



October 6, 2016  
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Revision 0

Tennessee Valley Authority  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

**RE: Initial Hazard Potential Classification Assessment  
Ash Pond A  
EPA Final Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) Rule  
TVA Gallatin Fossil Plant  
Gallatin, Tennessee**

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## **1.0 PURPOSE**

This letter documents Stantec's certification of the initial hazard potential classification assessment for the TVA Gallatin Fossil Plant's Ash Pond A. The EPA Final CCR Rule requires owners or operators of CCR surface impoundments to conduct initial and periodic hazard potential classification assessments of the unit, assign one of three potential hazard classification ratings to it, and provide the basis for the rating, as per 40 CFR 257.73(a)(2). Hazard potential classification ratings define the consequences in the event of a failure – *the ratings have nothing to do with the likelihood of failure or the structural stability of the impoundment*. Based on this assessment, Ash Pond A has been assigned a significant hazard potential classification rating.

## **2.0 BASIS FOR CLASSIFICATION RATING**

As described in the attached assessment report, the hazard potential classification rating of "significant" was assigned to Ash Pond A because a failure or mis-operation would result in no probable loss of human life, but could cause economic loss, environmental damage, disruption of lifeline facilities, or impact other concerns. In 2013, a breach inundation study was completed that included modeling and routing of breach hydrographs. Loss of life was considered improbable due to the intermittent and transient nature of persons within these areas. However, a breach of Pond A would likely result in the release of CCR material to the Cumberland River. Review of the analysis and current conditions at Ash Pond A concluded that the existing hazard classification was applicable.

## **3.0 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

The attached report presents the analysis for the initial hazard potential classification assessment. The results demonstrate that the impoundment meets the hazard potential classification of "significant."



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**4.0 QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER CERTIFICATION**

I, John S. Montgomery, being a Professional Engineer in good standing in the State of Tennessee, do hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief:

1. that the information contained in this certification is prepared in accordance with the accepted practice of engineering;
2. that the information contained herein is accurate as of the date of my signature below; and
3. that the initial hazard potential classification assessment for the TVA Gallatin Fossil Plant's Ash Pond A meets the requirements specified in 40 CFR 257.73(a)(2).

SIGNATURE

DATE

*October 6, 2016*

ADDRESS:

Stantec Consulting Services Inc.  
1409 North Forbes Road  
Lexington, Kentucky 40511-2024

TELEPHONE:

(859) 422-3000

ATTACHMENTS:

Initial Hazard Potential Classification Assessment



## **Initial Hazard Potential Classification Assessment**

Gallatin Fossil Plant – Ash Pond A  
Gallatin, Tennessee



Prepared for:  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Prepared by:  
Stantec Consulting Services Inc.  
Lexington, Kentucky

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# INITIAL HAZARD POTENTIAL CLASSIFICATION ASSESSMENT

Rating  
October 6, 2016

## 1.0 RATING

This report documents the Hazard Potential Classification Assessment for Ash Pond A at Gallatin Fossil Plant (GAF) as required per the Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System; Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities [RIN-2050-AE81; FRL-9149-4] (EPA Final CCR Rule) § 257.73 (a)(2). Hazard potential classifications are based on the consequences of failure or mis-operation and are not a measure of the condition of the unit. The applicable hazard potential classifications are defined in the EPA Final CCR Rule § 257.53 as follows:

- (1) High hazard potential CCR surface impoundment means a diked surface impoundment where failure or mis-operation will probably cause loss of human life.
- (2) Significant hazard potential CCR surface impoundment means a diked surface impoundment where failure or mis-operation results in no probable loss of human life, but can cause economic loss, environmental damage, disruption of lifeline facilities, or impact other concerns.
- (3) Low hazard potential CCR surface impoundment means a diked surface impoundment where failure or mis-operation results in no probable loss of human life and low economic and/or environmental losses. Losses are principally limited to the surface impoundment owner's property.

Based on these definitions Ash Pond A is classified as a significant hazard potential CCR surface impoundment.

This report contains supporting documentation for the Hazard Potential Classification Assessment. The hazard potential classification for this structure was determined by review of a previous assessment conducted by Stantec in September, 2013.

