How do I apply to receive TAP assistance?

To apply for TAP assistance, a community group must:

1. Send EPA a letter of interest (LOI) with the group name, the site name, and the name, address, and daytime telephone number of a contact person. (Note: Once EPA receives a LOI from an interested community group, the Agency will publish a notice in a local newspaper notifying other interested groups that they have 30 days to submit their LOI.)
2. Complete and submit a TAP application within approximately 30 days. The application will include detailed information about the group and its plans to work with a technical advisor(s) and the community.

How is the group selected?

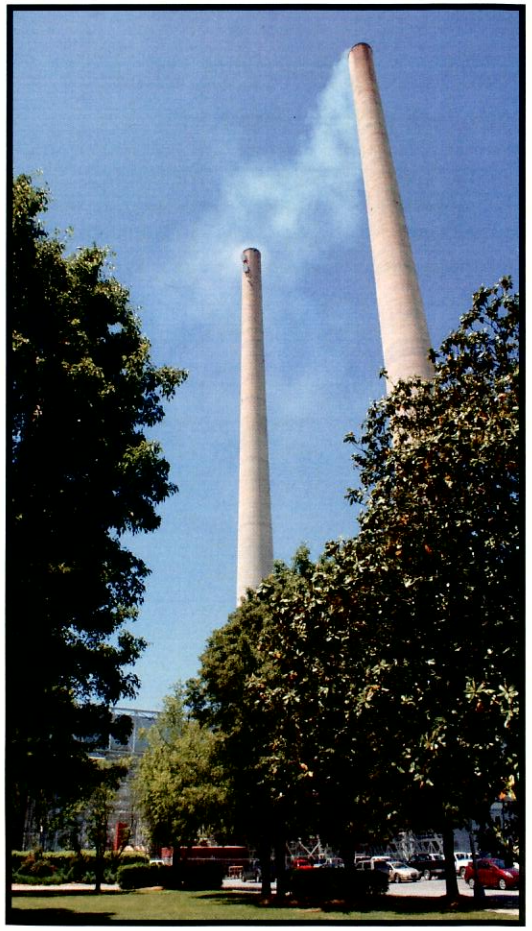
EPA evaluates each application and considers, for example, whether the group represents those most affected by the site and has a system for managing and tracking TAP expenses. EPA also evaluates the group's plans to work with a technical advisor and to educate others in the community. The group is notified about EPA's decision within 30 days of submitting its application.

For further information please contact:

Stephanie Yvette Brown
Community Involvement Coordinator
US EPA Region 4
SNAFC—61 Forsyth Street, SW
OSPAO—11th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
1-800-564-7577

www.epakingstontva.com

Technical Assistance Plan TVA Kingston Fossil Fuel Plant Release Site



Frequently Asked Questions Technical Assistance Plan

What is the Technical Assistance Plan (TAP) program?

Through the TAP program, funding is provided to a qualified community group; (1) to hire a technical advisor(s) who can help group members understand site cleanup issues and (2) to enable the group to share this information with others in the community.

How much assistance is provided for a technical advisor's services?

Assistance of up to $50,000 may be available. The majority of the assistance should be used to pay for the technical advisor's services. Up to $1,000 may be used for one-time health and safety training to give the technical advisor access to the site. No more than one community group will be selected to be a TAP recipient at a site at a time.

Can my group receive TAP assistance?

Your group may qualify for TAP assistance if: (1) your members are people affected by the site and (2) you can demonstrate the ability to adequately and responsibly manage TAP responsibilities. A group may not be;

- A potentially responsible party (PRP) for the site, represent a PRP, or receive money or services from a PRP.
- Affiliated with a national organization.
- An academic institution (e.g., colleges, universities, high schools).
- A political subdivision (e.g., a township, or municipality).
- A tribal government.
- Established or sustained by any of the entities listed above or have members that represent any of the entities above.

What types of services can a technical advisor provide?

A technical advisor can help the community better understand and be aware of information, options and decisions to be made in cleaning up the site. A technical advisor may:

- Review site investigation data and preliminary site assessments.
- Participate in community meetings to help interpret technical information.
- Visit the site to observe progress and provide technical updates to the group.
- Interpret information on environmental and public health hazards at the site.
- Communicate with the local community through newsletters, community meetings or similar activities to improve understanding of conditions and activities at the site.

Is there anything the TAP cannot be used for?

TAP assistance cannot be used for these, and possibly additional, purposes;

- Developing new information (e.g., conducting testing and monitoring activities).
- Activities related to lawsuits or other legal actions, or for attorneys' fees.
- Group members' travel or tuition/training expenses.
- Political activity or lobbying.
- Group activities such as parties and celebrations.
- Reopening or challenging final EPA decisions.

A community group will not be reimbursed for these costs, and EPA may cancel TAP assistance if a community group misuses TAP funds.

What are my group's responsibilities if we are selected to receive TAP assistance?

If your group receives TAP assistance at the TVA Kingston site, some of the activities your group will be responsible for include:

- Soliciting proposals from technical advisors.
- Entering into agreements with TVA and the technical advisor.
- Managing the technical advisor's activities and invoices.
- Working out an invoicing and expenses arrangement with TVA.
- Providing quarterly reports on project activities.
- Sharing community concerns and questions with EPA and TVA.
- Keeping the community informed about the technical advisor's work.