

**Statement of Michelle Moore**  
**Nominee to the Tennessee Valley Authority Board of Directors**  
**Before the**  
**United States Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works**  
**Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate, and Nuclear Safety**

**April 6, 2022**

Chairman Carper, Ranking Member Capito, Chairman Markey, Ranking Member Inhofe, and distinguished Members of the Committee, I am grateful for the opportunity to appear here before you today. My name is Michelle Moore, and I am honored to have been nominated by President Biden to the Tennessee Valley Authority Board of Directors.

The same three “E’s” that drive the TVA’s mission – affordable energy, environmental quality, and economic development – have inspired my sense of purpose and defined my work for more than 20 years.

These days, I live in Midlothian, VA, but LaGrange, GA, is (and always will be) home. I spent most of my time growing up there with my grandparents, who all lived on the same street near the cotton mills where they worked. There was no air-conditioning in the summertime and no heat in the bedrooms in winter. We kept cool with a window fan and warm under three generations of hand-pieced quilts and hand-me-down blankets, and it was heaven. But whenever Mammaw and Pappaw would have to turn on the furnace to keep the pipes from freezing, they’d end up with a \$300-\$400 utility bill, which, on their income, was backbreaking. It wasn’t because the utility rates were high, but rather because their home – which I loved – was so inefficient.

I understand that the *affordability* of energy has to come first, whether viewed through my own experiences, or through the history of TVA’s formation to bring affordable power to the people of the Tennessee Valley.

My work in the energy and corporate sustainability fields has been built on this foundation, showing at every step along the way how energy and environmental quality go hand in hand with fiscal responsibility.

I learned how from a great business leader and teacher: Ray C. Anderson, the founder of Interface Inc. When I joined his company in the late 1990’s, Interface was a publicly traded Fortune 500 global carpet manufacturer based in my hometown, and Ray had just announced Interface’s goal of becoming the world’s first environmentally sustainable corporation. The company’s responsibility to its shareholders, and to the thousands of families who depended on its success for their financial health, was always at the core of Ray’s commitment. The resulting strategies – from reducing waste, to re-engineering manufacturing processes, to redesigning products to be remanufactured at the end of their useful lives – increased profits, reduced impact, built shareholder value, and expanded markets. Ray called it “doing well by doing good,” and I carry each and every lesson I learned from him with me still.

Making the business case, in fact, is how I helped build the US and global market for green buildings. Demonstrating that healthier buildings that use less energy and water not only don't cost more to build, but cost less to operate over the long term and are worth more, enabled the US real estate and construction industries to transform themselves – creating value and supporting US economic competitiveness in the global market.

It's the same approach I brought to leading the federal government's sustainability efforts. By pairing energy and environmental performance with economic responsibility, initiatives I led reduced the federal government's energy bill by a projected \$8 billion. And I applied the same common-sense approach to leading President Obama's infrastructure office, which reduced permitting timelines for hundreds of billions of economical infrastructure projects without compromising environmental quality.

Today, I am focused on putting energy to work as a powerful strategy for economic development. Whether it's deploying rural energy efficiency programs that reduce bills for people like my grandparents while supporting local contractors and training new entrants into the construction trades, or developing solar and energy storage on church rooftops that provide energy savings and additional resilience to the surrounding community, energy remains an essential source of economic opportunity – just as it was in 1933.

Why I serve is more important to understand than what I've done: It's how I live out my faith and the commandment to “love your neighbor as yourself” using what I know how to do – connecting energy with affordability, economic opportunity, and quality of life – to serve my community, including the people of the Tennessee Valley.

If confirmed, it would be my honor to serve in this same spirit as a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.