

Allen Fossil Plant Location Restriction Demonstrations

In 2009, TVA adopted a coal ash management program to convert coal combustion residuals (CCR) from wet impoundments to dry storage (i.e., lined landfills or beneficial reuse) and to close wet ash impoundments. TVA ceased coal-burning operations at the Allen Fossil Plant in March 2018. In accordance with TVA's commitment to dry storage and impoundment closures, and in compliance with the EPA's "Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities" final rule (CCR Rule), TVA will cease sending wastewater flows to the East Ash Disposal Area (EADA) in April 2019 and will initiate closure of the EADA. Closure of the EADA will be performed in accordance with the CCR Rule and applicable state law requirements. In addition, a notification of intent to close the EADA will be posted to the TVA CCR Rule website prior to initiating closure per the CCR Rule.

TVA is not posting demonstrations associated with the CCR Rule location restrictions at 40 C.F.R. §§ 257.60-257.64. Under the CCR Rule at 40 C.F.R. § 257.101(b), the result of TVA not posting these demonstrations is that TVA must cease sending CCR and non-CCR wastewater flows to the impoundments in April 2019, and initiate closure in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 257.102. As noted above, TVA is already planning to take these actions.

Although TVA is not posting location restriction demonstrations, TVA is working with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) to investigate the environmental conditions at Allen Fossil Plant. These studies include evaluations of the groundwater and site hydrogeologic conditions, groundwater chemistry, structural and seismic stability evaluations, and characterization of the CCR. The results of these studies will be documented in an Environmental Assessment Report, which will contain a comprehensive evaluation of site conditions. While this investigation is ongoing, TVA also will be preparing an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to study closure options. Following these studies, and in cooperation with TDEC, the method of closure for the EADA will be determined. In the interim, TVA is improving the conditions at the EADA by implementing interim measures including EADA pond dewatering and groundwater control and treatment.

TVA is committed to serving the people of the Tennessee Valley through its mission of providing low-cost reliable power, environmental stewardship and economic development. This commitment includes protecting human health, caring for the environment, and complying with all applicable environmental regulations while safely managing coal ash at our plants.