

**Regional Resource Stewardship Council (RRSC) Minutes
Tennessee Valley Authority
September 20 and 21, 2022**

**Meeting location:
TVA Towers
Knoxville Office Complex West Tower Auditorium
400 W. Summit Hill Drive SW
Knoxville, Tennessee**

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Regional Resource Stewardship Council (RRSC or Council) convened for the 1st meeting of the 12th term, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Eastern on Tuesday, September 20, 2022. Meeting presentations and a recording of the meeting are available at www.tva.gov/rrsc.

Council members attending in-person:

RaeLynn Butler, Keith Carnahan, Alan Gates, Richard Holland, Cline Jones, Kim Klinker, Tom Littlepage (Chair), Will Nelson, Danette Scudder, Bob Sneed, Catherine Via, Randy Wiggins.

Council members attending virtually:

Ron Lambert, Whitney Lipscomb, Ron Robertson, Stacey White.

Designated Federal Officer: Melanie Farrell

Facilitator: Jo Anne Lavender

Minutes include:

- Appendix A — TVA staff and stakeholders who attended the meeting
- Appendix B Agenda
- Appendix C Council Advice

Purpose

The purpose of the meeting was to present information on TVA's Reservoir Operations Policy, provide updates on TVA River Management and Natural Resources, and to obtain an RRSC Advice Statement for the questions: "Does the current implementation of the TVA Reservoir Operations Policy balance the needs of the Valley and provide quality, equity and benefits for users? Are there any additional objectives that should be prioritized? Are there any other recommendations for implementation of the policy?"

1. Welcome and Introductions

- A.** Melanie Farrell, TVA Vice President of External Strategy and Regulatory Oversight and Designated Federal Officer, welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that Tom Littlepage, who is serving his 10th term on the Council, is the new RRSC Chair. Farrell thanked Kim Klinker, who stepped down as Chair, for her years of service. Littlepage offered words of welcome along with Allen Clare, TVA Vice President of River and Resource Management, who thanked the Council members for their time and feedback. Clare also recognized Bucky Edmondson, who is retiring after 42 years of service in TVA Natural Resources.

- B. Jo Anne Lavender, meeting facilitator, welcomed everyone joining in person and virtually. She noted the meeting was being recorded and the video would be posted on TVA's website (www.tva.gov/rrsc)
- C. Kendra Mansur, an attorney with TVA's Office of General Counsel, provided historical background on federal advisory committees, discussed key provisions of the RRSC Council Charter and reviewed meeting requirements. She noted that the Council's advice statements are delivered to the TVA Board of Directors through the Board's External Stakeholders and Regulation Committee and are important to TVA and for the 10 million residents of the Tennessee Valley.

2. **Designated Federal Officer Briefing — Melanie Farrell**
(Presentation can be found at www.tva.gov/rrsc)

Melanie Farrell provided an update on some TVA activities since the last RRSC meeting, including that TVA:

- **Adopted a Biodiversity Policy**, which states that TVA will protect biodiversity through its stewardship of public lands, management of the Tennessee River system, local and regional partnerships, and integration of species and habitat conservation in project planning. At the last RRSC meeting, the Council provided advice that went to the TVA Board, which adopted the policy in November 2021.
- **Published its first Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) Report in FY 2021**. Inclusion is a TVA Core Value. TVA strives to create an inclusive environment internally and is engaged in activities to advance diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility externally as well. TVA's external inclusion efforts include providing support to people who struggle to pay their power bills.
- **Published the FY 2021 Sustainability Report**. The RRSC supported the development of TVA's first Sustainability Report in 2019. The FY 2021 report highlights TVA sustainability activities related to energy, environmental stewardship, economic development and governance. Farrell noted that while TVA aspires to achieve net-zero carbon emissions, it remains focused on maintaining energy reliability, low rates, resiliency and sustainability.
- **Executing on TVA's Strategic Intent and Guiding Principles**. This document was endorsed in May 2021, and TVA follows it closely. TVA is a national leader in decarbonization. TVA is working through an asset transition plan for its energy portfolio, and there is more to do as it transitions away from its aging coal fleet and determines the best assets to achieve its ultimate aspiration – a carbon-free economy without jeopardizing energy reliability or rates.

