

# Efficient, safe access to the right of way is critical to maintain reliability

In order to safely and easily access the right of way during outages, maintenance or construction, Dominion Energy has the right to utilize private roads and/or travel across private lands near or adjacent to rights of way. Specifically, Dominion Energy has the right to construct new access roads necessary to reach rights of way even if that land is not part of an easement.

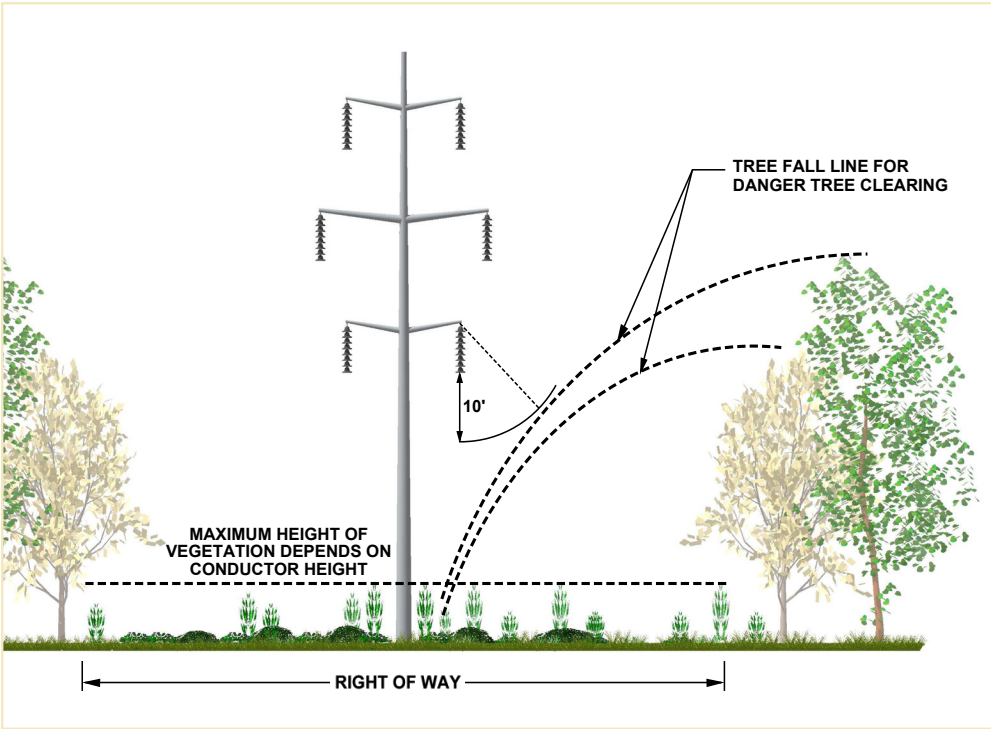
It is important to note that Dominion Energy or its contractors will meet and coordinate with property owners regarding the location of convenient access points when they are needed. After construction is complete and the area is rehabilitated, Dominion Energy will restore roads and entrances to their original condition unless they are necessary for permanent access to the right of way. In the unlikely event that property damage associated with construction or maintenance of a transmission facility occurs, please notify Dominion Energy by sending an email to the Dominion Energy Electric Transmission Rights of Way Management group at [etrow@DominionEnergy.com](mailto:etrow@DominionEnergy.com).

# Safety is a priority

**National Electrical Safety Code:** All uses within a right of way must comply with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC). The NESC specifies minimum horizontal and vertical clearance requirements for overhead lines.

**Overhead High Voltage Line Safety Act:** Virginia's Overhead High Voltage Line Safety Act, which is found at Virginia Code § 59.1-406 et seq., mandates by law certain safety requirements that must be followed when working near overhead power lines in excess of 600 volts. Contractors and other individuals must call Dominion Energy at 866-DOM-HELP (866-366-4357) before working near these lines and allow the proper safety arrangements to be put into place before commencing work. (To learn more, visit <http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title59.1/chapter30/>.)

**Other Applicable Laws:** Any activity or improvement in the right of way must also comply with all other applicable laws, including by way of example and not limitation, (a) laws and regulations promulgated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, (b) the National Electrical Safety Code, (c) building codes, (d) zoning ordinances, and (e) erosion and sediment control regulations.



# Trees outside the right of way can pose a danger to power lines

Trees are the leading cause of power outages. To protect against tree-caused power outages, Dominion Energy has 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 line. Dominion Energy maintains a list of shrub species that can be planted within rights of way. (This list is available at [DominionEnergy.com/rightofway](http://DominionEnergy.com/rightofway).)

