



ATVG FALL 2018 NEWSLETTER

State Officials Comment on Planned Revel Expansion

Revel Enterprises Inc. and the state Department of Economic and Community Development (ECD) have released more details on the automotive parts retailer and distributor's \$2.3 million expansion of its Paris operations, which will create 64 jobs in the next five years.

"Revel Enterprises' expansion is yet another sign that Tennessee is a place where our existing businesses can thrive and create jobs," Bob Rolfe, commissioner of the ECD, said. "I'd like to thank the leadership of Revel Enterprises for the confidence it has in the people of Henry County. By doubling its head count with this expansion, Revel Enterprises will make a valuable contribution to the health of Paris and Henry County's economy."

According to information from the state, Revel, doing business as AutoTruckToys.com, is a leading aftermarket distributor of automotive, truck and SUV accessories, offering more than 40,000 products. Revel Enterprises will convert the 60,000-square-foot speculative building in the Paris-Henry County Industrial Park into a warehouse and distribution facility, which is expected to be operational in the first quarter of 2019.

"Tennessee continues to prove it's the best state in the country for a current or prospective business owner. We feel that a large contributing factor for this success is a direct result of communities like the Paris-Henry County area and the environment the community cultivates and maintains for business owners," Barry Revel, president of Revel Enterprises, said. "We are grateful for the knowledge, resources and support we received from our local government and elected officials. We are excited about the future, this special partnership and what it will bring to the area for many years to come."

Local officials and the Tennessee Valley Authority applauded Revel Enterprises on its expansion in Henry County. "Expansion of our workforce through our existing industries has always been our primary focus," Henry County Mayor Brent Greer said. "We know our local industries and helping them expand is critical to the overall health of our local economy. Revel Enterprises has been a great corporate citizen and we are extremely pleased to have a part in its continued growth."

"We are excited for the growth and creation of these job opportunities in Paris," Paris Mayor Carlton Gerrell said. "Being a part of the big picture in the age of e-commerce shows that Paris has the ability to serve another market segment beyond traditional industry."

"TVA and Paris Board of Public Utilities congratulate Revel Enterprises on its decision to expand in Henry County," TVA Senior Vice President of Economic Development John Bradley said. "We are pleased to partner with Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development and the Paris-Henry County Industrial Committee to support existing business and industry growth in the Valley."



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Contractors Hired to Carry Out Final phase of Boone Dam Repairs

The Tennessee Valley Authority has hired two companies that will work together to complete the final phase of repairs to Boone Dam, which is slated for completion, including restoring Boone Lake to normal levels, by July 2022, according to a TVA news release.

Treviicos South Inc. and Nicholson Construction Co. were hired to complete the "final, major underground piece of the seepage remediation project," the release states. Preparation of the dam for the construction of the wall will begin this fall.

"This project is about protecting the businesses, families and communities downstream and we look forward to working with Treviicos-Nicholson to maintain the safety of the downstream public and our workers while producing a quality repair," said TVA Boone Dam Project Manager Sam Vinson in the release.

Boone Lake was lowered to winter pool levels in October 2014 so the cause of sediment seepage at the dam could be investigated. The lake has remained at those levels since then, limiting recreation and leaving the lake bed exposed in several areas.

Without repairs, TVA officials said the dam could fail. After several long months of investigation, TVA determined the earthen embankment of the dam would be repaired by placing a composite seepage barrier; or a cutoff wall, under the embankment and grouting, the process of injecting grout, a mixture of rock, cement and water into the dam.

TVA discovered the leaks found underneath the 66-year-old facility in October 2014. Project manager Sam Vinson stated that the cutoff wall project would be the most invasive. "We're going to put a large wall down the center of the earth and embankment. You want to make sure you have stability of that earth and embankment before you do this more invasive project," he said.

TVA reported in March that construction was on schedule and was meeting its budget costs.



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TVA Customers To See Fuel Rate Drop In September

Wholesale fuel rates for September will decline to the lowest level since May, TVA officials said on Tuesday, August 21st. The total monthly wholesale fuel cost will be 1.668 cents per kilowatt-hour for residential and business consumers and 1.526 cents for large industrial customers served by TVA and local power companies.

The overall system cost for September is 15 percent lower than the three-year average for the month. This is primarily due to expectations for higher hydro generation and lower gas rates.

TVA's diverse fuel portfolio for generating assets, which includes the three 1,000-megawatt boiling-water reactors at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant in Athens, Alabama helps keep fuel costs low with the flexibility to generate electricity from the right energy source, at the right time, to provide the lowest-feasible price to customers across the Valley.

