

## **TVA Board Nominees Get Hearing**

TVA's 9-member board should soon be back to full strength, says the chairman of a Senate panel that oversees TVA. After waiting months for their Senate confirmation, the four persons recommended for the Tennessee Valley Authority board by President Obama are starting hearings before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

"I don't anticipate any bumps in the road," said U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-California, Chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. "I think we should breeze through this pretty easily." The White House last year nominated Dr. Barbara S. Haskew, a Middle Tennessee State University economist from Chattanooga; Neil G. McBride, an Oak Ridge attorney; Dr. Marilyn A. Brown, a Georgia Tech professor who shared the Nobel peace prize with Al Gore, and William B. Sansom, a Knoxville businessman and former TVA board chairman.

Tennessee's U.S. Sens. Bob Corker and Lamar Alexander praised the four during the hearing. "These four nominees each bring valuable experiences to TVA," Mr. Corker said. "I hope they will be passed out of this committee and be confirmed by the Senate." Claiming that low-cost power has been vital in attracting automotive and solar plants to the state over the past three decades, Sen. Alexander said, "there is no institution more important to our region than TVA. If there are any two words I'd like to emphasize to our nominees they would be low cost."

The four TVA nominees all voiced support for expanding nuclear power for what they said is a needed clean energy source for the seven-state region, while also encouraging and educating customers to be more energy efficient.