Dominion Energy – Chesterfield-Hopewell 230 kV Partial Rebuild Electric Transmission Project
March 7, 2023 – Virtual Community Meeting Transcript

Good evening, everyone. My name is Roxana and I'm in communications with Dominion Energy, and I'd like to welcome everyone to our virtual community meeting, where we'll be discussing the Chesterfield to Hopewell 230 kilovolt Partial Rebuild electric transmission line project in Chesterfield County and the City of Hopewell.

We have several items on the agenda tonight, but before we get started, I want to go over a few things about Webex Events if you are unfamiliar with the platform. Your microphone will remain muted, and your video off throughout the presentation. However, you will have an opportunity to ask our project team questions, which I will explain on the next slide. For anyone who may have missed this meeting, it is being recorded and it will be posted on our website, so feel free to share anything you see on the website with friends and neighbors who may not have been able to attend tonight.

To submit a question, you can use the Q&A function at the bottom of your screen. Next to the text that says "Ask", be sure to select "All Panelists", and you'll be able to type in a question. Feel free to submit a question at any time, however, we will wait until the end of the presentation to answer any questions. If you have a question that is specific to your property and prefer to talk with us individually, please send us a note in the Q&A with your name, address, and phone number, and we will reach out to you directly within a few business days.

I would like introduce tonight's panelists. They're here to answer any questions you might have about the project. If I can ask our panelists to turn their cameras on, and smile and say hello when I mention your name, I would appreciate it. We have Chris, who is our Project Manager.
Hey everybody, thanks for joining tonight.
Mark who is the Planner for this project.
Hey, good evening.
Heather with our Environmental Department. We have Toni with Substation Engineering.
Hello everyone.
Thanks Toni. We have Trey with Line Engineering.
Good evening, and welcome.
Blair with Siting and Permitting.
Hi, thank you for joining.
Tim with our Right of Way Department.
Hey, good evening everybody.
Myself, Roxana, Communications and your host for this evening, and I also have my colleague Ann Gordon on the line with us, and she will be moderating the Q&A session.
Hey, good evening.
So team, thank you very much, you can go ahead and turn off your cameras and mute yourself until we get to the Q&A session. Thanks so much.

A little bit about our public engagement process. When Dominion Energy identifies a project need and we find a solution, we begin reaching out to our communities in the project lifecycle. That starts with reaching out to local and county officials. We engage with historic preservation and natural resource groups, and Tribal Nations. We also begin reaching out to our community members, so you may have received a postcard in the mail and have seen digital and print advertisements. We will continue to provide the community with updates as the project

progresses. But you can also find updates throughout the project on the project website at DominionEnergy.com/chesterfieldhopewell. To add, I know things may be small on the screen and difficult to see, but this PowerPoint presentation is already available on the project website if you choose to follow along that way or want to take a closer look.

Before we get into the specifics, I want to go over a little bit about electric transmission and the power grid. Power is generated at various generation plants across the commonwealth of Virginia. There is no one plant in a specific area that provides power to that area. It's all part of what you may have heard is called the "grid". It's all an interconnected system of power generation facilities, transmission lines, substations, and distribution lines that operate across the entire Commonwealth. When power is generated, it's connected to those high voltage electric transmission lines - the tall structures that you may see co-located with other infrastructure. So it's the tall structures with the high voltage lines that carry the electricity from the power generation stations to a substation. And then at the substation, the power is then stepped down or lowered to a distribution-level voltage. That is a lower voltage that is meant to serve homes and businesses. So tonight, we are going to be talking about the high-voltage electric transmission lines.

So why do we do any project here at Dominion Energy? There are three main forces that drive the need for new infrastructure. One is economic growth. So think of counties and towns expanding their industries. There is the booming data center industry throughout the Commonwealth, but particularly in Northern Virginia that you may be familiar with. Another driver for projects are aging or overloaded infrastructure. Dominion Energy has been around and operating for years, and a lot of our infrastructure has been built up to sometimes 60+ years ago. So that necessitates us to take a hard look at our infrastructure and make sure that it's still operating safely, and when needed, we do need to switch out, upgrade, and update our infrastructure to maintain that reliable and safe service for all of our customers. And last, we always pay attention to federal reliability standards. Anytime any of our infrastructure may hit a certain threshold or need to have a certain accommodation to meet federal standards, that necessitates us to take a look at what we can do to rebuild, upgrade, and update that infrastructure. The project we're discussing tonight is related to reliability standards. So we want to ensure we can continue to maintain area reliability and strengthen the existing infrastructure.

