Chairman Capito, Ranking Member Whitehouse, and Members of the Committee, thank you for having me this morning and for the opportunity to discuss my nomination to the Tennessee Valley Authority's Board of Directors.

I am honored by the opportunity to serve my state and region and appreciate the nomination by President Trump.

I'm also thankful to my wife, Julie, for suggesting that I serve in this capacity. She stressed to me the crucial need for greater electric power in our region and our country, and that TVA can play a vital role, even leading the way for our nation.

I never served in the military, something that I deeply regret. However, I have experience, knowledge, and wisdom that I can apply at TVA and serve my country.

I have spent my career building businesses, and it all started as a teenager washing cars. More than 54 years later, I was the owner, CEO, and Chairman of the Board for nine dealerships, operating under 13 different franchises and brands in two states with sales and distribution across eight states east of the Mississippi River.

My career also includes 35 years in the beverage industry, encompassing 15 products in over 100 package sizes, distributed across parts of Tennessee and Georgia.

The automobile and beverage industries have taken me across much of the same region that TVA serves.

For over four decades, I have had the privilege of serving my community on the boards of some of Tennessee's most respected institutions—spanning healthcare, education, the arts, civil rights, and economic development. From Vanderbilt Children's Hospital and Belmont University to the Nashville Symphony and the Beacon Center of Tennessee, I've worked alongside dedicated leaders to advance missions that matter. Whether chairing strategic initiatives or guiding long-term vision, I bring a deep understanding of governance and a passion for building organizations that serve with excellence. My commitment to ethical leadership and community service has been recognized with awards such as the National American Business Ethics Award, the Junior Achievement Free Enterprise Award, I've also been humbled to receive distinctions like the Charlie Daniels Patriot Award, Nashville's Rotary Club's Distinguished Service Citation, and inclusion in multiple years in the Nashville Business Journal's Top 100 Most Powerful People. In addition to my time, I have also given financially to many worthy causes, such as The Beaman NICU at St. Thomas Midtown Hospital, which "helps protect the most vulnerable among us." My community service

and the honors I've received reflect not just a personal journey, but a lifelong dedication to advancing organizations that serve with purpose, vision, and heart. I'm grateful for the chance to bring that same energy and experience to this board.

My career has been about far more than building a business. It has been about making a positive impact where my family and I work and live. By dedicating time and resources to causes we care about, we are making a meaningful difference in others' lives. For example, to fulfill my commitment to conservation, we donated 1,500 acres of beautiful, pristine land to the City of Nashville so that future generations can enjoy hiking miles of trails on this preserved land within city limits.

Since childhood, I have enjoyed Tennessee's beautiful natural environment, from hiking in the Smokies and the Cumberland Mountains to kayaking and fishing on many TVA lakes. Just this year, my wife, Julie, and I chose to celebrate our anniversary hiking in the Smokies. While serving as a TVA board member, I would take the opportunity to play a serious role in protecting the environment.

I am a proud Tennessean and American, and if confirmed, I am committed to serving my state and country by carrying out TVA's mission to improve lives while making a positive difference in energy, the environment, and economic development.

I will apply my business experience to the TVA Board of Directors as we aid in the governance and oversight of the TVA's organizational structure and business dealings.

If confirmed, I will push for performance to ensure affordable and reliable power is delivered to the 153 local power companies serving homes and businesses across the seven-state region, and I will drive efforts to secure America's energy future.

Thank you, and I look forward to answering your questions.