Statement of

Marilyn A. Brown

Nominee to the Tennessee Valley Authority Board of Directors

Before the

U. S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

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Madam Chair, Ranking Member Inhofe and Members of the Committee, it is an honor to appear before you as a Nominee to the Tennessee Valley Authority Board of Directors. I am truly thankful for, and humbled by, your consideration of my nomination. Thank you. I would also like to both thank and introduce to the Committee a family member who is here with me today to provide her support: my daughter, and recent graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law, Katie Southworth.

I approach my nomination with tremendous esteem for the Tennessee Valley Authority and what the institution represents. The Tennessee Valley is a land of opportunities. It is rich with resources, abundant in beauty, and blessed with a unique history and tradition. TVA is an essential part of that history, and continues to occupy a critical role in the lives of Valley residents and the regional economy.

Madam Chair, as I seek your support, and the support of your esteemed colleagues, I am mindful of TVA's mission: to serve the Tennessee Valley through energy, the environment, and economic development.

Over three decades, I have conducted research on the electric power industry, focusing on the policies and programs used by utilities both nationwide and internationally to foster the use of sustainable energy technologies. At Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, I co-led the report, *Scenarios for a Clean Energy Future*, which remains a cornerstone of engineering-economic analysis of sustainable energy options for the United States.

As Director of the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program at Oak Ridge, I managed programs to develop advanced technologies, including heat pump water heaters, hybrid solar lighting systems, high-temperature industrial materials, and superconducting power transmission cables. These efforts have enhanced the energy productivity of homes, commercial buildings, industrial facilities and our nation's electric grid.

During my years in Oak Ridge, I had the privilege of collaborating with the talented and dedicated staff at TVA and was stimulated by my interactions with TVA Board members.

Since moving to the Georgia Institute of Technology in 2006 to become a Professor of energy policy, my concern for the energy challenges facing the Southeast and the Nation has grown. Consumption of electricity is increasing, particularly during periods of peak demand, while efforts to manage the growing appetite for electricity are often inadequate.

I am confident that a variety of practical solutions are available to manage TVA's growing demand while ensuring reasonable prices, reliable service, responsible environmental practices and economic growth. In addition to new power generation, possible solutions include time-of-use pricing, industrial combined heat and power policies, integrated resource planning, and the coupling of return on investment with the provision of energy services, not just electricity sales.

The challenge of energy security looms large, and in this case, electricity markets and policies also can offer solutions. TVA and other electric utilities can make the region and the country more secure by using its off-peak electricity to electrify cars and by using plug-in vehicles to back up the grid.

Just as TVA converted challenges into opportunities in its past, TVA can continue to bring opportunities to the Tennessee Valley today. If confirmed, I commit to working closely with you and my fellow Board members to promote TVA's energy, environmental, and economic mission.

I look forward to answering any questions you might have. Thank you.