Getting into the project itself, this project involves Chesterfield County and the City of Hopewell. This project is a rebuild of an existing transmission line in Chesterfield County. We are planning to rebuild and reconductor 2.9 miles of existing 230 kilovolt, or kV, transmission lines that run from our Chesterfield Substation on Coxendale Road to just south of our Tyler Substation which is about half a mile south of Route 10. We need to replace the current 230 kV wires, a process known as reconductoring. This will increase the ampacity, or maximum current carried, on the line. So we need to help that line flow a little bit better. If you think of it like a water pipe – sometimes a pipe might be too small for the water pressure to adequately flow out of it, so you may need to increase the size of that pipe just by a little bit, to allow that water to flow more easily through that pipe. It's a similar scenario with the line in that we need to allow the line to have that electricity flow a little bit better across the line. The voltage will remain at 230 kV, but the new wire is heavier which requires us to replace the structures that carry it. As I mentioned this is an existing transmission line and it's within an existing right of way, so no new right of way is required for this project. The existing structures are primarily galvanized or gray lattice structures. And we are proposing to rebuild these with weathering steel or brown monopole structures. The structures will remain double-circuit, and will be on average, approximately four feet taller than the existing lattice structures that are there now. And that's on average – so some structures will be taller, some will be shorter, some structures may not change. That is just

the average height increase. You can see on the map on the right side of your screen. The yellow line represents the rebuild portion of the project, so the 2.9 miles in Chesterfield County – and the green line is the existing transmission line, and the green triangles represent the existing substations.

I mentioned the City of Hopewell earlier, and you will probably see on the map, that the line near our Hopewell Substation is green which represents the existing transmission line. We do not need to rebuild this line – we simply need to reconductor, or replace the wire, for nearly a tenth of mile just outside of the Hopewell Substation on Hercules Road. The existing structures are adequate to carry this new wire, so they do not need to change – so there will not be any visual structure changes, and we will be working within the existing right of way. There will be work done for the Chesterfield and Hopewell Substations – but this work will all take place inside the substations. Again, this project is needed so we can continue to maintain area reliability and strengthen the existing infrastructure.

You may be wondering – what are these new structures going to look like? The image on this slide, these are examples of double-circuit monopole structures and are not project specific, but this gives you a general idea of what the structures would look like. The weathering steel finish is brown in color and will match the other structures that are within that same right of way corridor. I do have photo simulations that will give you a better idea of what we're talking about with regard to how things look currently and then how things may look once we have the proposed structures in place.

You can see this current map of the 2.9-mile project area within Chesterfield County. The numbers that you see going from North to South are what we call Key Observation Points. Those are areas along the existing transmission line that we took pictures of to show you what the existing conditions look like now and then what they may look like with the proposed structures. So let's jump right in.

The first simulation shows a view looking North from Battery Dantzler Court which is North of Rt 10, and it's looking into the existing right of way corridor. You can see that within the existing corridor there are three transmission structures, and the line we need to rebuild and reconductor within this corridor, is in the middle. And so you can see that in the middle on the top of the page, that is what we call a galvanized structure. And it may be hard to see, but it is gray in color. We are proposing, what we call monopole structures, which you can see in the bottom half of the image, of the structure that's in the middle in the weathering steel finish. Again, which is brown in color, so it will match the other two structures within that same right of way corridor. To add, these photo simulations are already on the project website DominionEnergy.com/chestfieldhopewell for viewing as well.

This next simulation is showing viewpoint #2 which is south of Rt 10 and looking southeast from Old Stage Road. There's a lot of businesses in this area, and you may be familiar with the one shown in this image. You can see the distribution main lines running along the main road, closest to the road – but we want to focus on the transmission lines toward the back. Again, the top half of this image shows the existing conditions, so you can see the lattice structure toward the middle of the image, and if you look closely enough to the right of image, following the transmission lines, you can see another lattice structure as well. Again, this is toward the back of the image, behind the distribution pole. In the bottom image, you can see the monopole structures we're proposing, and as a reminder, the height increase, on average, is about four feet.

Some of you may be familiar with Parker's Battery which is a historical landmark in Chesterfield County. This next simulation is looking South from that parking lot entrance. You can see the signage information on the left, and in the top photo, you can see the lattice structure in the middle of that existing right of way corridor. And the bottom shows the proposed monopole structure. These simulations are just that – they're simulations – but they do give you a flavor of what these new structures will look like in this particular area.

Lastly, this is a viewpoint from Rt 10 looking west toward Old Stage Rd and interstate 95. So if you're driving west and headed toward 95, this is a rendition of what you would see. If you look toward the right of the image, you can see the updated structures from the lattice structures on the top image, to monopole structures on the bottom image. As a reminder, these simulations are posted on the project website, so you have them available if you want to take a closer look.

