

ATVG
Association of Tennessee Valley Governments
P.O. Box 3578, Clarksville, TN 37043-0378

I am honored to have the opportunity to lead the Association of Tennessee Valley Government in 2012 as President. Our Association has completed a strong 2011 agenda under the leadership of Larry Vickery. This past year our ATVG Board passed four resolutions that have much impact on local governments: (1) Opposition to interbasin transfer of water (2) Support of Nuclear Power (3) Opposition to coal ash being classified as hazardous waste by EPA and (4) Support of TVA's Integrated Resource Plan. Also, we appeared before the TVA Board at a public meeting on two issues: (1) Support of the restart of Bellefonte Nuclear Plant and (2) Concern about economic impact/job loss in rural counties where TVA is closing fossil plants.

Our issues for 2012 are also critically important to our local governments. These key issues include (1) Monitoring the impact on "In-lieu-of-tax" if TVA sells power producing assets as proposed such as the new Watts Bar unit 2 Nuclear Reactor and the new John Sevier combined cycle gas plant (2) Studying the impact of TVA's debt ceiling which is directly related to TVA's consideration of selling power producing assets (3) A relook at the economic impact of Chickamauga lock closure and (4) Working with State Government and TVA on mitigating job loss impacts of fossil plant closures in rural regions. Of course, other issues may arise during the year.

I hope you make plans to attend our ATVG Board Meetings which are open to all ATVG members and always include some valuable programs and frank discussions of issues. Our quarterly 2012 meeting scheduled begins in Nashville on January 25/26 at the Holiday Inn Express with presentations on in-lieu-of-tax payments and emergency preparedness. Our spring meeting set for April 18/19 will be in North Alabama and will include the tour of a TVA Nuclear Plant. In the summer, we meet at Pickwick State Park on July 18/19 with a program focused on energy efficiency, green energy, and sustainability. To wrap-up the year we will meet in the Clarksville/Hopkinsville Region on October 17/18.

Please join us at these important and informative meetings.

Best Regards,

Mayor Willie Spencer
President ATVG