to the Historian and the Department of State on all aspects of the Department's program to publish the *Foreign Relations of the United States* series as well as on the Department's responsibility under statute to open its 25-year-old and older records for public review at the National Archives and Records Administration.

The Committee consists of nine members drawn from among historians, political scientists, archivists, international lawyers, and other social scientists who are distinguished in the field of U.S. foreign relations. Questions concerning the Committee and the renewal of its Charter should be directed to Adam M. Howard, Executive Secretary, Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation, Department of State, Office of the Historian, 2300 E Street NW, Washington, DC 20372 (Navy Potomac Annex), telephone (202) 955-0214 (email history@state.gov).

The Charter was renewed on November 13, 2022.

For further information about the Board, please contact Adam Howard, Executive Secretary, Office of the Historian at History@state.gov.

Adam M. Howard,

Executive Secretary, Office of the Historian, Department of State.

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TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY**Cumberland Fossil Plant Retirement Environmental Impact Statement**

AGENCY: Tennessee Valley Authority.

ACTION: Record of decision.

SUMMARY: The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) has made a decision to adopt the Preferred Alternative identified in the Cumberland Fossil Plant Retirement Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Notice of Availability of the Final EIS for the Cumberland Fossil Plant Retirement was published in the **Federal Register** on December 9, 2022. TVA's preferred

alternative, Alternative A, involves the retirement and demolition of TVA's two-unit, coal-fired Cumberland Fossil Plant (CUF) and the construction and operation of a natural gas-fueled combined cycle (CC) plant on the CUF Reservation to replace the generation capacity of one of the two retired units. This least-cost alternative would achieve the purpose and need of the project to retire and decommission the two CUF units, one unit by the end of 2026 and the other unit by the end of 2028, and to provide replacement generation that can supply 1,450 megawatts (MW) of firm, dispatchable power by the time the first unit is retired by the end of 2026 to ensure that TVA is able to meet required year-round generation, maximum capacity system demands and planning reserve margin targets, particularly during peak load events.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ashley Pilakowski, NEPA Project Manager, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902; telephone 865-632-2256; or email aapilakowski@tva.gov. The Final EIS, this Record of Decision (ROD) and other project documents are available on TVA's website <https://www.tva.gov/nepa>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is provided in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1500 through 1508) and TVA's NEPA procedures (18 CFR 1318). TVA is a corporate agency of the United States that provides electricity for business customers and local power distributors serving 10 million people in the Tennessee Valley—an 80,000-square-mile region comprised of Tennessee and parts of Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Kentucky. TVA receives no taxpayer funding and derives virtually all revenues from the sale of electricity. In addition to operating and investing revenues in its power system, TVA provides flood control, navigation, and land management for the Tennessee Valley watershed and provides economic development and job creation assistance within the Service area.

In 2019, TVA completed its Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and associated Final EIS. The IRP identified the various energy resource options that TVA intends to pursue to meet the energy needs of the Tennessee Valley region over a 20-year planning period.

Following the completion of the TVA 2019 IRP, TVA began conducting end-

of-life evaluations of its operating coal-fired generating plants not already scheduled for retirement to inform long-term planning. This evaluation confirmed that the aging TVA coal fleet is among the oldest in the nation and is experiencing performance challenges as well as deteriorating material condition. The performance challenges are projected to increase because of the coal fleet's advancing age and the difficulty of adapting the fleet's generation within the changing generation profile. The continued long-term operation of TVA's coal plants is contributing to environmental, economic, and reliability risks. CUF is the largest plant in the TVA coal fleet with a summer net generating capacity of 2,470 MW. CUF is situated on a 2,388-acre reservation on the Cumberland River in Cumberland City, Stewart County, Tennessee.

CUF was built between 1968 and 1973 and used primarily as baseload generation. As TVA's generating fleet evolved, primarily with the additions of nuclear, gas, and renewable resources over the past 10–15 years, there was less of a need for CUF to consistently operate at full power. This has resulted in frequent cycling of the large super-critical units or turning them on and off as needed to meet demand. The plant was not originally designed for this type of operation, which presents reliability challenges that are difficult to anticipate and expensive to mitigate. As TVA continues to transition the rest of its fleet to cleaner and more flexible technologies, CUF will continue to be challenged to reliably operate on this as-needed basis. Based on this analysis, TVA has developed planning assumptions for CUF retirement. These assumptions include retirement of both CUF units and the addition of at least 1,450 MW of firm, dispatchable generation to replace the generation capacity lost from retirement of one of the CUF units, which is in-line with the recommendations in the 2019 IRP. Replacement generation of this kind will allow TVA to replace the dependable capacity of the first unit as well as account for modest anticipated load increases. The replacement generation would need to be online prior to retirement of the first CUF unit by the end of 2026. Planning for the replacement generation for the second retired CUF unit will be deferred to allow consideration of a broader range of replacement generation alternatives depending on system needs and the state of technology at the time replacement is needed.

TVA has prepared the Final EIS pursuant to NEPA to assess the