



Department of
**Environment &
Conservation**

Tennessee Volunteer Emission Reduction Strategy

Michelle W Owenby, Director, Air Pollution Control



Overview of Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program (CPRG)



- Grants to government entities to develop and implement plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution

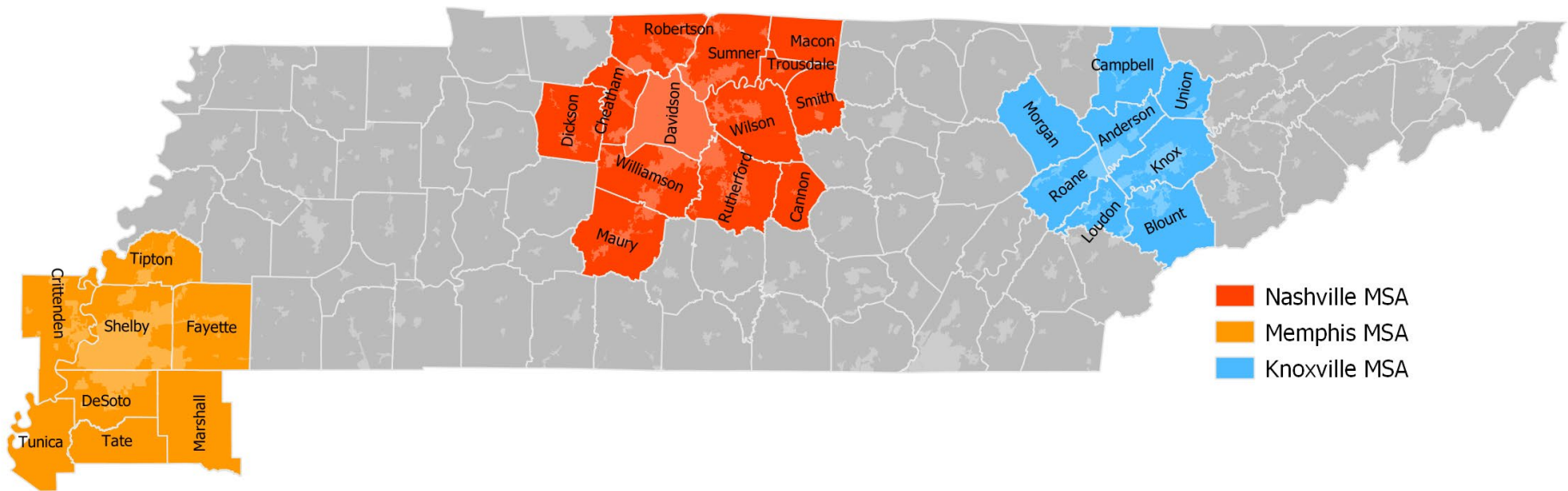
PHASE I:

- **Non-competitive planning grants** to develop climate pollution reduction strategies: \$250 Million

PHASE II:

- **Competitive implementation grants** to fund strategies in plans: \$4.3 Billion

Phase I: Tennessee's Planning Grants



- State of Tennessee: \$3 million
- Nashville Metropolitan Statistical Area: \$1 million
- Memphis Metropolitan Statistical Area: \$1 million
- Knoxville Metropolitan Statistical Area: \$1 million

Planning Grant Deliverables

Deliverable 1



Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP)

- Due **March 1, 2024**
- Near-term, implementation-ready, **priority greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction measures**
- **Prerequisite** for implementation grant

Deliverable 2



Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP)

- Due in **2025** (later for tribes and territories)
- **All sectors** / significant GHG sources and sinks
- **Near- and long-term** GHG emission reduction goals and **strategies**

Deliverable 3



Status Report

- Due in **2027** (N/A for tribes or territories)
- **Updated** analyses and plans
- **Progress and next steps** for key metrics