Overall, TVA has some of the most competitive rates in the country, with the lowest industrial rates among its Southeast peer utilities and the fifth-lowest of the nation's 100 largest utilities.



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TVA wants to upgrade power lines to serve new secured facility to be built in Georgetown, Tennessee

The Tennessee Valley Authority is planning a \$26 million upgrade of its transmission lines through portions of Bradley, Hamilton and Meigs counties to upgrade its power delivery and to service a new secured facility the federal utility is planning to build next year in Georgetown, Tennessee.

TVA plans to build about 5.25 miles of double-circuit transmission line to provide power to TVA's proposed Gunstocker Creek 161 kilovolt station. As proposed, the line would be built on about five miles of existing steel pole structures on existing 100-foot-wide right of way and on new 100- to 150-foot-wide right of way.

The project is expected to be in service in winter 2020-21. Construction is scheduled to begin in winter 2019-20. The proposed power line would begin at TVA's Sequoyah Nuclear Plant-Hiwassee No. 1 161-kV Transmission Line at a point just northwest of the Hopewell, Tennessee 161-kV Metering Station near the intersection of Rabbit Valley Road Northwest and State Highway 60 (Georgetown Pike) northwest of Cleveland, Tennessee. One tap point is under consideration.

The new line would extend northwest for about 5.25 miles to the proposed Gunstocker Creek 161-kV Station northeast of the intersection of State Highways 58 and 60 in Meigs County. About 4.25 miles of the new line would be on existing 100-foot-wide right of way of TVA's East Cleveland Primary-Georgetown 69-kV Transmission Line. This line would be torn down and rebuilt as double-circuit from Structure 76 to the old Georgetown Substation. The remaining one mile would be on new 100- to 150-foot-wide right of way.



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Solar Power Farm a First for Northeast Tennessee

Officials with BrightRidge, the Tennessee Valley Authority and Silicon Ranch Corp., a Nashville-based energy company, broke ground recently near Jonesborough on what they say is the first solar power-producing plant in Northeast Tennessee. The 40-acre solar farm, which will be owned and operated by Silicon Ranch, is also the first public/private partnership of its type in the region.

"This is a great opportunity for us," BrightRidge CEO Jeff Dykes said during a ceremony at the site of the 41-panel solar plant off Miller Road. "We are near the oldest town in Tennessee, and we are about to dedicate one of the newest forms of energy technology out there." Dykes said the solar project, which is set to be operational by the end of this year, would allow BrightRidge to offer its customers access to a sustainable and renewable energy source that could power 500 homes. He said the partnership means his utility can expand its business portfolio to include long-term use of solar energy.

"This is an opportunity for BrightRidge to be out front on renewable energy," Dykes said. Matt Kisber, president and CEO of Silicon Ranch, said the Washington County facility will be capable of generating 8 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually. He said the project will be a "showcase for the community" when it comes to sustainable solar energy. "We are building a 5-megawatt solar array that will provide electricity to BrightRidge and supply homes and businesses with low-cost power," said Kisber, who served as state commissioner of economic development under former Governor Phil Bredesen.

Silicon Ranch is covering all costs to build the solar farm with the understanding that TVA and BrightRidge will buy power from the facility. Matt Beasley, chief marketing officer for Silicon Valley, said his company expects to spend "several million dollars" to build the Washington County solar farm.

Beasley said the facility will be equipped with low-cost solar panels that should last 30 years. He said his company is involved with similar projects in 14 states, and currently operates 120 solar facilities.

McCarthy Building Companies Inc., a national company with headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri, is the general contractor for the solar project. Earlier this month, McCarthy began construction on a 53-megawatt solar power plant in West Tennessee. The 402-acre Millington plant is a public/private project that includes Silicon Ranch, TVA and Memphis Light, Gas and Water. It is currently the largest solar energy project in Tennessee.



