

## TVA Reviews Initial Modeling Results with IRP Working Group

**Editor's Note:** TVA and stakeholders are working on TVA's next Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) to determine how TVA could meet customer demand for electricity between now and 2050 across a variety of possible futures that TVA could find itself operating in. A programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will accompany the IRP to address its environmental effects.

TVA and the IRP Working Group, a diverse group of stakeholders, met on Jan. 29-30, 2024, in Nashville, Tennessee, to discuss a variety of topics related to the IRP. The overarching objective of the IRP Working Group is to provide stakeholder input into the framing and evaluation of TVA's 2024 IRP.

At the meeting, TVA reviewed modeling results with the group. As background, the IRP process to date has included:

- Conducting a public scoping period, during which TVA gathered public input on important considerations for the IRP and EIS processes
- Identifying key scenarios, which are possible futures TVA could find itself operating in, and business strategies TVA could employ in each scenario
- Modeling the strategies in specific scenarios to generate 25 potential resource plans, or portfolios
- Analyzing the portfolios
- Beginning to consider "what if" sensitivities that could be applied to finetune portfolio analysis.

In late 2023, TVA and the IRP Working Group developed the following five scenarios:

- Reference Case, which is a baseline for current conditions
- Higher Growth Economy
- Stagnant Economy Case
- Carbon Regulation
- Carbon Regulation Plus Growth

Together, they developed the following five strategies:

- Baseline Utility Planning
- Carbon-Free Innovation Focus
- Carbon-Free Commercial Ready Focus
- Distributed and Demand-Side Focus
- Resiliency Focus

At the meeting, TVA provided the Working Group members with an overview of the 25 portfolios – one for each scenario and strategy combination – generated during modeling. The members offered input on the portfolios as well as on potential metrics that will be used to evaluate the key tradeoffs among the portfolios.

TVA and the IRP Working Group also held an initial discussion about potential sensitivities, which seek to answer key “what if” questions by changing a single variable. Sensitivity analysis is performed to provide additional insight into how the future portfolio might evolve under certain conditions. For example, a sensitivity case may explore the impacts to a portfolio due to a higher forecasted price for natural gas. Working Group members ranked their top choices for sensitivity analysis. Public input during the public comment period will be considered as well.

TVA plans to publish the Draft IRP and Draft EIS in the spring, and there will be a public comment period with numerous opportunities for the public to offer input on all aspects of the IRP and EIS processes at virtual webinars and in-person public meetings across the Tennessee Valley region.

TVA will consider all key stakeholder and public comments for incorporation into the final versions of the IRP and EIS. The final version of the IRP will include TVA’s recommended strategic portfolio direction, which will serve as a compass for TVA in the years to come.