Tennessee Volunteer Emission Reduction Strategy

TDEC's Approach to Phase I

The screenshot shows the Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation website. The header includes the TN logo, the department name, a search bar for "Search Environment", and navigation links for Program Areas, Permitting, Public Participation, About, Contact, Calendar of Events, American Rescue Plan (ARP), and News. The main content area is titled "Tennessee Volunteer Emission Reduction Strategy". Below the title is a paragraph describing the strategy, followed by a link to more information. There are four image-based navigation buttons: "About", "Advisory Committee", "Engagement Opportunities", and "Resources". A section titled "Share Your Thoughts & Contact Us" includes a paragraph about seeking public input and a video player for "Introduction to Tennessee Volunteer Emission Reduction Strategy". To the right of the video are three buttons: "Take Our Survey", "Complete Nuestra Encuesta", and "Sign Up For TVERS Updates". Below these buttons are contact details for Jennifer Tribble and Rachael Maitland, including email addresses and phone numbers.

TDEC's Collaborative Approach:

- Division of Air Pollution Control
 - Contractors
- Office of Policy and Planning
- Division of Stakeholder Engagement
- Office of Energy Programs
- Lead Organizations for the MSAs
- City of Chattanooga

Website link:

tn.gov/environment/policy/tvers/html

TDEC's Coordination and Engagement

- Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination

Emission
Reduction
Planning
Advisory
Committee
(ERPAC)

Coordinate
with Local
Governments

Programs
Survey

- Public and Stakeholder Engagement

Kickoff
Webinar
(Virtual)

Public
Meetings
(In Person)

