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TN CLEAN WATER NETWORK – MEDIA ADVISORY

TCWN Executive Director Available to Speak on Kingston Ash Spill and Tennessee's Waters

For immediate release

Contact: Renée Victoria Hoyos, Executive Director 865.522.7007 x100

Knoxville, Tenn. – Tennessee Clean Water Network Executive Director Renée Victoria Hoyos is available for interviews on the Kingston coal ash spill and the impact on area waters.

The spill at the Kingston Fossil Plant on December 22, 2008, dumped more than 5.4 million cubic yards of coal ash across more than 275 acres of land, with an unknown amount entering the Emory River, a tributary of the Tennessee River, the source of drinking water for millions of people. The ash spill has also affected groundwater and area wells and the impact on wildlife is yet to be known.

Hoyos has been the director of TCWN for more than five years and is the current board president of the national Clean Water Network. She previously worked with the California Resources Agency and served as Special Assistant to Secretary Nichols for Watersheds and Outreach. While there, one of her major priorities was creating a watershed management policy and program to guide the State in its long-term development strategies. In addition to working in watershed management, she was also the environmental education and environmental justice coordinator, and the Agency's point of contact for Wild and Scenic Rivers issues. Hoyos holds a Masters of Agriculture and Management degree (with concentration in nonprofit organization management), as well as a Masters of Avian Science degree, both from the University of California in Davis.

Tennessee Clean Water Network is a statewide nonprofit water advocacy group. TCWN's mission is to organize Tennesseans to claim our right to clean water and healthy communities by fostering civic engagement, building coalitions and advancing water policy for a sustainable future.

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