

Summary of Public Comments to the TVA Board

For consideration
in advance of the
TVA Board Meeting
in Martin, Tennessee
August 31, 2022

TVA Board members heard from 46 members of the public for its Listening Session on August 30, 2022. Twenty-nine of the members of the public attended the session to speak in person.

The largest number of people commented on or submitted comments urging TVA to use more, or only, renewable energy, including representatives of the Sierra Club, its Beyond Coal Campaign, and the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League. The Sierra Club, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, and Appalachian Voices also provided about 750 petition signatures and comments advocating for renewable energy and opposing natural gas generation.

Four representatives of Valley local power companies and two representatives of large Valley industries spoke about the need for TVA to continue supplying reliable, low-cost energy from diverse generating sources. The representatives of local power companies spoke or provided comments on their strong partnerships with TVA, and a union representative spoke about strong union partnerships with TVA.

Three community officials thanked TVA for its support for their local communities, particularly in helping communities recover from devastating storms last winter.

Nine people spoke or submitted comments about concerns at Cypress Creek Marina in Linden, Tenn., asking TVA's help in resolving a heated dispute between residents and a marina operator. Another speaker asked TVA to urgently look into a marina business at Norris Lake that may not be operating with the required permits.

Members of the public spoke about agricultural issues, including concerns about converting farmland to solar projects and the need to prioritize solar development on lands not suitable for agricultural needs. The speakers also expressed appreciation for TVA's diverse energy sources and its operation of the Tennessee River system.

Other topics addressed by speakers or in written comments included the Inflation Reduction Act, encouragement for TVA to limit or end the use of nuclear energy, a non-TVA life insurance policy matter, and the growth of eel grass in Lake Gunterville.