Farrell also provided a status update on TVA Board nominees. TVA has a part-time, nine-member Board, and there are currently five members. Two members are in positions that expired in May, and they are serving the balance of this calendar year. There are six Board nominees working through the nomination process. Three went through the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW) committee hearing process in the Spring, and three newer nominees went through committee hearings in the past several weeks. TVA hopes there will be a full EPW business committee meeting held before the end of the month, and after the nominees are out of committee, they will go before the full Senate for consideration.

3. Reservoir Operations Policy (Presentation can be found at www.tva.gov/rrsc) — **James Everett, Senior Manager, TVA River Forecast Center, and Ben Heath, Civil Engineer, Water Resources, TVA River Forecast Center**

James Everett said the RRSC’s feedback, guidance and opinions are important to TVA, noting that the Council’s input has played an important role in updating the Reservoir Operations Policy in the past and that TVA will continue to bring the policy before the Council every four to five years to get members’ feedback. There was a Council question about what TVA means by “equity” in the first question, and Everett said it means applying the Reservoir Operations Policy in a balanced manner that does not favor one river operating objective over another. RRSC questions are summarized at the end of this section of the minutes.

Ben Heath provided a comprehensive history of TVA’s river management mission, which began with the TVA Act in 1933 — an act that assigned responsibility to TVA for flood control, navigation and power generation, when possible. TVA uses the current Reservoir Operations Policy to make decisions and balance today’s operating objectives: navigation, flood-damage reduction, affordable and reliable electricity, improved water quality, dependable water supply and recreation opportunities. Heath reviewed each of the objectives in detail, explaining their individual importance as well as TVA’s integrated resource management approach, which balances the needs of each objective in a way that achieves what is best for the Tennessee Valley.

Everett then reviewed the history of the TVA Reservoir Operations Policy. He explained that over the years since the TVA Act of 1933, TVA has made river management changes and adjustments to achieve greater value. The early days were a building phase. In the 1970s through 1990s, TVA began looking for ways to improve and expand system benefits and established a more formal evaluation process for soliciting public input and providing a forum for external groups. Recommendations from the RRSC during its first term became the foundation for a comprehensive reservoir operations study, which was conducted from 2001 to 2003 — with the goal of preparing long-term operating guidelines. The process involved the public extensively, with almost 7,000 people commenting on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and 2,100 commenting on the Final EIS. A Record of Decision was filed in 2004. The result was the initial Reservoir Operations Policy.

In 2014, the RRSC reviewed the Reservoir Operations Policy again and affirmed a number of points, including that it should be used as an ongoing river management document. Policy successes between 2004 and 2022 include:

- Flood control, even in years of record rainfall,
- Fewer navigation disruptions,
- Hydropower that has been valuable and flexible, especially when energy prices and fuel have been affected by the market,
- Enhanced water quality that improves aquatic habitats,
- Improved public outreach through social media, and
- Recreational opportunities that today generate \$12 billion in the region and provide some of the best fishing lakes in the country.

Everett said that as TVA plans for the future, it is considering potential challenges — factors such as climate change, financial pressures, threatened or endangered species in the waterways, or a dam safety event — that could change how it implements the policy. He asked

the RRSC to think of other potential challenges, and he reiterated that the Council's feedback is integral to helping TVA achieve its river management objectives.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

An RRSC member asked how TVA benchmarks against other entities, given that the public power model is so different from private power companies. Everett said TVA benchmarks amongst individual peers, federal peers, members of CEATI (a worldwide hydropower organization) and partners such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the National Weather Service. TVA also gathers information through interaction with stakeholders.

In response to questions about TVA's work with dissolved oxygen to improve aquatic habitat downstream from dams, Everett said some dams are followed minute-by-minute, while others are checked but do not need around-the-clock checks. He said at locations where there are oxygen challenges, TVA is meeting the needs through different technologies. For mainstem dams, TVA stores oxygen onsite and deploys it into the reservoirs. For tributary dams, TVA uses aerating turbines and surface water pumps to increase oxygen, and it continues to evaluate new technologies to further improve oxygen flow.