Website and
Email Listserv

Public Survey

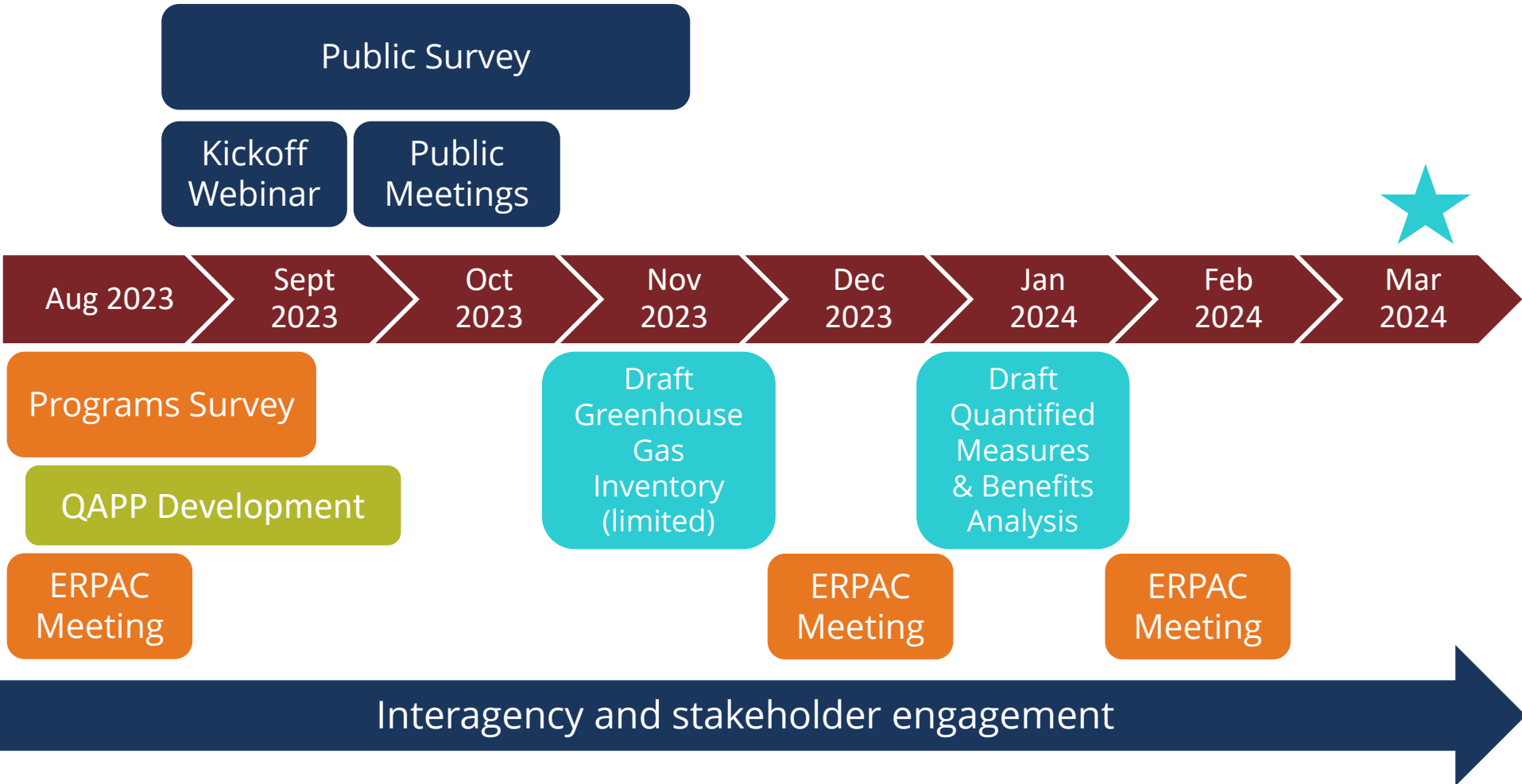
Advisory Committee Members



TENNESSEE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION



Deliverable 1 Timeline






Public and Stakeholder Engagement

Public and Stakeholder Engagement

Goal: Engage with the public to gain insight on emission reduction priorities, opportunities, and challenges.

Occurring Fall/Winter 2023

- Communication Tools; Public Survey, Stakeholder Meetings




Tennessee Volunteer Emission Reduction Strategy (TVERS)


WHAT IS TVERS?
The Tennessee Volunteer Emission Reduction Strategy (TVERS) is an emissions reduction plan currently being developed by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) with support from various partners.

WHAT IS MY ROLE?
TDEC is committed to developing a plan that is beneficial for all Tennesseans, and we would like your input. Join us at our public meeting in Memphis on October 2, 2023 to learn more about our efforts and make your voice heard.



JOIN US IN MEMPHIS!
October 2, 2023 at 5:30 pm CT
Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library
3030 Popular Ave
Memphis, TN 38111

Register Here:


ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS
Chattanooga - September 21, 2023
Knoxville - October 16, 2023
Nashville - October 19, 2023
Kingsport - October 24, 2023

Can't join? Take our survey:


Learn more & get involved
tn.gov/environment/policy/tvers
tdec.tvers@tn.gov




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JOIN US IN KNOXVILLE!
October 16, 2023 at 5:00 pm ET
East Tennessee History Center
601 S Gay St
Knoxville, TN 37902

Register Here:


ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS
Chattanooga - September 21, 2023
Memphis - October 2, 2023
Nashville - October 19, 2023
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JOIN US IN CHATTANOOGA!
September 21, 2023 at 5:30 pm ET
Development Resource Center
1250 Market Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Register Here:


ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS
Memphis - October 2, 2023
Knoxville - October 16, 2023
Nashville - October 19, 2023
Kingsport - October 24, 2023

Can't join? Take our survey:


Learn more & get involved
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Communication Tools

tn.gov/environment/policy/tvers

Department of Environment & Conservation

Tennessee Volunteer Emission Reduction Strategy

The Tennessee Volunteer Emission Reduction Strategy (TVERS) is an emissions reduction plan currently being developed by the Tennessee Department of Environment (TDEC) with support from various partners. This plan is funded through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) [Climate Pollution Reduction Grant](#) (CPRG) established in the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA). Through this program, funding is being provided to states, local governments, air pollution control agencies, to develop and implement plans for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and other harmful air pollutants. Tennessee is one of 47 states that accepted [allocated](#) federal funding initiative, with TDEC as the state grant recipient. As part of this program, TDEC will work closely with the three municipalities in Tennessee who also in Memphis, and Knoxville.

