

## **TVA Environmental Assessment Supports Dewatering Facility at Shawnee**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. – The Tennessee Valley Authority is taking another step to change the way ash and other coal products are stored at Shawnee Fossil Plant near Paducah, Ky.

TVA is proposing to build a dewatering facility to remove moisture from bottom ash created by the burning of coal at the plant. Bottom ash is particles of ash that are too large to be captured in the air and are instead collected at the bottom of the steam furnace. Water is currently used to move the ash into ponds for storage, but TVA is moving to a dry storage system at [Shawnee](#) and at all its fossil sites.

As part of the process, TVA completed an assessment of potential environmental impacts for two types of dewatering facilities. Both would remove the moisture, but one would discharge the water from the facility to the river through a permitted location while the other would recycle the discharge water back into the powerhouse for continued use. In both cases, the dry products would then be stored at a special landfill onsite.

A [Finding of No Significant Impact](#) was issued on Sept. 15, 2016 stating that neither option would have a significant impact on the environment. TVA also looked at the option not to construct a dewatering facility and continue to store the ash in on-site ponds. Two other options were removed for consideration for environmental and engineering reasons, and are described in the Environmental Assessment.

TVA's preferred alternative, and the one most likely to be built, is the facility which includes a recirculated discharge water system.

This project supports TVA's plan to discontinue wet storage of coal combustion residuals, which helps comply with present and future regulatory requirements for coal combustion residuals.

The Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact are available online at [www.tva.com/nepa](http://www.tva.com/nepa) or in hard copy by contacting Ashley Farless, Tennessee Valley Authority, 1101 Market St., BR 4A, Chattanooga, TN, 37402.

Shawnee is a 1,206 megawatt, coal-burning power plant with nine generating units located on the Ohio River in McCracken County, Ky.

For more information about TVA and its 83-year mission of service to the Tennessee Valley, click [here](#).

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(Distributed: Sept. 15, 2016)