

Update: 5 pm CST

TVA FACT SHEET UPDATE
WIDOWS CREEK GYPSUM POND
January 11, 2009

The results from water and sediment samples taken at four locations on Friday were received today from MicroBac labs, an external laboratory.

The data received today indicate that the samples taken on the Tennessee River meet primary drinking water standards for metals. Downstream samples were consistent with upstream samples from the TVA facility. Two water samples were taken on the Tennessee River -- one approximately 1,000 yards upstream and the other about 1,000 yards downstream from the mouth of Widows Creek. A third water sample was taken in the stilling pond on TVA property.

A sediment sample was taken from the bank between the stilling pond and Widows Creek to characterize the overflow material. Data from the solid material released were well below levels considered hazardous.

An additional set of samples was taken on Friday and sent to ESC, an independent laboratory. TVA will report on the results of these and other samples it has taken as they become available.

TVA and EPA continue to sample the water independently. The agencies are working from a coordinated water sampling plan and communicating with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management on results. Each agency is using certified labs for analysis.

TVA continues work to repair the gypsum settling pond area at its Widows Creek coal-fired plant after gypsum slurry overflowed into Widows Creek Friday. The overflow had stopped by the time it was discovered at 6 a.m. on Friday. We are still working to quantify the amount of water and material that was released.

Our priorities are the safety of citizens and plant personnel and recovery of the spilled material.