

Allen Restoration Project

June 2025

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 1 million hours onsite while protecting the environment and 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 East Ash Disposal Area is more than 30 percent complete. This is one of two locations where the ash was stored at the Allen site. The West Ash Disposal Area restoration was completed in 2023.
- Operation of 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.
- 30 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 more than 100 groundwater monitoring wells to ensure the protection of the Memphis aquifer.
- TVA has sponsored or supported more than 400 public meetings and community events to encourage meaningful community engagement and communication about the project.
- The project ensures the continued protection of the Memphis aquifer and when completed will be one of the largest economic development opportunities for Memphis and Shelby County.



Coal ash removal and site restoration at East Ash Disposal Area is approximately 30 percent 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.



Removal activities at the West Ash Disposal Area are complete.



Onsite groundwater pump and treat system



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



One of 10 air monitoring stations placed around the site that provide continuous readings.



Covered truck transporting coal ash

WHAT MOTIVATES US

We can all be proud of the Allen Restoration Project that's making a difference in the Memphis community.



TVA at Memphis in May



TVA Student Training and Resource Sharing (STARS)



TVA's Angela Austin receiving the Boxtown Neighborhood Association's Appreciation Award for our partnership with the community.

LET'S 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.



Tchulahoma Corridor Neighborhood Clean Up



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