Statement of Larry Jeffrey "Jeff" Hagood
Nominee to the Tennessee Valley Board of Directors
Before the
U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
October 22, 2025

Chairman Capito, Ranking Member Whitehouse, and members of the Committee:

My name is Jeff Hagood, and I sincerely thank you all very much for the opportunity to appear before you. I was indeed humbled to be nominated by President Trump to serve on the Tennessee Valley Authority Board of Directors, and I am very grateful to my two Senators, Marsha Blackburn and Bill Hagerty, for their support for my nomination.

I was born and raised in Persia, Tennessee, a little hamlet about sixty miles from Knoxville. I was fortunate to be raised in a wonderful home and in a wonderful community. My father, Larry E. Hagood, was the best man I've ever known. My mother, Doris S. Hagood, was the best mother anybody could ever have. My daddy was a rural mail carrier, and he grew tobacco on our little farm to supplement our income. He also founded the Persia Utility District, and I saw firsthand how this helped our rural community prosper. My mother worked for TVA as a secretary. I so remember my mother talking about how proud she was to work for TVA and how much she loved her work. My mother's only sister, Virginia, and my mother's little brother Joe Don, both had careers at TVA as well.

Just as TVA was important to my family, it was also important to my community. As a child, I would often peddle my bicycle down our rural road to gaze at the towering smokestacks of TVA's John Sevier Fossil Plant. TVA was more than an employer, it was the economic heartbeat of our community, offering the best-paying jobs and fueling growth and opportunity.

Today, TVA continues to drive energy production, economic development, and access to natural resources across the region – benefits that remain vital to the communities where I grew up and where I now live. Preserving and enhancing these opportunities should be a priority for all of us who serve in this region.

My parents had little formal education, but they both understood the value of education and had the expectation that I would be the first in our family to attend college. With their sacrifices, I was. I attended the University of Tennessee and received an undergraduate degree in an Honors Program, and I then obtained my J.D. from the University of Tennessee College of Law.

Upon graduation, I took an unconventional path for a new lawyer at that time and I opened my own little practice. I made $5,218.00 my first year, and I am happy and thankful to say that both my little firm and I have grown significantly over the past thirty-five years.

My practice has always focused on litigation, and I have represented people from all walks of life with all kinds of cases. I have represented everyone from business executives and athletes to the

hardworking folks who keep our office building clean and safe. I think I have treated them all, and their cases, with the same care and with the same zeal.

While I've practiced law full-time for the last thirty-five years or so, I have always had a particular interest in business. Since 1990, with the help of different partners, I have built and developed mini storage facilities and storage warehouses; urgent care medical clinics; a large trucking operation; subdivisions, restaurants, apartments, and commercial buildings; I have purchased and developed farmland; and I co-founded a sports agency that represented many prominent NFL and MLB players.

I believe my background in business enables me to offer TVA the perspective of not only a businessman, but someone outside of the public utility sector. I have had to learn personnel management; evaluate personnel; know when and how to raise capital; and then know when and how to deploy that capital; hire the right people and invest in the right technology.

TVA has a mission of service, and I align myself with that mission. Throughout my life, I have strived to give back more to my community than I have received. I have served on the Boards of many non-profit organizations, and I have contributed time – not just money. For nearly a decade, I mentored twins weekly in the Big Brothers / Big Sisters program. Additionally, for nearly twenty years, I have helped lead my church's shut-in ministry, personally preparing and delivering meals to those unable to leave their homes. These experiences have deepened my understanding of service and have reaffirmed my commitment to uplifting the people of the Tennessee Valley.

On a personal note, I met my wife Millicent at our church, and we have been married for six years. We have a three-year-old son, Quinn. Faith and family are the cornerstones of our lives.

I share this background of legal experience, business acumen, service to my community and state, and my appreciation for what TVA has meant to my family and my community because it demonstrates the values and experiences I would bring to the TVA Board.

Today, I commit to bringing strong leadership, common sense, and accountability to the people TVA serves. I will never lose sight of the communities—like my hometown of Persia, TN—and the common man and woman. I will be a voice for the mission and values that were set forth nearly one hundred years ago in the forming of the Tennessee Valley Authority.