

1 A RESOLUTION encouraging the Tennessee Valley Authority board of directors to
2 delay its consideration of and voting on closing the Paradise Fossil Plant Unit 3 in
3 Muhlenberg County.

4 WHEREAS, the first commercial coal mine in Kentucky opened near Paradise,
5 Kentucky in 1820; and

6 WHEREAS, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) was created as a federally
7 owned corporation in 1933 to provide for a national defense, improve navigation and
8 flood control, and create electricity generation, fertilizer manufacturing, and economic
9 development in the Tennessee Valley area which was hit hard by the Great Depression;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, in the early 1960's, TVA built a power plant, opening two units, in
12 Paradise, Kentucky, using abundant, local coal and water from the Green River; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1970, TVA put the Paradise Fossil Plant (PAF) Unit 3 online; and

14 WHEREAS, as of 2009, the coal industry paid 25% of total wages in Muhlenberg
15 County, and coal jobs have since declined more than 50%; and

16 WHEREAS, 131 jobs remain at the Paradise Fossil Plant (PAF) Unit 3, and the
17 mined coal that fuels PAF Unit 3 provides jobs for approximately 135 people; and

18 WHEREAS, in November 2018, TVA released an environmental assessment about
19 the potential retirement of PAF Unit 3 that found only "minor direct adverse economic
20 impacts"; and

21 WHEREAS, PAF Unit 3 is still one of the largest employers in Muhlenberg
22 County; and the indirect impact of closing PAF Unit 3 in terms of economic stability and
23 energy reliability is indeterminable; and

24 WHEREAS, having coal as part of the energy portfolio for baseload electric
25 generation is critical to ensure the reliability of the electric grid, which is a policy issue
26 being considered as part of maintaining the national defense of the United States; and

27 WHEREAS, the TVA board of directors statutorily shall be composed of nine (9)

1 members appointed by the President of the United States with the advice and consent of
2 the United States Senate; the current board consists of only seven (7) board members; and

3 WHEREAS, in November 2018, the TVA President and Chief Executive Officer,
4 William D. Johnson announced he will retire after a successor is named as part of an
5 active candidate search;

6 NOW, THEREFORE,

7 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
8 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

9 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives urges the Tennessee Valley Authority
10 board of directors to delay its consideration of and voting on closing the Paradise Fossil
11 Plant Unit 3 in Muhlenberg County until the TVA board membership is fully appointed
12 and a new TVA President and Chief Executive Officer has been retained.

13 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to provide a
14 copy of this Resolution and notification of its adoption to all current TVA board members
15 and Representative Melinda Gibbons Prunty.