We have this really neat tool found on the project website called the "Backyard Application". It's a structure height comparison tool, and you can search your address to see the structure locations in your area. You can view details about individual structures by clicking on the structure location markers to see the name, the existing height, proposed height, and height difference of each proposed structure. The photo simulations we just looked at are also embedded within this Backyard Application, and there is also a legend and Height Reference Diagram available on this application as well. As a reminder this specific Backyard Application is found on the project website, DominionEnergy.com/chesterfieldhopewell.

These are the permits that are typically needed on our electric transmission line projects. We will be filing this project with the Virginia State Corporation Commission or "SCC". The SCC does have governing authority or oversight over Dominion Energy as a state utility, and they will review our application, our discussion about the need for the project, and they will open up their own research and review of the project and they will either give us the thumbs up or thumbs down or tell us to do something different. But everything has to go through the SCC before we start any kind of construction. But we will need subsequent permits after SCC approval.

A little bit more about the SCC process. So what goes into our SCC application? We have to talk about the need of the project. Why are we doing this? What are we proposing? What are the proposed structures? We do environmental surveys to make sure that we understand any kind of environmental sensitivities. We talk about commuinty engagement – meetings like this, our interactions with local officials, as well as a host of other bits of information. We will post our application on the project website, and it will also be available on the SCC's website as well. But once we file an application with the SCC, that does not end public engagement. As I mentioned, the SCC opens up their own review process, and they have a time for public input as well. The SCC invites the public to weigh in if there are any concerns, or anything that the public feels the SCC should take into account. You have that opportunity to connect with the SCC even after we have filed our application. The image on the right gives you an idea of everything that the SCC does when it reviews a project. I'm sure it's hard to see, but this image is also on our project website, and those orange dots or orange circles you see there, are the touchpoints for the public to be engaged in the process. You can see it's a long and winding road through the SCC, but it includes review of our application, the SCC coming back to us with questions, our project team experts actually serving as witnesses or providing testimony during SCC project hearings – so you can see it is quite the process. Again, I want to stress that public engagement does not end with us, and you have an opportunity to engage throughout the SCC process.

This is our anticipated timeline for this project. We began public outreach in February of this year, 2023. We have our virtual community meeting tonight, March 7th. We will submit our application with the SCC next month. And I want to add that these timelines may change a bit. The SCC process can take anywhere from 8 to 12 to 24 months to review and provide an outcome on the project. That timeline is basically dependent on what level of engagement they receive, includes how much review and research they need to do, and quite frankly what their workload looks like as well – what's in their queue. We are anticipating about 10 months or a year for a decision from the SCC. So again, while we don't know for certain, we anticipate a decision from the SCC around early 2024. And pending SCC and permit approvals, we anticipate starting construction in late 2024, and then wrapping up in summer of 2025.

That wraps up the formal presentation, so now we'll go ahead and get to the Q&A session. I'll ask the panelists to all turn on their cameras. As a reminder, the Q&A function is located at the bottom of your screen. Next to where it says "Ask", just make sure you select "All Panelists", and you can type in a question. Again, if you have a specific question that is specific to your property and you want to talk about individually, just please drop in your name, address, and phone number and we'll be reaching out within a few business days. Now I will turn it over to Ann Gordon who will be moderating the Q&A. Ann Gordon?

Thanks Roxana. So I am still waiting on some questions to come in. I haven't received any yet, but I definitely want to make sure everyone has an opportunity to get their questions out there. So I think if we can hold on for another minute. If you maybe want to go to the next slide and let everyone know how to contact us and then circle back to me and see if we have any more questions that have come in.

Ok, absolutely. So we do appreciate everyone's time tonight. We will continue to keep you informed of our process, and what's next for the project. Again, I highly recommend everyone to visit the project website, DominionEnergy.com/chesterfieldhopewell. That is where we will have a recording of this presentation. That is where you will find the Backyard Application that we talked about, as well as the photo simulations. Certainly, if you have any questions, you can contact us by email at powerline@dominonenergy.com or by phone at 888-291-0190. All that contact information is on our website, so you don't have to worry about writing it down. We want to make sure we are engaging with the community. Community engagement is critical to us as we undertake any of our projects, so we want to make sure we're here to answer your questions. Ann Gordon, have any questions come in?

I have not received any other questions that have come through. But like Roxana mentioned, if you have any other questions after the meeting, feel free to reach out to us at any time. This is not the last opportunity to ask us questions. And we thank you all who have listened to tonight's presentation. Back to you Roxana.

Great, thanks Ann Gordon. Well thank you so much everyone. Again, we greatly appreciate everyone's time tonight. This concludes the meeting and have a great night.