



Chickasaw Group News - January 2024



Sierra Club Chickasaw Group's Holiday Party 2023 welcomed old friends, new friends, and representatives of our community partner organizations.

Welcome to the New Year!!!

Welcome to January 2024 and a new year full of endless possibilities for all of us! As we begin the new year we also welcome a newly elected Executive Committee (ExCom) to lead the charge for the Chickasaw Group. At the January ExCom meeting the following were elected as our new leadership team:

Rita Harris, Group Chair - rita2600@gmail.com

Paul Klein, Vice Chair - pkboatnut@gmail.com

Treasurer, Mondell Williams - mondellw@yahoo.com

Secretary, (position open)

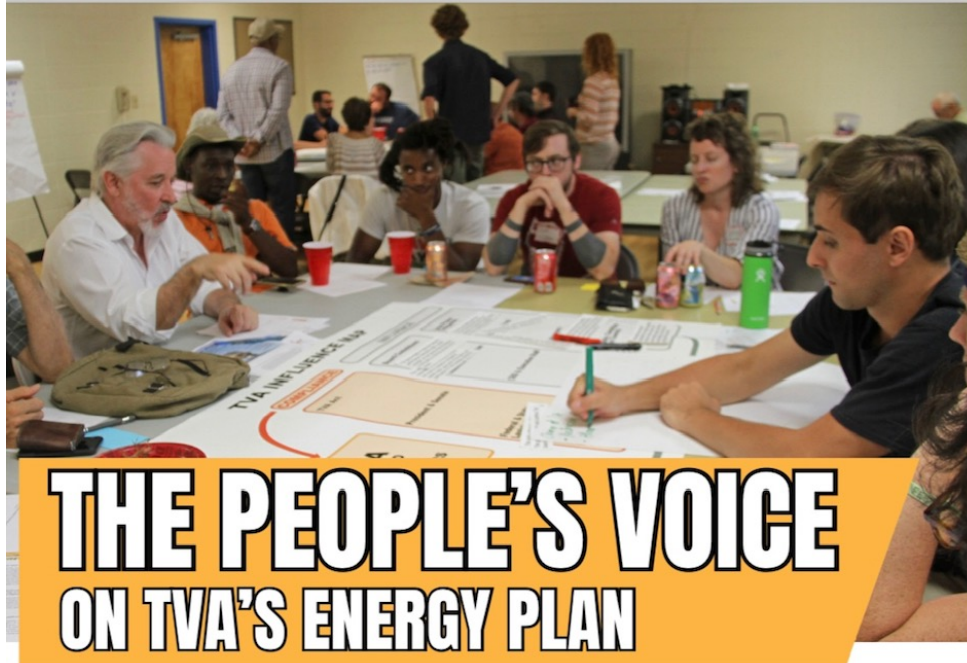
WE NEED YOU!!! If you have a couple hours a month, and desire to work on environmental issues or want to volunteer to help us with administrative matters, please contact Rita at rita2600@gmail.com,

Or contact Paul Klein at pkboatnut@gmail.com

Contact us to get INVOLVED!

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UPCOMING Events & Activities:



THE PEOPLE'S VOICE ON TVA'S ENERGY PLAN

January 25, 2024 | [RSVP at bit.ly/peoplesvoiceTVA](https://bit.ly/peoplesvoiceTVA)



1:00 - 4:30 p.m. CT

**Expert presentations on
TVA's power planning**

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. CT

**Community discussion &
listening session**



**Second Presbyterian
Church and online,
3511 Belmont Blvd,
Nashville, TN 37215**

Right now, our energy utility – the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) – is making a long-term plan for how to meet our region's energy needs. Unlike most neighboring utilities, TVA's process isn't public – even though these decisions will affect the water we drink, the bills we pay, and our climate for generations.

Join us in-person or online on Jan. 25 to help show TVA what this process should look like! In the afternoon, experts will present on topics like reliability, energy transition, environmental justice, and more. In the evening, we'll have a community listening session. We hope you can join us for all or part of the day!