Some members asked questions about TVA's river management as it relates to agriculture, including whether TVA foresees a required metric system to measure the amount of water that is used in irrigation systems. Everett said he does not imagine limited irrigation levels on the Tennessee River like there might be on smaller rivers. He said TVA has strong partnerships with the agricultural community across the Valley. Members representing the farming industry said they appreciate TVA's efforts to mitigate flooding and to work closely with farmers on agricultural issues. A member thanked TVA for keeping rivers open and at a depth that accommodates barges. This is important to the agricultural community, and since one barge equals 70 truckloads, provides both an economical and environmental benefit.

Related to questions about technology and partnerships, Everett said technology enables TVA to do simulations and not have to collect real-time data to measure ungauged tributary in-flows. TVA partners with organizations such as United States Geological Survey and Tennessee Tech University and is working to determine how to further improve coverage and gather data. Everett said TVA partners with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Water Center in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and it has changed some of its software models to align with the weather service models. TVA continues to monitor NOAA technology to determine where its technology can apply to TVA operations. TVA provides its river data to the Southeastern Power Administration and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and real-time decisions are made based on its data.

In response to concerns that looting occurs on tribal archeological sites when the river reaches drought levels in the Tennessee Valley, representatives said TVA will work to incorporate cultural resources protection into the Drought Management Plan and will allocate resources accordingly. River Management said it will look into ways to coordinate and communicate with TVA Cultural Resource Management if there are concerns about extreme drought or high flood conditions.

A Council member asked how TVA will decide priorities as future constraints such as regulations or extreme weather are placed on the power system. Everett said the key is system flexibility. He said the system hasn't been fully challenged yet, and that each operating objective has room to stretch if another takes priority at that given moment. Everett said TVA is looking for

guidance from RRSC members if they see things that might require adjustments in the Reservoir Operations Policy.

Other RRSC questions and answers included:

- Is the aquatic vegetation that TVA works to remove (so it doesn't impact TVA operations or recreational boating) native or invasive?
 - It is a mix, and some is sent to a lab to identify if it is native or invasive.
- Can local residents dredge on their private property when there is a drawdown on the lake?
 - TVA will follow up.
- When lakes change due to runoff, what can TVA do to reduce sedimentation and help the lakes last longer?
 - TVA does not have ability to dredge channels. The U.S Army Corps of Engineers handles channel maintenance on mainstem. TVA monitors and can find trouble spots, but it does not have the option to do the maintenance work.
- Is TVA monitoring water quality as the population and businesses increase in the Tennessee Valley? There is more manufacturing and more spraying of chemicals. How do you control that?
 - TVA cannot control what businesses put into the water, but it monitors water quality. TVA conducts reservoir ecological health checks and has health indexes to determine the health of the reservoirs. State agencies conduct chemical analyses of the reservoirs. There are certain conditions TVA monitors, such as dissolved oxygen and water temperature. If the state finds a problem with water quality, jurisdiction goes back to the state.
- As places like Ford's new BlueOval City in Stanton, Tennessee, come online, it will put demands on the power supply. What is TVA considering?
 - TVA will soon embark on a new Integrated Resource Plan, and that will consider new growth in the Valley.
- Social media is growing and is a popular form of communications that TVA should continue to use it as a form of outreach.
 - TVA's social media team looks to metrics to inform content. Social media is used heavily, particularly during potential and actual flood events.
- How does TVA calculate the amount it protects from a property standpoint during floods?
 - TVA modeling can compute the value of structural contents. There also are soft benefits, and as TVA looks to the future, it is looking to software that would better articulate what the potential damage could have been.
- How can people get real-time reservoir data?
 - TVA has a [Lake Levels webpage](#) on TVA.com, which provides lake level information by site for that day and the following day.

4. Advice Questions and Discussion

The advice questions are "Does the current implementation of the TVA Reservoir Operations Policy balance the needs of the Valley and provide quality, equity and benefits for users? Are there any additional objectives that should be prioritized? Are there any other recommendations for implementation of the policy?"

