



July 11, 2014

The HOA – TVA Liaison Committee met with TVA representatives in early July for an update on the Dam Safety construction project.

The TVA completed work on Saddle Dam 3 (SD3), near the twin silos along Hwy 444, ahead of schedule and under budget. They have awarded a contract to repair the shoulder of the southbound lane but the contractor has not yet scheduled the work which should take only a couple of days.

TVA is raising the elevation of the earthen embankment along Saddle Dam 2 (SD2). Work there should be completed by the end of the summer. TVA is doing their best to keep Hwy 444 as clean as possible by maintaining the gravel on the access road to SD2 and using street sweepers on Hwy 444. When construction is complete the Tennessee DOT will restore the 50 mile per hour speed limit.

Construction of the earthen embankment and the concrete wall at the Tellico Dam has started. The concrete wall will have a random leaf pattern (see photos on the HOA Website) and it will be painted the same color as the wall at SD3. When construction is completed early next year (weather permitting) the hiking trail will reopen on top of the embankment and behind the concrete wall. There will be a wheelchair accessible raised observation deck near the beginning of the concrete wall.

This fall the TVA will begin raising the elevation at the Hwy 444 intersection just south of the 321 bridge. The road entering the park and the Hwy 321 entrance and exit ramps will be raised about 3.5 feet. Most work, including lane closures will be done at night but it will still be important to obey construction warning signs and reduced speed limits. Once the intersection is completed, the existing sand baskets under the bridge will be removed to restore the beautiful view of Lake Loudon that we were accustomed to before the Dam Safety project began.

Submitted by:

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