

Gallatin 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. In accordance with this commitment 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 Gallatin Ash Pond Complex (APC) in April 2019, and initiate closure of the APC. For purposes of this document, the APC includes the following existing CCR surface impoundments: Bottom Ash Pond, Middle Pond A, Ash Pond A, and Ash Pond E. Closure of the APC will be performed in accordance with the CCR Rule and applicable state law requirements. In addition, a notification of intent to close the APC 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 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 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 has conducted extensive environmental studies of the APC, beginning in 2016, in cooperation with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). These studies include evaluations of the groundwater and site hydrogeologic conditions, groundwater chemistry, karst risk assessments, structural and seismic stability evaluations, and characterization of the CCR. The initial results of the studies were presented in a Draft Environmental Assessment Report submitted to TDEC on April 28, 2017, and in supplemental analyses submitted to TDEC on November 10, 2017 and March 16, 2018. As of the date of this posting, the environmental studies are ongoing. Once complete, the results of these studies will be documented in a Final Environmental Assessment Report, to be submitted to TDEC, which will contain a comprehensive evaluation of site conditions. The Final Environmental Assessment Report will help to inform appropriate closure methodology for the APC and other appropriate corrective actions. TVA also will be preparing an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to study closure options.

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.