More information is available in TDEC's approved [workplan](#). TDEC will continue to update this webpage as more information becomes available.

Engagement Opportunities | Advisory Committee | Resources

About the Tennessee Volunteer Emission Reduction Strategy (TVERS)

Phase I: Planning (current)

During the first phase of TVERS, TDEC is developing statewide action plans that prioritize actions to reduce GHG emissions and harmful air pollution. These plans are consultation with relevant stakeholder groups, including state agencies, local governments, private industry, nonprofit organizations, and the public. The key deliverables include:

Join Our List

Sign up to receive TDEC updates regarding the Tennessee Volunteer Emission Reduction Strategy (TVERS). Please, fill in the following fields and hit submit. Thanks, and welcome!

Email *

Statement of consent:

I consent to receiving email communications *
Consent is required

I consent to having my subscriber engagement tracked and analyzed

Submit

✓ TDEC TVERS

Inbox 1

Drafts

Sent Items

Deleted Items

TDEC.TVERS@tn.gov

TVERS Email Listserv



Public Survey

Goal: Get insight from the public and stakeholders on emission reduction priorities, opportunities, and challenges. Identify key sectors for input.



Open Until November 15, 2023

Tennessee Volunteer Emission Reduction Strategy

More at: <https://www.tn.gov/environment/policy/tvers>

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the 'Introduction' page of the Tennessee Volunteer Emission Reduction Strategy (TVERS) survey. The page has a green header with the number '1' and the title 'Introduction'. Below the header, there is a 'Share Your Thoughts' section with a paragraph of text. A modal window is open in the center, containing the text: 'This survey should take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete. Please answer on behalf of yourself or an organization you represent. Thank you for sharing your thoughts.' The modal has a green checkmark icon at the bottom. To the right of the modal is a green 'Next' button. The page also features a vertical navigation menu on the right with items: 'EMMISSION REDUCTION PRIORITIES', 'ACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS', 'MAP MARKERS', and 'RAP UP'. At the bottom, there is a footer with the Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation logo and a paragraph of text about the survey's funding.

What is a priority, opportunity, and / or challenge in your community?



Public and Stakeholder Meetings

Location	Meeting Details
Chattanooga	September 21, 5:30 pm ET Development Resource Center
Memphis	October 2, 5:30 pm CT Benjamin Hook Public Library
Knoxville	October 16, 5 pm ET East Tennessee History Center
Nashville	October 19, 5:30 pm CT Lentz Public Health Center
Kingsport	October 24, 6 pm ET Meadowview Hotel & Conference Center

Register Today!

TN Volunteer Emission Reduction
Strategy (TVERS) Public Meetings





Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges

- Changing landscape
 - QAPP requirement announced after grant award
 - TN received QAPP Template on August 2, 2023
 - Submitted for RTI review on August 31, 2023; received approval on September 7, 2023
 - Submitted to EPA on September 8, 2023.
 - QAPP approval has delayed work on GHG Inventory
- The Approach and Timing
 - Meeting attendees struggle with the concept that their feedback is being sought for something for which they (or their community group can not apply for funding). We are revising advertising and content to help the public understand the way CPRG is structured and how they can contribute.
- Other Funding Delays
 - Clean Air Act grant funds under IRA still not issued to states
- Requirement for GHG Inventory for every CPRG grant
 - TN will have 6 GHG inventories (state, 3 MSA areas, City of Chattanooga and TVA Valley Pathways inventory)

Opportunities

- Collaboration across state in way that has not historically been done regarding reducing GHG emissions
- Potential investments for programs that have large potential for both communities and state
- Connecting partners for future benefit
- Identification of synergies that will provide long term value
- Coordination among states new to the Climate Plan arena