



November 14, 2017

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Dale Christenson
Federal Project Director
UPF Project Office
1060 Commerce Park, A-19
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Dear Mr. Christenson:

Y-12 Electrical Substation Project

On behalf of the City of Oak Ridge, I hereby request the postponement of the projected November 16, 2017 start date for the removal of trees and other vegetation from the top of the ridge between Y-12 and nearby residential neighborhoods.

This request is made for several reasons. First, the City's leadership was only recently briefed on the proposed project, and we believe additional time is needed for your team to provide and distribute substantive information to City residents and businesses about the project.

Second, City Councilmembers at their meeting on November 7, 2017 voiced strong concerns about the adverse impacts of the project on the City's ridgeline and view shed. The removal of mature trees on the top ridgeline and installation of more than thirty (30) 79-foot transmission towers along a 2.1-mile corridor in the heart of the City will permanently alter the fabric of our community. This iconic view shed represents one of the most attractive features for residents and visitors to our City. It is our understanding that three options were provided by TVA, and our community should be fully informed about the option which was chosen.

Third, the rapidly approaching start date comes at a time when the Oak Ridge community is finalizing design for a \$10 million dollar pre-school in the Scarboro neighborhood adjacent to the proposed project route.

Be assured that the Oak Ridge community is supportive of the ongoing modernization of the Y-12 National Security Complex and the Uranium Processing Facility. However, that support is severely undermined when open lines of communication with the City of Oak Ridge and its residents are not maintained. We strongly urge that your project team review the feasibility of alternate routes for the electrical substation project that would reduce or eliminate the anticipated environmental and community impact. The additional time is needed to demonstrate that all feasible alternatives have been fully explored.

Mr. Dale Christenson
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Please contact City Manager Mark Watson at (865) 425-3550 to discuss a timetable for this request, and for providing community engagement on the UPF project.

Sincerely yours,



Warren L. Gooch
Mayor

cc: Lt. General Frank Klotz (Ret.), Under Secretary for Nuclear Security and Administrator, NNSA
Bill Johnson, President and CEO, TVA
Governor Bill Haslam
United States Senator Lamar Alexander
United States Senator Bob Corker
Congressman Chuck Fleischmann
Deputy Governor Jim Henry
Lt. Governor Randy McNally
State Senator Ken Yager
State Representative John Ragan
State Representative Kent Calfee
Commissioner Robert Martineau, TDEC