Council members were asked to weigh in on the topics before a draft Advice Statement was prepared. Comments and suggestions included:

- Hearing the staff discuss the objectives that are balanced each day gives a deep appreciation for what TVA juggles. It would be good to add an objective about being proactive about protecting cultural resources in drought conditions.
- Everything is operating well and balanced. As TVA looks at strategic priorities, it will want to be sure it has the funding and staff for this river management work. These needs will have to be recognized as river management competes with other areas of TVA for resources.
- A few members noted that the policy balances objectives now, but that TVA will need to consider how challenges in the future will impact the power system and develop parameters for analyzing risks.
- A question about what prompted the advice questions?
 - TVA responded that the policy is almost 20 years old and was designed with a 30-year horizon. It wanted RRSC members' perspectives on whether the policy still meet the needs of the people and if they see something TVA doesn't see.
 - A member said that if TVA moves away from fossil fuels and further toward electrification, power availability will need to be increased.
- River operations impact the entire Valley, and it will be important that TVA continues to utilize employees' operational knowledge and has a succession plan to ensure that knowledge is captured for the future.
- Council members encouraged TVA to continue its outreach efforts.
- Add the word "sustainability" to the policy so it is clear that balancing objectives needs to happen both now *and* in the future.
- It is helpful that TVA has a phone line (865-632-6065) the public can call related to river operations. TVA should continue to offer the ability to talk to an actual local employee and not a recording.
- A few members noted that TVA is unique as a public power company, and the Reservoir Operations Policy is a success because of the flexibility it provides.

5. Wrap-Up of Day One

Jo Anne Lavender explained that Tom Littlepage, Chair, would work together with TVA staff to draft an RRSC Advice Statement for the Council to review in the morning of Day Two. Melanie Farrell thanked Council members for their participation and engagement in the discussion.

6. Welcome to Day Two

Melanie Farrell provided an update on TVA External Relations' new regional operating model. The model divides TVA's service territory into four regions — north, south, east and west. Staff has been added to each region, and the model enables TVA to be even more involved and engaged at the community level. Farrell's team is part of the central support that has helped build and structure the model. She asked for RRSC members' feedback, noting that she will take it back to TVA as it works to listen and learn in the communities.

Jo Anne Lavender reviewed the presentations that were covered in Day One and noted that no one from the public had signed up to speak at the public listening session on Day Two. Tom Littlepage recognized Bucky Edmondson, who is retiring as director of TVA Natural Resources, and congratulated Rebecca Hayes for assuming the role.

7. Review of Draft Advice Statement

Tom Littlepage explained that when he and TVA staff members developed the draft Advice Statement based on the Council members' responses to the advice questions the previous day, there were certain themes and points that were important to cover in the Advice Statement. He said based on responses, it was important to highlight outreach, flexibility, maintaining a knowledgeable staff, TVA's continued consideration of agricultural and focus on the regional model in the Advice Statement.

In a discussion about the word "equity," Melanie Farrell said that equity equates to fairness; that as TVA balances priorities, it makes decisions in fair and consistent ways for the betterment of the Tennessee Valley. The Council decided against using the word "equity" in its Advice Statement, instead stating, "The current policy empowers TVA staff to fairly prioritize TVA's obligations while considering the spirit and intent of operating a quality integrated system."

The Council reviewed the full written draft together, and individuals offered their feedback. Highlights of the lengthy discussion included:

- The policy empowers TVA staff to fairly prioritize TVA's obligations as it operates a quality integrated system.
- TVA has a federal mandate to coordinate with tribal governments. It is important to strengthen communication and coordination between TVA River Management and Cultural Resource Management related to the protection of cultural resources in drought conditions.
- TVA places importance on community engagement and STEM education.

8. River Management Update (Presentation can be found at www.tva.gov/rrsc) — **Tom Barnett, General Manager, TVA River Management**

Tom Barnett provided an update on TVA River Management activities this year. With rainfall above normal, TVA has a good amount of water stored. TVA's management of its dams has averted almost \$10 billion in flood damages since TVA's inception. TVA averages over \$300 million averted in flood damages annually, although it is far short of that figure this year.

