

**Allen Fossil Plant
East Ash Disposal Area
Closure Timeline Extension
No. 1**



Prepared by:
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1101 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402

April 23, 2024

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TVA Allen Fossil Plant

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OVERVIEW

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a final rule to regulate the disposal of coal combustion residuals (CCR) as solid waste under subtitle D of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). For qualifying units, the EPA Final CCR Rule (CCR Rule) requires that CCR landfills and surface impoundments be closed and maintained in accordance with the CCR closure and post closure requirements of 40 CFR §§257.102 and 104, respectively. Closure must be completed for qualifying landfills and surface impoundments within 6 months or 5 years, respectively, of commencing closure activities. Based on the CCR Rule, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) has determined that the Allen Fossil Plant – East Ash Disposal Area is an existing CCR surface impoundment and is therefore subject to the CCR Rule closure requirements. This closure timeline extension demonstration serves to show that it will not be feasible to complete closure of the CCR unit within the initial required timeframe due to factors beyond the facility's control. This demonstration includes applicable information required to seek a deadline extension to complete closure of the Allen Fossil Plant – East Ash Disposal Area.

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CLOSURE EXTENSION ALLOWANCE

The East Ash Disposal Area is approximately 80 acres in size and is characterized as a CCR surface impoundment under the CCR Rule. The CCR Rule requires closure of existing surface impoundments within five years of commencing closure activities, with extensions authorized according to 40 CFR §257.102(f)(2)(ii) of no more than five two-year extensions for CCR surface impoundments larger than 40 acres.

This demonstration represents the first two-year extension requested for this CCR unit, beyond the initial five-year allowance.

TIMELINE EXTENSION DEMONSTRATION

The following factors that impact the schedule for closure of the East Ash Disposal Area require an extension of the closure timeframe beyond the initial five year period.:

- 1) The time and effort required to dewater, excavate, and transport an 80 acre surface impoundment due to the volume of CCR contained in the CCR unit and/or the characteristics of the CCR. The written closure plan describes the steps necessary to close the CCR unit with recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices. The time and effort required to meet those generally accepted good engineering practices will take longer than the initial five year period allowed by the CCR Rule.
- 2) Complications stemming from the climate and weather, such as unusual amounts of precipitation or a significantly shortened construction season.
- 3) The time required or delays caused by the need to coordinate with and obtain necessary approvals and permits from a state or other agency.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION FOR THE CLOSURE EXTENSION

TVA is in the process of closing the East Ash Disposal Area by removing CCR. The closure by removal schedule is largely driven by the time required to dewater and remove the CCR and the time required for coordination and concurrence on the closure plan with state regulatory agencies. The completion timeframe is subject to change based on weather impacts, regulatory permitting approvals, and other factors.

Based on available topographical drawings and existing subsurface exploration data, it is estimated that the maximum inventory of CCR material at the East Ash Disposal Area prior to commencing closure included approximately 3 million cubic yards over approximately 80-acres. The CCR stored in the East Ash Disposal Area primarily consists of finer-grained fly ash material, that presents dewatering challenges. The combination of the volume and acreage of the CCR and the composition of the CCR material requires significant time to dewater, safely excavate, and transport the CCR during closure.

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To date, the annual construction seasons for the East Ash Disposal Area closure have been shortened each year because of complications resulting from severe thunderstorms, tornados, winter freezes, and flooding of the adjacent section of the Mississippi River and McKellar Lake. Complications have included full site shutdowns, power outages, damage to construction equipment and site infrastructure, and limited access to the site.

In addition, closure of the East Ash Disposal Area requires close coordination with regulatory authorities and extensive time for permitting related to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (National Environmental Policy Act), United States Army Corps of Engineers (Clean Water Act, Rivers and Harbors Act), Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation (Division of Remediation, Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit, Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan), and the City of Memphis (Division of Public Works). These efforts extend the planning phase of the project and influence the schedule for completion of the closure effort. Some considerations in these regulatory processes also limit construction productivity and extend the project schedule.

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CERTIFICATION

I, Patrick Kiser, certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this demonstration and all attached documents, and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the submitted information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.

SIGNATURE  _____

DATE April 23, 2024

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