## Public Notice - Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) No Practicable Alternative for Proposed Fill for Academic Building in the 100-year Floodplain

April 21, 2025

Notice is hereby given that the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) is proposing to issue Section 26a approval in categorical exclusion checklist 52922 for fill for a proposed academic building in the 100-year floodplain at approximately Tennessee River Mile 470.2 on Nickajack Reservoir in Hamilton County, Tennessee.

Shown in the figure within the pink cloud, the fill would be located within the limits of the Tennessee River 100-year floodplain and is therefore subject to analysis under Presidential Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management.

The fill is necessary to elevate a proposed academic building at Chattanooga State Community College and provide necessary grading away from the building and ADA accessibility. The project would result in net fill of about 3,900 cubic yards (2.4 acre-feet) in the 100-year floodplain. Other undeveloped portions of campus are also in the 100-year floodplain and the few undeveloped portions of campus above the floodplain are too small for the project. Therefore, TVA has determined that there is no practicable alternative to the fill being located within the 100-year floodplain. To minimize adverse impacts, the redevelopment would utilize both a bioretention area and pervious pavers for the purpose of runoff treatment and reducing stormwater runoff. Furthermore, the floor of the academic building would be at least one foot above the 100-year flood elevation (EL 660.0), and thereby meet City of Chattanooga floodplain development regulations.

All practicable design measures to minimize harm to the floodplain have been identified by TVA. These measures include:

- Bioretention and pervious pavers would be used for runoff treatment and reduction of stormwater discharges
- The building would have the lowest floor at least one foot above the 100-year flood elevation

TVA has therefore concluded that the proposed project is consistent with Executive Order 11988 because:

- 1. There is no practicable alternative to placing the academic building in the floodplain
- 2. The proposed project would conform with applicable state and local floodplain protection standards
- 3. Identifiable impacts to the floodplain are negligible

Any party wishing to comment on the action's potential to affect floodplains should email comments to ccwilliamson@tva.gov on or before May 4, 2025.

Proposed Fill for Academic Building in the 100-year Floodplain