TVA's flood risk work has included processing an increased number of requests for Section 26a permits during the pandemic, when people were home and wanted to build on their docks. In another activity, TVA is partnering with the University of Alabama on paleoflood studies to quantify the magnitude of floods that occurred prior to TVA records and reduce uncertainty by evaluating the risk of large floods in the future.

TVA's navigation responsibilities include installing and maintaining about 2,500 navigation aids that enhance safety on about 375 miles of secondary, or recreational, channels across the TVA region. TVA's motor vessel makes two trips each year up and down the Tennessee River, and the crew has operated without a safety incident for 20 years. TVA currently is working on three lock projects: collaborating with partners to find solutions after a guard wall took on water at the Wilson Lock; replacing the Chickamauga Lock; and building a new Kentucky Lock, which is the busiest on the Tennessee River. Hydropower is the least expensive asset to operate, and during a year in which fuel costs were high, dams have helped TVA remain competitive.

Among its hydrothermal projects, TVA has established a yearlong water temperature study at the new Clinch River Nuclear Site and is installing an echosounder at Guntersville Dam to help

detect masses of aquatic vegetation before they impact dam operations. Its hydrothermal work also includes protecting trout fisheries — some of the best in the southeast — by monitoring water temperatures and decreasing the temperatures as needed through dam releases and water aeration.

TVA is partnering with Mesa Associates Inc. on a project that will install a berm to decrease erosion on Hibbs Island, which is between Norris Dam and the Norris weir. The project, which is scheduled to begin work in October 2022, will help protect the island, maintain water quality, and save the weir, which ensures a constant minimum flow of water when the hydropower plant isn't operating.

TVA performed drought analysis and impact studies, and in Spring 2022 during abnormally dry conditions in the eastern Tennessee Valley, it prepared reservoir-specific messaging to build awareness around the lake levels heading into the summer months. In Summer 2022, TVA published [“Water Use in the Tennessee Valley for 2020 and Projected Use in 2045.”](#) a report that presents water-use projections for the Tennessee River watershed to 2045.

TVA partnered with the U.S. Forest Service and Tennessee State Parks to mitigate impacts from the Ocoee Whitewater Center fire that destroyed the visitor facility and building and impacted TVA's water alert system. New control and warning systems were installed before the summer season began. TVA River Management also worked with TVA Dam Safety during the Boone Dam remediation project to hit reservoir refill targets as the project wrapped up in the Spring. Barnett also offered a comprehensive look at TVA's work with partners to mitigate the impact of Asian Carp, including completing its Programmatic Environmental Impact Study (PEIS) to evaluate fish barrier options at 10 Lock and Dam sites in the Tennessee River system and to consider potential environmental and economic impacts from their installation. TVA River Management also continues its public outreach efforts, from in-person briefings to a strong presence on social media to its contributions to TVA's sustainability reporting.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

Barnett responded to a question about aquatic vegetation by saying that TVA monitors the vegetation year-round but has to remove it most often at the end of the summer or in the fall when the plants die off. To a question about whether aquatic vegetation is a problem for boaters, Barnett said it depends on the vegetation and how close it is to the surface. When asked about the efficiency of the system to deter Asian carp, Barnett said carp can get through the valves and it is a challenge. Another Council member said she had heard the conditions are not right for Asian carp to reproduce in the Tennessee River system. Barnett said TVA biologists have not found young Asian carp in the river.

9. Approval of RRSC Advice Statement

After discussion, the RRSC unanimously approved the Advice Statement related to the Reservoir Operations Policy. See below for full statement.

10. Natural Resources (Presentation can be found at www.tva.gov/rrsc) — **Rebecca Hayden, Director, Natural Resources**

Rebecca Hayden reviewed TVA's mission and its Natural Resource Plan, which offers a framework and flexibility for Natural Resources. The plan was last updated in 2020. She explained that Natural Resources has 10 focus areas, 35 objectives and 48 programs, and it completes about 250 projects annually. Work is strategically reviewed and prioritized

across programs. Five-year action plans are developed for each FA. We maintain a list of potential projects looking 3 years out, and then annually remain flexible to adjust plans as priorities shift and realign. Natural Resources received special “Stewardship funding” to move these programs forward and the summary of them can be found at [FY22 Stewardship Book](#). As of late FY 2022, there were almost 200 traditional media coverage about Natural Resources and notably it was 100% positive or neutral. TVA External Relations studied how groups identify with TVA, and water and recreation are what most people associate with TVA — showing that Natural Resources can be a positive gateway for introducing additional information about TVA to the public. Since the start of FY 2022, Natural Resources has had over 900,000 impressions on social media. The engagement rate is well above industry average (1.65% vs. 0.9%).

