

Transcript for Electric Transmission Right of Way

A corridor where a Dominion Energy electric transmission line is located is called a right of way.

Some right of way corridors are owned by Dominion Energy. Others are owned by property owners. We acquire the rights to use these corridors by signing easements with the property owners. These easements are recorded on the title of the affected real estate, and they enable us to use a property owner's land to construct, operate, and maintain transmission facilities. Most easements do not expire. When a property is sold and/or conveyed to other individuals, the easements remain in effect.

We require the entire width of a right of way to be clear. This ensures transmission line facilities are unobstructed by other structures and certain types of vegetation, including trees. This protects residents living nearby the right of way and their property, our transmission facilities, and our crews working in the right of way. It also ensures the electricity stays on or can be restored quickly during a power outage.

Among other things, typical encroachments that will not be approved include buildings such as sheds, barns, garages and decks, swimming pools, solar panels, etc. Even if a municipality approves an improvement, property owners are still responsible for checking their plat to ensure they are in compliance with any easements on their property and submitting an encroachment request form to us. A list of encroachments along with our encroachment request form can be found on our website.

Trees are the leading cause of power outages. To protect against tree-caused power outages, we have the right to trim and/or cut any trees located outside of the right of way that are tall enough to potentially impact the transmission lines. A list of shrub species that can be planted within a right of way is also available on our website.

At Dominion Energy, we believe a clear right of way is a safe right of way.