Milestones & Updates

BACKGROUND

Originally built by Memphis Light Gas & Water (MLGW) in the 1950's, TVA leased and then bought the Allen Fossil Plant in 1984 and operated it until its retirement in 2018.

In 2016 – just prior to retirement and due to the site's unique ownership structure - TVA entered into an agreement with the City of Memphis, Shelby County, MLGW, and the Port Commission to restore the site for future economic development. TVA owns the Allen plant and manages the coal ash. The other community partners own the coal ash and the disposal areas where the coal ash was stored on the Allen site.

In November 2021, after years of community outreach and extensive planning, and following regulatory requirements, TVA began removing coal ash from the site and transporting it to the South Shelby Landfill for storage in a modern, highly engineered, lined landfill cell. Additionally, TVA is addressing environmental conditions on the site to prepare the property for future redevelopment. The work is being performed under the supervision of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC).

These efforts are in service to the community of Memphis. We are fulfilling our promise to restore the Allen site for the benefit of the community while ensuring the continued protection of the Memphis aquifer. The Memphis aquifer has not been impacted by activities at the retired Allen Fossil Plant and we want to keep it that way.

WHAT'S NEW?

- Safely worked over 500,000 hours onsite while protecting the public.
- No concerns recorded related to air quality or transporting and disposing of the coal ash at the South Shelby Landfill.

- Coal ash removal at the West Ash Disposal Area is complete. This is one of two locations where the ash was stored at the Allen site. We're making progress on the East Ash Disposal Area.
- Constructed a new onsite groundwater pump and treat system to extract and treat impacted groundwater, and discharge it to the T.E. Maxson Wastewater Treatment Facility. All treated water meets regulatory requirements.
- 10 million+ gallons of groundwater has been extracted and treated using the new system and will continue until targeted goals are met.
- Continued robust monitoring of 100+ groundwater monitoring wells to ensure the protection of the Memphis aquifer.
- Sponsored or supported 100+ public meetings and community events to encourage meaningful community engagement and communication about the project.



Coal ash removal at West Ash Disposal Area is complete.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

We are fulfilling our promise to protect the Memphis aquifer, safely remove the coal ash and store it in a modern, lined landfill, and restore the Allen site for the benefit of the community.



The safety of our workforce and the communities we serve is always a top priority.



Making significant progress on the East Ash Disposal Area



Truck moving through a wash station to be cleaned before entering public roads and traveling to the nearby landfill



Onsite groundwater pump and treat system



Covered truck transporting coal ash

WHAT'S NEXT?

These milestones for the Allen Restoration Project bring us all closer to our shared goal of restoring the site for future economic development. To the right is a rendering to illustrate the future potential of the site and demonstrates the dedication of TVA and our community partners.



HOW CAN WE STAY CONNECTED?

Listening to you is important and since we began the restoration project, we have appreciated your continued feedback. Please know you can send comments at any time by emailing allenproject@tva.gov.



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