

MNN has certified that: (1) no local freight traffic has moved over the Line during the past two years; (2) any overhead traffic can be rerouted over other lines; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line (or by a state or local government on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the Line is pending with either the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of a complainant within the two-year period prior to the filing of the notice; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7(b) and 1105.8(c) (notice of environmental and historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to government agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received,¹ this exemption will be effective on August 19, 2026, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,² formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2), and interim trail use/railbanking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by July 30, 2026.³ Petitions to reopen and requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by August 10, 2026.

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. AB 497 (Sub No. 8X), must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board either via e-filing on the Board's website or in writing addressed to 395 E Street SW,

Washington, DC 20423–0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on MNN's representative, Robert A. Wimbish, Fletcher & Sippel LLC, 29 N Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60606–3208.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio.

MNN has filed a combined environmental and historic report that addresses the potential effects, if any, of the abandonment on the environment and historic resources. OEA will issue a Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) by July 24, 2026. The Draft EA will be available to interested persons on the Board's website, by writing to OEA, or by calling OEA at (202) 245–0294. If you require an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please call (202) 245–0245. Comments on environmental or historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the Draft EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/railbanking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), MNN shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the Line. If consummation has not been effected by MNN's filing of a notice of consummation by July 20, 2027, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available at www.stb.gov.

Decided: July 15, 2026.

By the Board, Anika S. Cooper, Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel.

Regena Smith-Bernard,
Clearance Clerk.

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TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

Generator Interconnection Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Tennessee Valley Authority.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) intends to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) to evaluate the environmental effects of transmission system activities associated with generator interconnection requests

across TVA's Power Service Area (PSA). The PEIS will establish a programmatic, bounded framework to support efficient, consistent, and predictable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review for generator interconnection related transmission actions conducted under TVA's Large Generator Interconnection Procedures (LGIP), Small Generator Interconnection Procedures (SGIP), and Expedited Resource Addition Study (ERAS). The PEIS will also support tiered, site-specific reviews where needed.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments must be postmarked, emailed, or submitted online no later than August 14, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Elizabeth Smith, NEPA Specialist, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, WT 11B, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. Comments may be submitted online at: www.tva.gov/nepa, or by email to nepa@tva.gov. Comments submitted electronically are encouraged.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Smith by email at nepa@tva.gov, by phone at (865) 632–3053, or by mail at the address above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The unique identification number is PEIS–455–00–000–1781540537. This notice is provided in accordance with TVA's procedures for implementing the NEPA (18 CFR 1318). TVA is an agency and instrumentality of the United States, established by an act of Congress in 1933, to foster the social and economic welfare of the people of the Tennessee Valley region and to promote the proper use and conservation of the region's natural resources. One component of this mission is the generation, transmission, and sale of reliable and affordable electric energy.

TVA's generator interconnection processes have experienced a substantial increase in volume as electricity demand accelerates due to population growth and industrial development. TVA's new NEPA regulations, adopted January 21, 2026 (18 CFR 1318.502), encourage the use of programmatic environmental documents for geographically broad or procedurally consistent actions. The proposed PEIS would provide bounding environmental criteria, standardized screening tools such as an Environmental Screening Checklist (ESC), and siting guidance to streamline environmental reviews associated with interconnection-driven transmission activities.

The PEIS will support timely decision-making related to new

¹ Persons interested in submitting an OFA must first file a formal expression of intent to file an offer, indicating the type of financial assistance they wish to provide (*i.e.*, subsidy or purchase) and demonstrating that they are preliminarily financially responsible. See 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2)(i).

² The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Serv. Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

³ Filing fees for OFAs and trail use requests can be found at 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25) and (27), respectively.

construction, upgrades, maintenance, and modifications of transmission lines, substations, switchyards, communication infrastructure, access roads, and associated system components needed to interconnect new or modified generation resources. TVA will consult with applicable federal, state, and tribal authorities, and ensure compliance with relevant environmental statutes including, but not limited to, the Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, and National Historic Preservation Act.

Background

The Tennessee Valley region is experiencing rapidly growing electricity demand driven by population increases, industrial expansion, and high-load developments. Generator interconnection requests—ranging from small, distributed resources to large utility-scale projects—require transmission system evaluations and, where necessary, construction or modification of transmission assets. A map showing TVA's power service territory is available on the project web page at www.tva.gov/nepa.