# INITIAL HAZARD POTENTIAL CLASSIFICATION ASSESSMENT

Basis of Rating  
October 6, 2016

## 2.0 BASIS OF RATING

### 2.1 INTRODUCTION

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) has contracted Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) to review and update previous Hazard Potential Classification Assessments as needed and to prepare the accompanying certification for selected impoundments at various TVA Plants.

GAF is located in Sumner County, Tennessee. The plant is located adjacent to the Cumberland River, approximately 40 miles northeast of Nashville, Tennessee. Ash Pond A is located to the south of Stilling Ponds B and C, and to the east of Ash Pond E. A site overview figure is included in the appendix.

### 2.2 SOURCE DATA

For Ash Pond A, an assessment was previously conducted in 2013. Based on the findings, it was recommended that the hazard classification of Ash Pond A be listed as a significant hazard.

### 2.3 POTENTIAL FAILURE SCENARIOS

As part of the 2013 study a breach analysis of Ash Pond A to determine the anticipated consequences on adjacent property and infrastructure. This analysis considered both "Sunny Day" and PMP scenarios. The breach hydrograph was routed through Stilling Pond B, C, and D. No structures or property were identified within the flow paths of the potential breach scenarios reviewed. Buildings and roadways within the vicinity of the impoundment were found to be either positioned above the elevation of the impoundment or separated by distances which would permit the dissipation of a potential breach wave within existing waterways. Therefore, loss of life from a breach of the impoundment was not envisioned.

However, because Ash Pond A is located in the vicinity of the Cumberland River, a breach would likely result in the off-site release of CCRs into the waters of the United States.

As part of this initial hazard classification assessment, site conditions were reviewed to determine if changes have occurred to the impoundment or to downstream areas that would affect the conclusions of the 2013 study. No significant changes have been identified and it is concluded the hazard classification determination is appropriate.

### 2.4 HAZARD CLASSIFICATION

Findings of this review and assessment demonstrate that a breach of the impoundment results in no probable loss of human life, but could cause economic loss or environmental damage. It is Stantec's opinion the impoundment fits the definition for a significant hazard potential CCR surface impoundment (as defined in the EPA Final CCR Rule §257.53).

## INITIAL HAZARD POTENTIAL CLASSIFICATION ASSESSMENT

References  
October 6, 2016

### 3.0 REFERENCES

1. Stantec, September 30, 2013. Dam Safety Hazard Classification Projects Summary Report.
2. Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System; Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities [RIN-2050-AE81; FRL-9149-4]. April, 2015.

# **APPENDIX SITE OVERVIEW FIGURE**



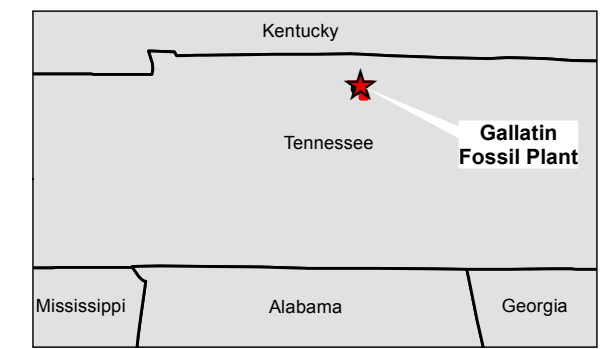
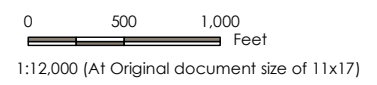
Figure No. **1**  
 Title **Site Overview**  
**GAF - Ash Pond A**

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Client/Project  
 Tennessee Valley Authority  
 Gallatin Fossil Plant (GAF)  
 Hazard Potential Classification Assessment

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Project Location: Gallatin, TN  
 Prepared by: BSJ on 2015-06-29  
 Technical Review by: MMM on 2016-09-30  
 Independent Review by: MMM on 2016-09-30



**Notes**

1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Tennessee FIPS 4100 Feet
2. TVA Aerial Imagery data 2015.
3. State boundaries produced by ESRI, U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.



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