

or about February 16, 2003, to on or about May 11, 2003, the Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas, from on or about June 8, 2003, to on or about September 7, 2003, and at possible additional venues yet to be determined, is in the national interest. Public Notice of these determinations is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information, including a list of exhibit objects, contact Paul W. Manning, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, 202/619-5997, and the address is United States Department of State, SA-44, Room 700, 301 4th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547-0001.

Dated: January 15, 2003.

**Miller Crouch,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.*

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## TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

### **Pickwick Reservoir Land Management Plan, Lauderdale and Colbert Counties, AL; Tishomingo County, MS; and Hardin County, TN**

**AGENCY:** Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

**ACTION:** Issuance of record of decision.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is provided in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations (40 CFR 1500 to 1508) and TVA's procedures implementing the National Environmental Policy Act. TVA has updated its 1981 land management plan for 19,238 acres of TVA public land on Pickwick Reservoir in Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee. TVA will use the plan to guide land use approvals, private water-use facility permitting, and resource management decisions on Pickwick Reservoir. On September 10, 2002, the TVA Board of Directors decided to adopt the preferred alternative (Alternative B) identified in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Land Management Plan, Pickwick Reservoir. A notice of availability of the final EIS was published in the **Federal Register** on August 2, 2002. Under the adopted land plan, TVA has allocated undeveloped lands for public recreation and natural resource conservation, and has also been responsive to local requests for use of TVA lands for water access and community development. Of the 19,238 acres of TVA lands on the reservoir which are available for allocation,

16,291 acres would be allocated to natural resource conservation (Zone 4), sensitive resource management (Zone 3), TVA project operations (Zone 2); 1,327 acres would be allocated for developed recreation (Zone 6) uses such as marinas, campgrounds, parks, and boat ramps; 1,085 acres would be allocated for residential lake access, and 534 acres for industrial or commercial uses (Zone 5). Although reserved for conservation purposes, lands in Zones 3 and 4 also lend themselves to dispersed recreation uses.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Harold Draper, Senior NEPA Specialist, Environmental Policy and Planning, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, WT 8C, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1499; telephone (865) 632-6996 or e-mail [hmdraper@tva.gov](mailto:hmdraper@tva.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pickwick Reservoir is a 52.7-mile long reservoir completed in 1938. Although 63,625 acres were acquired for construction of the reservoir, 42,708 are covered by water. Subsequent transfers of land by TVA for economic, industrial, residential, or public recreation development have resulted in a current balance of 19,238 acres of TVA public land above normal summer pool elevation of 414 mean sea level.

TVA first announced its proposal to update its 1981 land management plan in 2001. TVA determined that the development of an EIS would allow a better understanding of the impacts of the alternatives. TVA published in the **Federal Register** a notice of intent to prepare an EIS on March 26, 2001. Meetings were held to inform the public of TVA's proposal to update the land allocation plan and to solicit input on scoping this proposal. The scoping meetings were held on March 29, 2001, in Lula, Mississippi at the Tishomingo County High School; April 3, 2001, in Memphis, Tennessee at the Adam's Mark Hotel; April 6, 2001, in Pickwick Dam, Tennessee at the Pickwick Landing State Park; and April 12, 2001, in Muscle Shoals, Alabama at the TVA Environmental Research Center Auditorium. These meetings were attended by 203 people. In addition, written comments were invited through a news release, newspaper notices, and a web site notice. During the scoping period, commenters expressed a desire for more environmental protection of the lands of Pickwick Reservoir, and discussed how they valued the scenic beauty and setting of the reservoir. TVA made an effort to identify parcels of land with sensitive resources that should be managed in a manner that

ensures the protection of these resources. Further, TVA used the comments received during the scoping process to develop alternatives to be assessed in the draft EIS (DEIS). TVA assessed the impacts of the following alternatives: No action (Alternative A); balanced conservation with limited development (Alternative B); and conservation (Alternative C). A notice of availability (NOA) of the DEIS appeared in the **Federal Register** on May 3, 2002.

In addition to written materials, additional information on the proposals and other aspects of the DEIS was available to the public in four public meetings held in May 7, 2002, in Muscle Shoals, Alabama at the TVA Environmental Research Center Auditorium; May 14, 2002, in Lula, Mississippi at the Tishomingo County High School; May 16, 2002, in Memphis, Tennessee at the Adam's Mark Hotel; and May 21, 2002, in Pickwick Dam, Tennessee at the Pickwick Landing State Park. Approximately 64 comments were received on the DEIS. These comments primarily related to recommendations for proposed uses of TVA land. In the Final EIS (FEIS), TVA selected Alternative B as the preferred alternative. After considering all comments, the Final EIS was completed and distributed to commenting agencies and the public. A NOA for the Final EIS was published in the **Federal Register** on August 2, 2001.

### **Alternatives Considered**

TVA considered three alternatives, including no action, for allocation of Pickwick Reservoir lands. The action alternatives were characterized as Alternative B, balanced conservation with limited developed recreation and industrial/commercial development, and Alternative C, conservation. Alternative B accommodated use requests and allocation changes for 3 parcels, while Alternative C did not accommodate allocation change requests and instead reserved these three parcels to conservation-oriented uses by allocating the parcels to Zone 4. In response to public comments on the DEIS, TVA selected Alternative B as the preferred alternative for the FEIS.

Under *Alternative A, the no action alternative*, TVA would not revise the 1981 allocation plan. Proposed land use requests received from external applicants or internal TVA interests would be evaluated for consistency with the 1981 plan. Requested land uses that are consistent would be approved or denied based on a review of potential environmental impacts and other administrative considerations. If the