

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 (PFA) 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 PFA Unit 3, and the  
17 mined coal that fuels PFA 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 PFA Unit 3 that found only "minor direct adverse economic  
20 impacts"; and

21           WHEREAS, PFA Unit 3 is still one of the largest employers in Muhlenberg  
22 County; and the indirect impact of closing PFA 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 Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*  
8 *Kentucky:*

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

13 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to provide a copy of this  
14 Resolution and notification of its adoption to all current TVA board members and Senator  
15 Stan Humphries.