Traditionally, TVA conducts environmental reviews of interconnection related transmission actions as connected actions to each generation project. However, the consistent and predictable nature of environmental impacts associated with these actions makes them suitable for programmatic analysis. Implementation of a PEIS would allow TVA to separate environmental review of interconnection driven transmission actions from individual generation projects while ensuring NEPA compliance through appropriate tiering.

Project Purpose and Need

The purpose of the proposed action is to establish a programmatic NEPA approach that supports TVA's statutory mission to provide reliable, affordable electricity while meeting rising regional demand. TVA needs an efficient pathway to evaluate transmission system impacts associated with generator interconnections in a manner that reduces schedule risk, improves process consistency, and maintains system reliability within the TVA service territory.

A programmatic NEPA review is needed because generator interconnection related transmission activities generally fall within predictable environmental impact categories that can be bounded at a programmatic level. This approach will support -near-term capacity needs, enable accelerated interconnections of qualifying generation projects, and

ensure alignment with TVA's updated NEPA regulations.

Preliminary Proposed Action and Alternatives

Under the No Action Alternative, TVA would continue to conduct project specific NEPA reviews for all interconnection driven transmission actions under LGIP, SGIP, and ERAS. No programmatic framework or bounded criteria would be established. This alternative serves as the baseline for comparison.

Under the Action Alternative, TVA proposes to prepare a PEIS that evaluates typical environmental impacts associated with interconnection driven transmission actions and establishes bounding criteria, screening tools, and standardized siting requirements. Under this alternative:

- TVA would utilize the ESC to assess each proposed interconnection site and determine whether actions fall within the programmatic bounds.
- Site-specific NEPA analyses would be completed only when a proposed action exceeds bounding criteria or requires additional consultation.
- The PEIS would cover new construction, modification, operation, and maintenance of transmission lines, substations, switchyards, communication systems, access roads, and underground components.
- The approach would apply consistently across LGIP (≤ 20 MW), SGIP (≤ 20 MW), and ERAS (targeted > 20 MW).

This alternative is intended to streamline environmental decision-making, enhance schedule certainty, and support TVA's reliability obligations while maintaining full compliance with NEPA and other federal environmental requirements.

Request for Identification of Potential Alternatives, Information, and Analyses Relevant to the Proposed Action

TVA requests assistance with identifying any new potential alternatives to the proposed action to be considered. TVA also requests assistance with identifying any new potential impacts of the proposed action, identifying the activity and the potential impact that should be analyzed. Information interested parties possess which would assist in the analysis of resources issues is also appreciated. TVA is particularly interested in public input on other reasonable alternatives that should be considered in the PEIS. The preliminary identification of reasonable alternatives, information, and analyses relevant to

the proposed action in this notice is not meant to be exhaustive or final.

Public Participation

The public is invited to submit comments on the scope of this PEIS no later than the date identified in the **DATES** section of this notice. Federal, state, and local agencies and Native American Tribes are also invited to provide comments. Information about this project is available on the TVA web page at www.tva.gov/nepa, including a link to an online public comment page. Any comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the administrative record and will be available for public inspection. Following analysis of the issues, TVA will prepare the draft PEIS for public review and comment; expected to be released fall of 2026. TVA anticipates the final PEIS in early 2027. In finalizing the PEIS and in making its final decision, TVA will consider the comments that it receives during scoping.

Dawn Booker,

Senior Manager, NEPA Compliance.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Agency Advisory Circular: AC 413.13-1A Guidance on Submitting an Application for a Part 450 Vehicle Operator License

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of availability, request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is seeking public comments on its revised draft advisory circular (AC) for the Guidance on Submitting an Application for a Part 450 Vehicle Operator License. This revised AC provides guidance on demonstrating compliance with the requirements of a license application in accordance with §§ 413.11 and 413.13 of title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR). It details the criteria for submitting an application and the FAA's evaluation of the application for a license determination under 14 CFR part 450.

DATES: Written comments must be received by August 19, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Please send comments identified with "AC 413.13-1A Guidance on Submitting an Application