Organized by:

Appalachian Voices, Energy Alabama, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, Sunrise Nashville, Center for Biological Diversity, Climate Reality Project: Memphis & Nashville chapters, and Vote Solar

January 25th, "The People's Voice on TVA's Energy Plan." Upcoming Public Hearing in Nashville, TN. Carpool to Nashville and speak out!

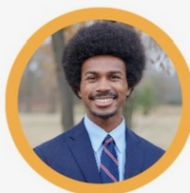
THE PEOPLE'S VOICE: COMMUNITY DISCUSSION AND LISTENING SESSION

January 25, 2024 | 6-8pm CT

From 6-8pm CT, facilitators will be hosting a community discussion and listening session to gather public input for TVA's long term energy plan. This session will be facilitated in breakout groups addressing key topics of concern. In person participation is encouraged for those close to Nashville. Online participants will be able to join in a virtual breakout discussion.

Anyone is welcome to join this session! A summary of the testimony given by experts earlier in the day will be provided to attendees to support the conversation.

This session will be opened with remarks by Tennessee's District 86 Representative, Justin J. Pearson. Recorded statements from federal elected officials will also be shared.



Justin J. Pearson,
Representative for
TN's 86th District

Justin J. Pearson became the second youngest lawmaker serving in the Tennessee House of Representatives when he was elected to office January 24, 2023, at the age of 28. He is a community organizer and servant leader who prioritizes the needs of the people. Justin co-founded the group, Memphis Community Against Pollution (MCAP) and led the fight to stop the multibillion dollar Byhalia crude oil pipeline from running through Memphis. Pearson's advocacy and leadership inspired The Sierra Club to recognize him as the 2023 National Changemaker of the Year and The Root to declare him as one of the 100 Most Influential Black Americans in 2022.

Organized by:

Appalachian Voices, Energy Alabama, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, Sunrise Nashville, Center for Biological Diversity, Climate Reality Project: Memphis & Nashville chapters, and Vote Solar



6:00 - 8 p.m. CT

Community discussion and listening session.



**Second Presbyterian Church and online
3511 Belmont Blvd,
Nashville, TN 37215**



Light refreshments will be provided



**RSVP for in person
OR online: bit.ly/peoplesvoiceTVA**

Join other Memphians at 2 separate events in Nashville on January 25th!!!

The purpose of this hearing is to provide an opportunity for public input and comments on the TVA's future energy plans. TVA's 'Integrated Resource Plan' (IRP) is a comprehensive study that projects how TVA will meet demand for energy over the next 25 years. The IRP will influence reliability, electricity bill affordability, air and water quality, and regional jobs for decades. Please plan to attend in person if at all possible to demonstrate to the TVA the importance of our public input.

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Rosa Parks Transit Equity Day - COMMUNITY FORUM -

Saturday, February 3rd -location to be announced. Watch your email for updates. This event will mark our 5th year commemorating the efforts of civil rights icon Rosa Parks while focusing on improving public transportation in the Memphis area. Co-sponsoring organizations will come together to provide a community forum for those regular bus riders. Sierra Club has joined with Citizens For Better Service, Memphis Bus Riders Union, MICAH, Climate Reality Project, Innovate Memphis and others.

The general public should be aware of the public transportation challenges for our local community, as well as the possible improvements and enhancements promoted by local advocates. A strong public transit system is a vital need for our community. Sierra Club will graciously provide assorted food & refreshments.

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ANNOUNCEMENT(S):

Although COVID is not completely behind us, we are planning to be as active as possible during the coming year. We are planning to host interesting monthly programs; some will be in person at the Main Library on Poplar Avenue, and some might be via Zoom. Please stay alert and watch for announcements of meetings, dates, and times.

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Sierra Club is co-sponsoring and supporting the League of Women Voters

“Elected Women’s Luncheon” on Saturday, February 17th.

Featured speakers will be:

Jerri Green - Memphis City Council District 2

Pearl Eva Walker - Memphis City Council District 3

Michalyn Easter-Thomas - Memphis City Council District 7

The luncheon will be held on February 17th and tickets are \$35 per person. Anyone interested in attending can contact Nita Black, LWV Treasurer, at 901-413-1315. Four or five of our members are planning to attend; join us!