

# **Bellefonte Nuclear Plant Site Potential Sale**



## **Public Comment Period Results**

**April 21, 2016  
Office of the General Counsel**

## **Background**

The Bellefonte Nuclear Plant site consists of approximately 1,600 acres on a peninsular in the Tennessee River near Hollywood, Alabama. In 1974, TVA started constructing two nuclear units on the site, but halted construction in 1988. Subsequently, TVA considered constructing a natural gas plant on the site or completing one of the units, and it has been approached about leasing or selling the site to another entity with plans to complete the two units. There is substantial infrastructure on the site including the two partially constructed B&W reactors, cooling towers, switchyards, office buildings, warehouses, a training center, parking lots, railroad spurs, and a helicopter landing pad.

The Bellefonte site has been in TVA's control for more than 40 years. In its 2015 Integrated Resource Plan, TVA determined that it likely would not need new baseload resources like nuclear generation for the next 20 years. In light of this, TVA's Chief Executive Officer, Bill Johnson concluded, "It's time we answer the question of whether TVA is serving the public well by retaining control of the Bellefonte site, or if others could make more beneficial use of it," To answer this question, TVA is committed to a transparent, public process

## **Process Steps**

1. Determine fair-market value of site,
2. Seek public comment on selling the site,
3. Recommend to the TVA Board whether to sell the site,
4. If the Board approves selling, initiate public auction process,
5. Identify bidder terms, provide at least 60 days for bidder qualification process, hold public auction if there are qualified bidders,
6. Enter into sales agreement with successful bidder,
7. Complete any necessary supplemental environmental analyses, and
8. Close on the property.

## Public Comment Process

Beginning February 16, 2016, TVA began notifying employees, customers, economic development interests, other stakeholders, and the media that it was considering selling the Bellefonte site and wanted public input. Public notice seeking public comments was published in four local and regional newspapers on February 17. The public comment period closed on March 18, 2016.

## Public Comment Results

<b>Total Comments: 79</b>			
<b>Sell</b>	<b>Conditionally Support</b>	<b>Retain</b>	<b>Uncertain (Cannot discern position)</b>
39	2	28	10

## Comment Breakdown

### Customers

<b>Commenter</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Summary/Considerations</b>
Tennessee Valley Public Power Association (Jack Simmons - CEO)	Conditionally Support	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Customer Planning Council should be used to vet all acquisitions/disposals</li> <li>2. Carefully evaluate potential offers on sales price and other aspects</li> <li>3. Be wary of bidders whose plans raise rate and reliability issues</li> <li>4. Work together to address training center issues</li> </ol>
Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association (David Callis - GM)	Conditionally Support	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Carefully evaluate value of the site, especially transmission lines, before making decision</li> <li>2. Get additional input from Local Power Companies and FACA committees</li> <li>3. Supports TVPPA comments</li> </ol>
North Alabama Electric (Bruce Purdy - GM)	Assumes Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Don't sell for residential</li> <li>2. Preserve undisturbed areas</li> </ol>
Weakley County Municipal Electric Service (Faron Collins - GM)	Retain	No preference on use expressed

## Federal, State and Local Officials/Entities

<b>Commenter</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Summary</b>
Senator Richard Shelby (Alabama)	Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Supports selling to an entity to complete plant</li> <li>2. Otherwise sell for large industrial or technology complex</li> </ol>
Governor Robert Brantley (Alabama)	Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Supports selling to entity that will complete plant</li> <li>2. Aware that there is a private party interested in completing plant</li> <li>3. Give priority to bidders who will complete plant</li> </ol>
Congressman Mo Brooks (Alabama)	Sell	Sell to qualified bidder to complete plant
Jackson County Commission (Matthew Hodges - Chairman)	Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preference for selling to an entity that would complete plant</li> <li>2. Alternatively, sell for industrial development</li> </ol>
Town of Hollywood (Buster Duke - Mayor)	Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preference for selling to an entity that would complete the plant</li> <li>2. Concerned about in-lieu of tax payments</li> </ol>
Jackson County Economic Development Authority (Dus Rogers - CEO)	Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. First choice is selling to an entity to complete the plant</li> <li>2. Second choice is selling for industrial complex</li> <li>3. Opposed to recreational or residential uses</li> </ol>
Scottsboro Industrial Development Board	Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. First choice is selling to an entity to complete the plant</li> <li>2. Second choice is selling for industrial complex</li> <li>3. Opposed to recreational or residential uses</li> </ol>
Scottsboro Waterworks, Sewer and Gas Board	Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. First choice is selling to an entity to complete the plant</li> <li>2. Second choice is selling for industrial complex</li> <li>3. Opposed to recreational or residential uses</li> </ol>
Association of Tennessee Valley Governments (Mike Arms - Executive Director)	Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Best option is selling to an entity to complete the plant</li> <li>2. Second option is selling for industrial complex</li> </ol>

