

Additional Notes:

- TVA reports 270 percent improvement in power savings in North Mississippi

Energy efficiency initiatives by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and local power distributors reduced electric power consumption by 559 gigawatt-hours in fiscal year 2011, a 270 percent improvement in power savings over last year according to TVA. TVA's energy efficiency programs have reduced the region's electricity use by 765 gigawatt-hours over the last two years, conserving enough energy to power 50,000 area households for an entire year. One gigawatt-hour equals the power used to burn a single 100-watt light bulb for 10 million hours.

TVA's EnergyRight Solutions suite of energy efficiency programs is available for homes, businesses and industries throughout the Tennessee Valley.

- Oxford, Mississippi Students Save \$23,000 on Energy

Students, faculty and staff members at five Oxford schools have saved more than \$23,000 in energy costs just by changing their behavior. The savings represent a 7 percent conservation of the schools' use of energy compared to each of the two previous years. The changes resulted from TVA's Green Initiative, a pilot program in which five schools in Oxford School District and three in Lafayette School District are in their second and final year of participation. The initiative was designed to involve students, teacher and staff members in finding ways to lower their schools' energy use and to serve as a model for other schools in the TVA region. The actions included changing thermostat settings, limiting buildings' hours of use and creating other policies that building users agree to follow. Each school was spurred by the promise that every dollar of savings would be put into that school's activity fund. Individual schools found different ways to save money and to spend the savings.

The two-year program requires no capital investment from the schools. "That's just behavioral changes, no retrofitting, no output of funds to make any improvements in the buildings at all," said Alisa Fye, who oversees the program for TVA. Green School Initiative participating schools get energy audit kits, an audit company compares current and past usage and Fye visits the campus monthly. The University of Mississippi's success with TVA's Green Campus Initiative was one of the major reasons that Oxford and Lafayette schools were chosen for the K-12 energy program. Ole Miss "has one of the best sustainability programs in the South," Fye said.