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Description of document: Correspondence from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or the National Park Service (NPS) to Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) expressing concern over pollution and emissions from TVA Fossil-fueled plants, 2001-2007

Requested date: 06-November-2010

Released date: 02-March-2011

Posted date: 04-April-2011

Date/date range of document: 2001, 2007

Source of document: TVA FOIA Officer  
400 West Summit Hill Dr. WT 7D  
Knoxville, TN 37902-1499  
Fax: 865-632-6901

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Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1401

March 2, 2011

This responds to your letter of November 6, 2010, requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 5 U.S.C. § 552 (2006 & Supp. III 2009). You requested any correspondence from the Environmental Protection Agency or the National Park Service to TVA expressing concern over pollution and emissions from TVA Fossil plants.

Enclosed are three letters we located that are responsive to your request.

For non-commercial requests, TVA's FOIA regulations (18 C.F.R. § 1301) provide that fees for the first two hours of search time and the first 100 pages of copying are waived. Since this response was made within those guidelines, there is no charge for processing your request.

You may appeal this initial determination on your FOIA request by writing to Mr. David R. Mould, Senior Vice President, Communications, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 W. Summit Hill Drive, WT 7B, Knoxville, TN 37902-1401. Please see 18 C.F.R. 1301.9 (2010). Any appeal must be received by Mr. Mould within 30 days of the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

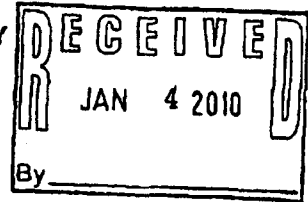
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Denise Smith  
TVA FOIA Officer

Enclosures



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27711



OFFICE OF  
AIR QUALITY PLANNING  
AND STANDARDS

[OMB Control No. 2060-0631]

December 24, 2009

Mr. John McCormick  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Dear Mr. McCormick:

Pursuant to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) authority under Section 114 of the Clean Air Act (CAA), as amended, the Agency is requesting that owners/operators of all coal- and oil-fired electric utility steam generating units provide information that will allow EPA to assess the emissions of hazardous air pollutants (HAP) from each such unit. This information, along with other information, will assist the Administrator of EPA in developing national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP) under CAA Section 112. All information submitted to EPA as part of this request will be made available to the public unless a satisfactory showing is made that public access to such information would divulge methods or processes entitled to protection as Confidential Business Information (CBI) or trade secrets.

The purpose of this letter is to request that Tennessee Valley Authority provide the information required in Enclosure 1 of this letter. **Tables 1 and 2** of this letter list the units for which this information is required. It is also important to note that there are detailed footnotes in **Table 2** discussing EPA's stance concerning substitution for units chosen for testing within certain test groups. If your company is considering a possible unit substitution, please consult the information contained in the footnotes of **Table 2** to determine if the unit you wish to use as a substitute meets the eligible requirements of substitution for similar units. Enclosure 2 provides additional information and instructions for completing the Information Collection Request (ICR), and submitting data electronically.

CAA Section 112(a)(8) defines "electric utility steam generating unit" as follows:

"The term 'electric utility steam generating unit' means any fossil fuel-fired combustion unit of more than 25 megawatts that serves a generator that produces electricity for sale. A unit that cogenerates steam and electricity and supplies more than one-third of its potential electric output capacity and more than 25 megawatts electrical output to any utility power distribution system for sale shall be considered an electric utility steam generating unit."

The authority for EPA's information gathering is included in CAA Section 114 (42 U.S.C. 7414). Enclosure 3 contains a summary of this authority. The EPA is requiring this information under an ICR approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act. The OMB Control No. is 2060-0631.

The EPA has contracted RTI International\* (RTI) (Contract No. EP-D-06-118) to obtain information pertinent to the industry. Thus, as noted in Enclosure 4, EPA has designated RTI as an authorized representative of the Agency; therefore, RTI has the rights previously discussed and the ones that appear in Enclosure 3. Accordingly, RTI will have access to information provided to EPA in response to this ICR. As a designated representative of the Agency, RTI is subject to the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 7414(c) respecting confidentiality of methods or processes entitled to protection as trade secrets.

The EPA does not believe that any of the information subject to this request is confidential; however, if you believe that disclosure of specific pieces of information that you submit would reveal a trade secret, then you should clearly identify such pieces of information as "confidential." Please do not label an entire response as "confidential" if only certain portions consist of material that you claim to be trade secret information. Please refer to Enclosure 3 for the information that EPA may require, at a later time, to support your confidentiality claims. Any information determined to constitute a trade secret will be protected under 18 U.S.C. 1905. If no claim of confidentiality accompanies the information when it is received by EPA, then EPA will make the information available to the public without further notice to your company pursuant to 40 CFR part 2.203(a). CAA Section 114(c) exempts emissions data from claims of confidentiality; therefore, the emissions data that you provide will be made available to the public. A clarification of what EPA considers to be emissions data is contained in Enclosure 5. You should not mark your emissions data as CBI. Information that you claim to be confidential should be submitted under a separate cover to Mr. Roberto Morales at the address below.

