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**Tennessee Clean Water Network Comments to the
TVA Board Regarding Haywood County Mega Site**

My name is Renée Victoria Hoyos. I am the Executive Director of the Tennessee Clean Water Network the only organization that works statewide on water quality issues. We also assist communities facing pollution threats to their clean water resources.

The TN Clean Water Network is here to present comments on the Haywood-Fayette County Megasite which appears to preclude opportunities to evaluate how Federal funds could be spent in ways that would result in fewer impacts to the environment (this includes social, cultural, biological and economic) and a preclusion of opportunities to potentially make better choices. In short, the NEPA process has not started and does not appear to be on its way to being started.

We ask the TVA Board to place a moratorium on the Haywood County Megasite until a full NEPA review is completed. NEPA is required by law and will allow for opportunities to evaluate how Federal funds could be spent in ways that would result in fewer impacts to the environment, will outline social, cultural, biological and economic benefits, if there are any, and a list of potential alternatives to this site including the “no build” alternative.

The 3,900 acre site sits on prime agricultural land and is currently in attainment for air quality. This site was selected because of the pristine air. As you know, auto manufacturing sites produce significant amounts of air and water pollution.

The site drains northward to the Hatchie River watershed. The Hatchie River is a “High quality waterbody” and as such requires special consideration for development projects. Proposed development activities for this megasite could result in the release of large amounts of sediment to

the Hatchie River systems contributing to the significant cumulative adverse impacts of water quality that currently exist. In addition, this site will sit on top of the Sand Aquifer which supplies drinking water for West Tennessee. As such, the potential stakeholders are not limited to Haywood County residents.

The megasite plan includes 2.5 mgd pumping and treatment plants, two water tanks and will need a waste treatment plant. Currently there is not enough water in the surrounding rivers and wetlands to meet this demand. Degradation of this river system will advance rapidly as this megasite is developed, degradation that is not allowed under state law.

In a TVA press release dated April 12th it states:

“...McCallum Sweeney Consulting was commissioned by TVA as an independent source to evaluate the submitted sites.

The act of commissioning a consulting firm to evaluate potential sites triggers the NEPA process.

Again, the TN Clean Water Network is concerned that TVA is attempting to avoid the NEPA process in favor of creating a large, potentially damaging megasite in an inappropriate location, against the communities wishes without going through the necessary NEPA steps.

As a result Haywood County residents are in the dark about the full environmental, social, cultural and economic impacts of the megasite. They do not know how their aquifer, wells, and rivers will be affected as well as their property values, noise pollution, and the realistic numbers of jobs the site might give to people in the community.

This project should go through the NEPA process per federal regulation. We ask the Board of TVA to put a moratorium on this project until the NEPA process is completed.