Hayden provided a few highlights of this year’s work in the 10 Natural Resources focus areas. She did want to note how several of the Focus Areas (Water Resources Stewardship, Land and Habitat Stewardship, Nuisance and Invasive Species) fundamentally align with new TVA Biodiversity Policy:

- **Water Resources Stewardship** — Stabilized eroding shorelines, assessed stream health across the Valley and partnered with groups in ways that helped them receive better funding. Snail darter delisting.
- **Cultural Resource Management** — Worked with federally recognized Native American tribes to grow and harvest native plants and educate the public about them.
- **Reservoir Lands Planning** — Incorporated public input into the Tellico Reservoir Land Management Plan and the associated Environmental Assessment, which have been finalized and approved. Offered virtual public meetings, which increased people’s ability to participate. Tellico is unique from other reservoirs because contract TV-60000A
- **Public Land Protection and Recreation** — Supported more than 80 cleanups, with about 3,600 volunteers. Added 6.7 miles of new trails to the 180+ mile TVA trail system, including a biking and hiking trail in Bristol, Tennessee, which is in a cooperative agreement to partner on maintenance with the King University cycling team.
- **Public Land Protection** — Worked to resolve violations and encroachments on TVA public lands. Created an internal Public Land Council to engage internally across TVA in understanding TVA’s role in protecting public land. Performed Land Condition Assessments across 10,000 acres and inspected over 800 assets (signs, roads, trails, kiosks, gates, etc.) as part of long-term maintenance.
- **Land and Habitat Stewardship** — Continued Osprey Research Project to tag and band birds as TVA works to protect both its transmission assets and the birds. Ongoing partnership with University of Tennessee-Knoxville on a tree improvement program, and improved pollinator habitats on about 220 acres. Bat programmatic agreement with US Fish and Wildlife service.
- **Nuisance and Invasive Species Management** — Conducted comprehensive land and water assessments and increased awareness with our partners about ways to mitigate challenges from non-native invasive plants and animals.
- **Public Outreach and Information** — Refreshed educational tools and conducted popular outreach programs in schools and communities; something that was halted at the height of the pandemic. Explored new partnerships, including one that offered an accessible nature walk for people with disabilities.
- **Section 26a Permitting and Land Use Agreements** — Permit applications have doubled. This is a unique area in TVA that staff meet with individual applicants on their property for site inspections, generally TVA works through LPC partners. Even during this busy time, staff has received extremely high customer satisfaction ratings.

- **Engaging with Employees and Stakeholders** — Continue to staff Public Land Information Center, which answers as many as 300 calls a week. Launched and internal growth program “Navigator Program” in FY 2022 to offer new opportunities for mentor/mentees, team building and job shadowing.

Hayden concluded her presentation by saying Natural Resources’ goal continues to be to make the Tennessee Valley a better place to live, work and play.

11. Closing Comments

Tom Littlepage thanked everyone for attending and suggested that RRSC members talk with TVA staff about topics they’d like to see highlighted in future meetings. Melanie Farrell said TVA is always open to topic suggestions for RRSC meetings, and she noted that the Council’s input is important to TVA and the TVA Board. She said the next meeting will be a joint RRSC/RERC (Regional Energy Resource Council) meeting on the topic of Environmental Justice. That meeting will be held Nov. 2-3, 2022, in Nashville, Tennessee.