If you are submitting CBI, please mail a separate CD or DVD containing only the CBI portion of your data under a separate cover to the following address and contact:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards  
U.S. EPA Mailroom (C404-02)  
Attention: Mr. Roberto Morales, Document Control Officer  
109 T.W. Alexander Drive  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27711

Enclosure 6 summarizes Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards's policies and procedures for handling privileged information and describes EPA's contractor commitments and procedures for use of confidential materials. It is EPA's policy that compliance by an authorized representative with the requirements detailed in Enclosure 6 provides sufficient protection for the rights of submitters of privileged information. Additional information about mailing CBI submittals is provided in Enclosure 7.

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\* RTI International is a trade name of Research Triangle Institute.

EPA believes that it is highly advisable for each facility (subject to emissions testing under Part III of the ICR) to devise a Quality Assurance Test Plan that is specific to each facility. Such a plan could include the project elements as enumerated in Chapter 3 of EPA's Quality Assurance Document which is available on the Web (see Enclosure 8). The existence of such a plan would also provide a means to verify that the quality assurance protocols as contained in the various test methods are met. However, it is important to note that EPA will not review or approve these Quality Assurance Test Plans.

It is also advisable that companies with facilities whose units that are subject to emissions testing under Part III of the ICR become familiar with the requirements of EPA's Electronic Reporting Tool (ERT) (Version 3) by reading the ERT User's Guide. The same companies should also acquaint themselves with the ERT's data entry requirements before any emissions testing is planned or initiated.

If you have any questions or concerns about this request, please contact Mr. William Maxwell of EPA at (919) 541-5430 by January 21, 2010.

Sincerely,



Peter Tsirigotis  
Director

Sector Policies and Programs Division

#### 8 Enclosures

- cc: Ahmed Amanullah, AFS Compliance Manager, US EPA, Region 4 (9T25), Atlanta, GA (without enclosures)  
Ms. Lisa Cole, AL DEM-Air Division, Montgomery, AL (without enclosures)  
Robbin Edwards, KY Natural Resources & Environmental Protection, Frankfort, KY (without enclosures)  
Mr. Barry R. Stephens, Director, TN Department of Environment and Conservation, Nashville, TN (without enclosures)

United States Department of the Interior';:

wl,?CN;I

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11-2-2001

Best copy

UVA/VALE

Office of the Director  
N3615(0001)  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
Mr. Glenn L. McCullough, Jr., Chairman  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
400 West Sumnilt Hill Drive  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1499  
NOV - 2  
A -t: 18  
GLENN L - J',

Dear Mr. McCullough:

On behalf of the National Park Service and particularly on behalf of the 10 million visitors who travel each year to Great Smoky Mountains National Park, we want to let you know we appreciate Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) recent decision to reduce emissions from its power plants near the Smokies.

We understand that TVA plans to invest \$1.5 billion to install scrubbers on the Kingston and Bull Run plants in Tennessee, the Paradise plant in Kentucky, and the Colbert plant in Alabama. Those new scrubbers are a significant step towards reducing the sulfur emissions that reduce visibility and contribute to acidification of park soils and streams. Ironically, our most recent money generation models show that this same amount, \$1.5 billion, is about what visitors to Great Smoky Mountains National Park contribute annually to the local economies around the park. Given that Smokies visitors consistently list "viewing the mountain scenery" as their primary reason for coming, we know they will agree with park managers that improving those views will be money well spent.

We also commend TVA for its \$1 billion project currently underway to reduce ozone-causing nitrogen oxides by 70-75 percent. That reduction will make a significant difference in protecting the health of the plant life in the Smokies and of the visitors and area residents to whom ozone presents a serious health problem.

In closing, we encourage you in your efforts, and we are hopeful that similar reduction~ will occur in emissions from transportation and industry which along with power generation are the major pollution sources affecting the Smokies.

Sincerely,

Fran P. Mainella  
Director



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

1) JK  
2) EDMS

JUL 25 2007

RECEIVED  
KNOXVILLE  
JUL 30 2007  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Tom Kilgore  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
400 W. Summit Hill Dr.  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1499

Dear Mr. Kilgore:

Thank you for meeting with Don and me recently about common interests and issues. Given that the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) is one of the large power producers in our Region, I was particularly pleased to hear about the new energy conservation initiatives that TVA will be pursuing through its new strategic plan.

As we discussed, Region 4 is organizing a conference on energy and climate change issues to be held in early December. We would certainly welcome your participation in this initiative. Since we are still in the planning stages, I will forward you information and a draft agenda as such becomes available.

I look forward to working with you as we improve the environment and quality of life for the citizens of the Southeast. If you would like to talk further about joint ventures, please contact me at (404) 562-8357.

Sincerely,

J. I. Palmer, Jr.  
Regional Administrator