

## **SPECIFIC LANGUAGE FOR DOMESTIC RELATIONS ORDERS (DRO)**

### **Division of Recurring Monthly Payments**

To be acceptable with regard to a recurring monthly benefit payment, a DRO must: (a) identify the affected Plan Participant; (b) state the specific dollar amount of the TVA Retirement System monthly recurring benefit which shall be paid to the former spouse, who shall be identified; and (c) provide that the TVA Retirement System shall pay the former spouse's share directly to the former spouse. The following language is acceptable:

“Upon (Plan Participant name)’s eligibility for and receipt of recurring monthly benefits under the Rules and Regulations of the TVA Retirement System, (former spouse name) is entitled to \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month, with any cost-of-living adjustments (COLA), to the extent (Plan Participant name) would have been eligible for such adjustments if payment were not being made hereunder to (former spouse name), from (Plan Participant name)’s monthly benefits. The TVA Retirement System is directed to pay (former spouse name)’s share directly to (former spouse name).

Note: Any COLA attributable to a share of a Plan Participant’s recurring monthly benefit which is awarded to a former spouse will be paid to that former spouse unless the DRO specifically negates any COLA. For COLA eligibility requirements, please visit our website at [www.tvars.com](http://www.tvars.com).

## **Lump Sum Distributions from Fixed and Variable Accounts or 401(k) Plan Accounts**

To be acceptable, a DRO must: (a) identify the affected Plan Participant; (b) specifically state whether it refers to the Plan Participant's account in the TVA Retirement System's Fixed and Variable funds or the 401(k) Plan, or both; (c) state the specific dollar amount, or percentage of the account which shall be paid to the former spouse, who shall be identified; and (d) provide that the TVA Retirement System shall cause payment of the former spouse's share to be made directly to the former spouse. The following forms are acceptable:

### A. Award of Fixed Amount

“(Former spouse name) is awarded (\$ \_\_\_\_\_) from (Plan Participant name)'s (TVA Retirement System Fixed and Variable funds and/or TVA Savings and Deferral Retirement Plan (401(k) Plan)) account. The TVA Retirement System is directed to cause such amount to be paid directly to (former spouse name).”

### B. Award of Percentage

“(Former spouse name) is awarded ( \_\_\_\_\_ %) from (Plan Participant name)'s (TVA Retirement System Fixed and Variable funds and/or TVA Savings and Deferral Retirement Plan (401(k) Plan)) account as of (date – for Fixed and Variable funds, any balance prior to September 1, 2006 must be as of the last day of the month). The TVA Retirement System is directed to cause such amount to be paid directly to (former spouse name).”

Upon receipt of an acceptable DRO, the TVA Retirement System will mail the appropriate paperwork to initiate the payment process.