

TVA and Working Group Cover a Variety of Topics at February Meeting

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 February 29 and March 1, 2024, in Nashville, Tennessee, to discuss a variety of topics related to the IRP.

TVA is partnering with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) on a number of projects, including the IRP. Related to the IRP, NREL is:

- Supporting TVA's use of NREL's Annual Technology Baseline (ATB), which provides a consistent set of technology cost and performance data for energy analysis;
- Verifying that TVA's greenhouse gas (GHG) life cycle analysis (LCA) modeling is consistent with NREL's life cycle GHG emissions calculations used in flagship Department of Energy studies;
- Validating TVA's GHG LCA results by running the capacity expansion model results from two selected IRP cases through NREL's independent GHG model; and
- Expanding NREL's GHG model to include all technologies included in TVA's IRP.

Representatives from NREL provided an overview of results from NREL's *2023 Standard Scenarios*, focused on the TVA service territory. The *Standard Scenarios* include 53 forward-looking scenarios of the U.S. electricity sector that have been designed to capture a wide range of possible futures.

The representatives offered details on the Regional Energy Deployment System (ReEDS), which is NREL's flagship capacity planning model for the power sector. They also covered Tennessee Valley region results from the U.S. Energy Information Administration's 2023 Annual Energy Outlook, looking out to 2030 and 2050. Assessing results from these models can provide additional insights for TVA's IRP team to explore.

Other topics at the meeting included:

- Updates on TVA's stochastic analysis, which is evaluating the risk of uncertainty around key planning assumptions for each potential resource plan, or portfolio;
- Content and initial findings in the draft IRP and EIS to date,
- Communications and outreach plan for the IRP,
- How TVA delivered on previous IRP recommendations,
- Current IRP and EIS schedule, and
- How TVA is building the workforce of the future, including its development of a Labor Forecast Center that tracks jobs and skill sets across the region to help TVA train and attract employees to meet changes in technology and job responsibilities.