June 20, 2016

Nikki Gramian, Acting Director
Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001

Dear Ms. Gramian:

This is in response to your letter dated May 27, 2016, requesting revision of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Privacy Act system of records notices to include a routine use for the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). As you know, the Privacy Act of 1974 protects Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act request and appeal files regularly retrieved by a person's unique identifier, prohibiting agencies from sharing information contained in those files without prior written consent of the requestor or the existence of a routine use allowing such disclosure.

However, TVA FOIA requests and appeal files are filed under and regularly retrieved using a case number which is not a personal unique identifier; therefore, our processes do not necessitate a Privacy Act system of records notice. TVA is encouraged by this OGIS initiative and pleased to learn that OGIS is seeking efficiencies with respect to those agencies that have adopted the routine use. However, for the reason set forth above, we respectfully decline at the present time.

Thank you for your efforts to promote open government and for considering TVA with respect to this initiative.

Sincerely,

Christopher Marsalis
Senior Privacy Program Manager
Tennessee Valley Authority