held in the LBL region to obtain comments on the scope of the EIS. Locations and times for these meetings are announced below. TVA encourages those wishing to provide comments to do so as early as possible.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Dale V. Wilhelm, National Environmental Policy Act Liaison, Tennessee Valley Authority, WT 8C, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902–1499.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John L. Mechler or Tom Christensen at Land Between The Lakes, 100 Van Morgan Drive, Golden Pond, Kentucky 42211, telephone (502) 924–5602.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In 1963, President John F. Kennedy directed TVA to develop an area with limited natural resources into a national demonstration of outdoor recreation, environmental education and resource management that would stimulate economic growth of the western Kentucky and Tennessee region. LBL was envisioned as a site for multiple-use public benefits. It was not to be a national park, a national forest or a national wildlife refuge, but rather a combination of all of these concepts where natural resources would be managed and used for a wide variety of recreation and education purposes.

In 1964, TVA established Land Between The Lakes (LBL) as a 170,000-acre national recreation area bounded by Kentucky Lake to the west and Lake Barkley to the east. The original 10-year concept plan called for LBL to demonstrate ways national recreation providers could meet the mounting outdoor recreation demands of a changing society. The plan included strategies and methods to provide a unique outdoor classroom and laboratory for combining recreation and education. The plan was to be financed

principally through congressionally appropriated funding and it was estimated that up to 10 million visitors annually would be attracted. However, the subsequent level of appropriated funding provided for operations and capital projects was not sufficient to develop and support the program that would attract 10 million visitors.

In the next 10 years, from 1974 to 1984, the level of federal funding provided to TVA for developing and managing LBL allowed for constructing and expanding some facilities and enhancing some programs.

Since 1984, only one new facility was constructed while three were expanded and six closed. Most programs have continued, although at less intensive levels than in previous years.

Current federal funding for LBL is not sufficient to operate and maintain the existing public use facilities and programs which, in 1994, attracted 2.4 million visitors. Consequently, no major improvements or expansions can be considered that would require federal appropriated funding.

## **Proposed Issues to be Addressed**

The proposed issues to be addressed in the EIS include elimination, reduction, expansion or retention of existing public uses; consideration of new public programs and facilities; and optional financing and operating strategies for public uses. Other issues include impacts of development and increased levels of visitation on socioeconomic conditions and natural and other resources (e.g. wetlands, cultural resources, aesthetics, endangered and threatened species and sensitive habitat, and water quality).

TVA is interested in exploring partnerships which would decrease TVA's dependency on federal appropriated funds and ensure the long-term viability of LBL's mission. TVA

will consider a wide range of options to federal support, including those utilized by other public land management agencies, such as contract partnership arrangements with corporations, agencies and individuals to fund and operate facilities and programs that would benefit the American public. It is envisioned that all partnership arrangements would fit within one or more of six activity categories. These are:

- 1. Outdoor recreation
- 2. Environmental education and interpretation
- 3. Historical and cultural interpretation
- 4. Visitor hospitality (food and lodging)
- 5. Information, promotion and visitor relations
- 6. Other categories that might be added later as appropriate

## **Scoping Process**

TVA is interested in receiving comments on the scope of issues described above and on other suggestions received during scoping. TVA specifically requests comments on:

- 1. What current and possible new public uses are important to the public at LBL?
- 2. What alternative operating and financing options should TVA consider to provide public uses at LBL?
- 3. What environmental or socioeconomic issues, or other aspects of developing a Public Use Plan for LBL should TVA consider?

The scope of the EIS may be modified as a result of public scoping. The EIS will address reasonable public use alternatives and their associated economic, environmental, and social issues and impacts raised during public scoping. Scoping meetings will be held from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the following dates and locations:

LBL PUBLIC USE PLAN MEETINGS

City, State	Location	Date
	Murray State University	
	Austin Peay State University	

Persons interested in attending or receiving more information should call LBL at (502) 924–5602 prior to the meetings to confirm the time and location.

Based on scoping comments and a review of market research data, TVA will develop a range of alternatives for managing public use at LBL. A draft EIS will then be prepared for public review and comment. Notice of the availability of this draft will be announced, comments on the draft solicited, and information about additional public meetings/hearings will be published at a future date.

Dated: February 22, 1995.

## Kathryn J. Jackson,

Senior Vice President Resource Group. [FR Doc. 95–5130 Filed 2–28–95; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 8120–01–M