## Economic Development Entity

<b>Commenter</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Summary</b>
Jackson County Chamber of Commerce (Rick Roden - CEO)	Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sell to entity to complete plant</li> <li>2. Otherwise sell for industrial/technological complex</li> </ol>

## Developer

<b>Commenter</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Summary</b>
Larry Blust (Attorney)	Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Client still interested in buying site and connecting transmission lines</li> <li>2. Best option is selling site to complete the plant</li> </ol>
Phoenix Energy of Nevada (Michael Dooley - Managing Partner)	Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Interested in purchasing the site to build “an Electromagnetic Induction Energy Field Induced Metal Heating Eddy Currents Feed Water Plant with Evaporative Distilled Water and Hydrogen and Oxygen Gases By-Productions Facility”</li> <li>2. Recently completed design, engineering, modeling of this innovative new technology</li> </ol>

## Environmental Advocacy Groups

<b>Commenter</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Summary</b>
Tennessee Environmental Council (Don Safer)	Retain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use the site for renewable energy</li> <li>2. Withdraw construction licenses for BLN Units 1 and 2</li> </ol>
Sierra Club (Tennessee Chapter - Know Nukes Committee - Don Safer)	Retain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use the site for renewable energy</li> <li>2. Withdraw construction licenses for BLN Units 1 and 2</li> </ol>
Bellefonte Efficiency and Sustainability Team and Mothers Against Tennessee River Radiation (Stewart Horn, Gretel Johnson, Garry Morgan)	Retain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Build utility-scale solar power facility on the site with back-up generation from river turbines, wind, and/or hydro-storage capacity</li> <li>2. Withdraw construction licenses for BLN Units 1 and 2</li> </ol>
Sierra Club (Beyond Coal Campaign - Jonathan Levenshus)	Retain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strongly opposed to any nuclear project on the site, including small modular reactors</li> <li>2. Use the site for renewable energy</li> </ol>
Sierra Club (Nuclear Free Campaign - Steven Sondheim)	Retain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use the site for renewable energy</li> <li>2. Endorses Tennessee Sierra Club’s comments</li> </ol>

Sierra Club (Tennessee Chapter - Rebuild & Repower America Committee - Mary Mastin)	Uncertain	Use the site for a large solar project
Southern Alliance For Clean Energy (Stephen Smith - Executive Director)	Sell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Withdraw construction licenses for BLN Units 1 and 2</li> <li>2. Opposed to any fossil or nuclear use of the site</li> <li>3. Sell for development of renewable energy</li> <li>4. Conduct new valuation of site</li> <li>5. Use a transparent process with names of interested bidders made public and consideration of proposals at a public Board meeting</li> </ol>

**General Public  
(Sample of Comments)**

Number of Comments	Sell/Retain/Uncertain	
56	Sell - 25 Retain - 22 Uncertain - 9	
Commenter	Position	Summary
James Crabtree	Sell	Prohibit construction of power generation on site because this would expose TVA to competition within its service territory
Joan Johnson	Sell	Prohibit nuclear power use
Z. Cartter Patten III	Sell	Commends Bill Johnson for considering sell; any non-carbon use would be OK
James Bergman	Sell	Make concerted effort to sell to industrial or commercial buyer
Jack Keeling	Sell	IRP proves TVA does not need the plant
Kathryn McClure	Sell	Put proceeds into retirement system
Eddie Doss	Retain	Complete the plant; unlikely that investment could be recovered if sold
Mattie J. Holt	Retain	Dismantle the plant
Dylan Salts/William Fouts	Retain	Fossil and hydro plants reaching end of useful lives; TVA will need additional generation
Phillip Carpenter	Retain	Complete the plant; retire Kingston and Bull fossil plants
AJ Monsees	Retain	Consider building gas plant or SMRs
Joe Purkey	Retain	Plant will be needed in light of pressures on fossil generation (emissions/coal ash)
Sandra Kurtz	Retain	Use the site for renewable energy; preserve the forested tracts
Ken Hilliard	Uncertain	Remove cooling towers and open access to Town Creek for larger boats