

December 16, 2022

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer:

We write to you as the executive officers of International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE) and the Office and Professional Employees International Union (OPEIU), labor unions representing thousands of employees of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) at jobs supporting nuclear, oil and gas, hydroelectric, and solar energy, and in TVA administrative offices. We urge you in the strongest sense possible to consider and approve President Biden's nominations for the TVA Board of Directors before the end of the year. Failure to confirm these nominees will result in a lack of a quorum next year.

TVA, the nation's largest public utility, is at a pivotal moment. This independent, federally-owned authority is committing to investing in new energy production, resilient infrastructure, and a clean energy transition while continuing to fulfill its mission of providing reliable and affordable energy to the region, managing and protecting the natural resources of the region, and supporting economic development.

The TVA's board plays a critical role in ensuring fidelity to these ambitious and achievable goals and TVA's mission. The Board is responsible for establishing TVA's strategic direction and objectives, setting long-range plans, and providing accountability for implementation of plans and policies. If these nominees are not confirmed, the TVA Board will be left with three members at most – this would leave the board without a quorum of five members.

All six of President Biden's nominees have advanced out of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and are highly qualified. The nominees for the TVA Board include Robert P. "Bobby" Klein, a resident of Chattanooga, Tennessee, who was a leader for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and Tennessee Valley Trades and Labor Council. For over 40 years, he has been a tireless advocate for union members at TVA and TVA's mission. We strongly believe Mr. Klein and the five other nominees – William J. Renick, L. Michelle Moore, Adam Wade White, Joe H. Ritch, and Beth Geer – should be confirmed in the coming days so that the TVA Board will have strong leadership and a healthy diversity of viewpoints.

Furthermore, if there is not a bipartisan consensus on Senate approval of all six nominees to the TVA Board, we request that the nominees who have bipartisan support be considered by the Senate before the end of December.

Thank you for considering our request. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

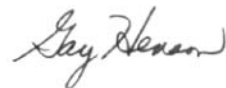
Sincerely,



Matthew S. Biggs
IFPTE President



Richard Lanigan
OPEIU President



Gay Henson
IFPTE Secretary-Treasurer

CC: Tom Carper, Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works