RRSC Advice Statement regarding TVA's Reservoir Operations Policy September 21, 2022

The Regional Resource Stewardship Council (RRSC) commends TVA on implementation of the current Reservoir Operations Policy (herein referred to as the Policy) for the past eighteen years. TVA has demonstrated that the Policy has been effective in its mission to provide quality and benefits for users while trying to balance multiple, sometimes competing, objectives, that include navigation, flood damage reduction, power generation, water quality, water supply, and recreation. The RRSC does not recommend a major change to the Policy. The current Policy empowers TVA staff to fairly prioritize TVA's obligations while considering the spirit and intent of operating a quality integrated system. The Policy also allows TVA the flexibility to evolve and adapt. The RRSC appreciates the flood mitigation management provided by TVA and recognizes the importance of communicating these response activities to numerous impacted sectors such as the farming community.

Various stakeholder groups have consistently communicated appreciation and support for the tangible results the Policy has yielded to date. It would be advantageous to continue to actively seek and respond to real-time feedback across multiple platforms and tools for continuous improvement and to preserve adaptability and resiliency. TVA's new regional model for community engagement could serve as a mechanism for improved outreach. Active pursuit of feedback from TVA's communities could lead to more effective use of the existing Policy. The RRSC acknowledges that progress includes technological advances but encourages TVA to maintain in-person outreach plans to include all members of its community. TVA could also evaluate and enhance internal strategies to coordinate reservoir operation impacts on lands and activities such as cultural resources protection and farming operations.

Moving forward, TVA needs to ensure that the Policy is sustainable into the future and maintains the flexibility that has allowed the Policy to function thus far. The Council recommends continuing to support the funding and staffing that are needed to continue innovation, partnerships, operational excellence and people advantage. The people component is an important consideration for the continued successful implementation of the Policy. The thoughtful transfer of knowledge and succession planning along with cross-training will help to ensure continued success.

The Council identified the Valley Vision 2035 Energy Marketplace Drivers and suggests that TVA consider those drivers and their impact on the Reservoir Operations Policy. They are as follows:

- Political/Regulatory
- Economic
- Customer/Cultural
- Technological
- Environmental
- Legal

The RRSC recognizes the challenges in continuing to implement the Policy and balance multiple objectives. River Management employees are well-trained and have diverse knowledge to manage the reservoir system. This Council played a key role in development of the Policy and appreciates the opportunity to be updated and provide advice on its continued execution.

Appendix A Non-Council Meeting Attendees

TVA Staff Members (In person)	
Tom Barnett (presenter)	Lori M. Hunt
Allen Clare	Erica Jolly
Cathy Coffey	Althea Jones
Bucky Edmondson	Michael Kitzman
James Everett (presenter)	JoAnne Lavender
Ashley Farless	Kendra Mansur
Melanie Farrell	Barbie Perdue
Darrell Guinn	Marylee Sauder
Bekim Haliti	Logan Stephens
Kelie Hammond	Anthony Summit
Rebecca Hayden (presenter)	Jennifer Tribble
Ben Heath (presenter)	Millie Wawen
Holly Hoyle	Catherine West

Stakeholders (Virtually)	

Appendix B

Regional Resource Stewardship Council Meeting Agenda

September 20-21, 2022

TVA Towers, Knoxville

Day 1 – Sept 20

7:30-8:30	Breakfast
8:30-8:45	Welcome / Call RRSC Meeting to Order
8:45-9:00	Introductions and Agenda Review
9:00-9:10	FACA Briefing
9:10-9:30	DFO Briefing
9:30-9:45	Break
9:45-11:45	TVA Reservoir Operations Policy
11:45-11:50	Adjourn Morning Session
11:50-12:30	Lunch
12:30-2:00	Tour of TVA River Forecast Center
2:00-2:10	Begin Afternoon Session
2:10-3:30	Council Responds to Advice Questions
3:30-4:00	Closing Day 1 Remarks
4:00	Adjourn Day 1

Day 2 – Sept. 21

8:00-8:30	Breakfast
8:30-8:50	Call To Order, Welcome and Recap
8:50-9:00	Prepare for Public Comment Session
9:00-10:00	Public Comment Session
10-10:15	Break
10:15-11:15	Finalize Advice Statement
11:15-11:45	River Management Update
11:45-12:15	Natural Resource Update
12:15-12:30	Wrap up
12:30	Adjourn Day 2
12:30	Lunch