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Association of Tennessee Valley Governments

Fall Meeting October 16, 17, 2018

Courtyard by Marriott Gatlinburg

315 Historic Nature Trail

Gatlinburg, TN 37738 865-436-2008

Tuesday October 16, 2018 (Eastern Time Zone)

3:00 p.m. **ATVG Board of Directors Meeting** - *John Gentry*
and election of Board/Officers (separate agenda will be provided)

4:00 p.m. **Update on Great Smokey Mountain National Park** - *Dana Soehn*

5:00 p.m. **Hospitality Hour**

6:30 p.m. **Dinner at Copper Cellar/Calhoun's Banquet Hall**
(*Grilled Alaskan Salmon, Shrimp Skewers, Marinated Pork Loin*)

Wednesday October 17, 2018 (Eastern Time Zone)

9:00 a.m. **Tour of Ripley's Aquarium** (*Including behind-the-scene tour of operations*)

11:45 a.m. **Lunch at Marriott Bistro**

ATVG Program:

1:00 p.m. **Welcome and Introductions** - *John Gentry*

1:15 p.m. **TVA Update** - *Bert Robinson*

1:30 p.m. **GIS: Local Government's Valuable Resource** - *Stacey Whaley*



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2:00 p.m. TVA Economic Development - TVA ED Staff

(A three hour overview of multiple programs)

6:30 p.m. Dinner at the Park Grill (Steak, Chops and Seafood)

*** Please make your room reservations by October 1st to ensure your room (peak fall colors plus UT-Bama football week)*

Please help us make necessary arrangements by letting us know if you will be attending. Send the enclosed registration form by email to: registration@atvg.org or by U.S. mail to: ATVG, P.O. Box 3578, Clarksville, TN 37043.

Association of Tennessee Valley Governments Meeting Registration Form

Registration Fee: \$40.00 for members and affiliates; \$95.00 for non-members

Name: _____

E-Mail: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Registration Fee for spouse is included/No additional charge

Company/Organization: _____

Full Address: _____

Make checks payable to: Association of Tennessee Valley Governments- P.O. Box 3578 – Clarksville, TN 37043



ATVG FALL 2018 NEWSLETTER

ASSOCIATION OF TENNESSEE VALLEY GOVERNMENTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION

OPPOSING THE DIVESTITURE OF TVA TRANSMISSION ASSETS

WHEREAS, the Association of Tennessee Valley Governments (ATVG) represents local governments within more than 200 Tennessee Valley River Region Counties which closely monitor issues associated with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA); and

WHEREAS, The President's 2019 budget released earlier this year includes language about the divestiture of TVA Transmission assets; and

WHEREAS, such a divestiture or sale of TVA Transmission assets would have a significant impact on local power companies, our communities, businesses and rate payers; and

WHEREAS, TVA is a fully integrated low-cost, reliable energy provider for the citizens and stakeholders of its power service area and such a divestiture of any of TVA's integrated assets could impede its ability to provide least-cost power reliably ; and

WHEREAS, such proposed divestitures can be distracting to our local governments and economic development organizations in our efforts to attract new businesses to the valley and expand current businesses in the valley.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATVG is opposed to the divestiture of TVA Transmission assets and any other TVA assets that are critical to the agency's ability to deliver least-cost power to the citizens and businesses of the Tennessee River Valley.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to the TVA Board of Directors.

Approved by the ATVG Board of Directors

July 18, 2018

Frank McKee, Secretary ATVG



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TVA Lake Information App Great Help

Are you heading out to the water this weekend for a fishing trip? The Tennessee Valley Authority Lake Info App is a great tool for your tackle box. TVA Lake Info App can help fishermen's success during summer. It's free and can be found right on your smartphone.

Professional bass fisherman Chris Lane has been fishing Lake Guntersville since moving here 12 years ago. He said the TVA lake info app has a wealth of data regarding the water that can help you better plan your next fishing trip.

"With all of the TVA waters it gives you lake levels, it gives you what you know they're projecting for the year, of what they're going to keep the lake levels at, and it allows you to understand the current and the current flows and how much they're going to be releasing out of the dams," said Lane.

Lane said understanding the current flows is vital information with the heat that challenge fisherman during these dog days of summer. "When they're pulling the water is going to turn the colder water up, so the fish will have a tendency to bite a lot better. So you can kind of plan your fishing day a lot better," added Lane. Scott Fiedler with the Tennessee Valley Authority said the app is updated every hour to give you the latest information.

It first launched in 2015, but a complete refresh was done in April with important features like location services and more.

"Pulls up what lakes are within 50 miles of your location. We've also integrated recreation maps, so if you needed to find the nearest boat ramp. You can get right to it," said Fiedler.

"We've also added a feature with our aquatic plant management guide where you can identify the aquatic plants and what fish really like those plants," added Fiedler.



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ATVG is a 501(c) (4), not-for-profit, public interest
organization.

ATVG advocates for the interests of county and
city/town governments residing within the seven-state

TVA region and their partners in the public and
private sectors.

*For details about ATVG's mission and program
of work,*

visit us on line at: www.atvg.org