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Above: Two sonic drill rigs and core samples pulled from the dam's earthen embankment. Below: TVA Vice President David Bowling provides an update for area officials and representatives about the project. Project Manager Sam Vinson speaks with local media.



Progress Update: Drilling Resumes on Boone Dam

Sonic drill rigs working more than 100 feet below surface are back onsite at Boone Dam. They mobilized July 10 to begin testing the effectiveness of the slurry cells or rows of grout. Project Manager Sam Vinson said a lot of progress has been made during the past year and a half of work. About 800 holes have been drilled and grouted in the earthen embankment and will provide important data for the remainder of the project and for the final design.

With over 650,000 man hours already logged on the project, Vinson said plenty of new construction is underway at Boone Dam. He said neighbors will see an upsurge in truck traffic in the area as upstream berm construction begins this month, continuing through spring. Approximately 250,000 tons of stone from a local quarry near Tri-Cities Airport will be used to add stability to the upstream side of the earthen embankment.

Planning is also underway for construction of a downstream berm according to Vinson. He noted that as many local vendors as possible are being used on the project.

The final repair to Boone Dam will be the construction of the cutoff wall under the dam.

Media Updates Held to Inform Public

Boone Dam area officials and members of the media were provided updates on repair work at the dam on July 27. TVA Vice President of Land Resource Management David Bowling said the project is currently on track for completion in 2022. He stated that the safety of the downstream public remains TVA's top priority. "Our primary commitment, our driver on the whole project, is to ensure the downstream safety for the folks in Kingsport and the folks that live downstream of the dam," he said. Bowling referred questions about vegetation management to the TVA website. Property owners are asked to review our online brochure to determine the best course of action to remove their vegetation.

<https://www.tva.com/Newsroom/Boone-Dam-Project/Boone-Exposed-Lakebed-An-Owners-Guide>

TVA Provides Support, Speaker for Insight STEM Camp

Boone Dam Geotechnical Engineer Veronica Barredo paid a visit to about 30 middle school students at the INSIGHT Summer Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Camp in Johnson City last month. Barredo shared her personal story of growing up the daughter of working class parents in Mexico. She moved to the United States at age 10 without speaking a word of English. She saw Math as a “common language” that was universal. Her love of Math took her to The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, in Charleston where she was one of only two female engineering graduates in her class of 500. “If you persevere and get an education, you can accomplish almost anything,” said Barredo. Insight Board Member Adam Dickson said the STEM Summer camp, which TVA helps fund, exposes children from low income and vulnerable backgrounds to math and science in a fun setting.



Engineer Veronica Barredo is surrounded by future STEM workers at the Insight STEM summer camp in Johnson City.

Boone Dam Volunteers Showcase Three Kinds of Power Generation at Kingsport’s Maker Faire

Visitors to the annual Maker Faire at Kingsport’s FunFest had an opportunity to view 3-D models of TVA power generating facilities. Volunteers from Boone Dam were on hand to explain the different types of power generation of Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, Shawnee Fossil Plant and Fontana’s Hydro Plant. Both young and old enjoyed learning more about TVA and its mission of providing low cost power to the more than nine million people of the Valley. In addition, robotics teams sponsored by TVA were at Maker Faire displaying the ingenuity of the student-made machines.



Boone Dam Quality Manager Lenny Peterson discusses nuclear power with a Maker Faire participant.

Having Fun on TVA lakes? Be sure to use the hashtag #TVAFun when you upload your photos to social media in order to win some great prizes! Visit TVA.com/TVAFun for details. The contest runs through September 11.

New Community News Updates: Remember, we’ll keep you informed in between monthly editions of this newsletter through the new “Community News” section of the [Boone website](#). We’ll also update the @BooneRepair Twitter feed and, if needed, provide special newsletter editions. You can always e-mail us questions at boonelake@tva.gov, or stop by the TVA Community Relations trailer at the intersection of Boone Dam and Minga Roads.

How to Receive Regular Updates “The Boone Dam Update” is published monthly to help keep TVA’s stakeholders informed on the activities associated with repairing the earthen embankment at Boone Dam. These updates and other information are available at TVA’s website: [Boone Repair](#) and via email distribution. *If you’d like to be included on the Boone Update email distribution list, please visit [Boone Repair](#) and submit your email address where you see “Sign up below to get weekly updates via email.”* Learn more the Boone Project and other TVA activities on Facebook at <http://www.Facebook.com/TVA> and on twitter @BooneRepair.

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