For more information about vegetation management, visit [DominionEnergy.com/vegetationmanagement](http://DominionEnergy.com/vegetationmanagement).

# Contact Dominion Energy about rights of way:

The guidelines outlined in this brochure only apply to electric transmission rights of way. For questions regarding electric distribution rights of way, please call **866-DOM-HELP (866-366-4357)**. (To learn more about the difference between electric transmission and distribution lines, visit [DominionEnergy.com/comparinglines](http://DominionEnergy.com/comparinglines).)

To request a pre-development planning meeting, submit an encroachment request or pose a question regarding an electric transmission right of way, please contact the Dominion Energy Electric Transmission Rights of Way Management group at [etrow@DominionEnergy.com](mailto:etrow@DominionEnergy.com) or **800-215-8032**.

# Guidelines for the Use of Electric Transmission Rights of Way





# Committed to working together

From project teams to crews in the field, Dominion Energy is committed to working with property owners to minimize the impact of electric transmission lines and associated facilities.

Dominion Energy personnel always strive to conduct work within rights of way in a safe, efficient and courteous manner. This document will provide you with important information on topics related to electric transmission rights of way and give you contact information for the appropriate departments within Dominion Energy.

## To reliably transmit electric power, Dominion Energy acquires permanent easement rights

Easements are signed by property owners and recorded on the title of the affected real estate. These agreements allow Dominion Energy to use a property owner's land to construct, operate and maintain electric power facilities.

Most easements do not expire. When property is sold and/or conveyed to another individual, the easements remain in effect and are binding on the new owner. Each easement agreement or condemnation order provides its own specific terms and conditions.

## A clear right of way is a safe right of way

Safety is paramount for customers and Dominion Energy crews performing work within or near rights of way. Dominion Energy requires the entire width of the right of way to be clear of structures and certain types of vegetation (including all trees).

An encroachment is any activity or improvement within the right of way that constitutes a violation of the easement agreement, condemnation order or other document creating the easement.



## Property owners can submit an encroachment request

Before a property owner makes any changes to the topography of or constructs any improvements within the right of way on their property, they must request permission from Dominion Energy. Property owners should contact Dominion Energy even if they have an approved permit from the city or county. Failure to get prior approval could result in the removal of the encroachment at the property owner's expense.

The encroachment request form is available on the Dominion Energy website. Go to [DominionEnergy.com/rightofway](https://www.dominionenergy.com/rightofway).

The detail of the request will be commensurate with the type of encroachment. However, at a minimum, all requests must include the following:

- A detailed description of the encroachment
- A summary of all construction activities
- The location of the proposed encroachment in relation to Dominion Energy's facilities (e.g., proximity of encroachment to existing towers/poles, as well as the location where the construction activity will occur as depicted on a site plan, survey or other acceptable drawing)
- A description of the types and locations of all temporary staging areas
- A description of the equipment to be used during the construction, modification or removal of the encroachment
- A summary of the expected maintenance required for the encroachment
- A timeline for the construction, modification or removal activity

Dominion Energy will review the pertinent easement documents, as well as operational and legal requirements. If permission is granted, Dominion Energy will issue a written consent agreement, which will contain certain conditions by which the encroachment will be allowed to take place or remain on the right of way.

- Dominion Energy does not issue verbal consents and any claim of a verbal consent will not be honored by Dominion Energy.
- No other department within Dominion Energy has authority to issue a written consent agreement other than Electric Transmission Rights of Way Management.
- Generally, consent agreements are not transferable and are revocable at the sole discretion of Dominion Energy.
- The issuance of building or zoning permits by a local government does not serve as a consent agreement.

## Types of encroachments typically denied

- Buildings, building extensions, building additions or any portion of a building—such as homes, offices, garages, barns, sheds, roof overhangs, gutters, balconies, decks, porches and covered patios
- Most watercraft
- Parallel roads and utilities
- Stored trailers, motor homes/ recreational vehicles (RVs) and inoperable vehicles
- Playground equipment
- Solar panels
- Dumpsters and trash receptacles
- Sprinkler systems (excluding drip systems)
- Debris, scrap or waste materials, fill, spoil material, stumps, large boulders, concrete debris, asphalt debris and construction debris
- Fire hydrants
- Building materials
- Retaining walls
- Swimming pools, wells, septic tanks, drain fields (to include engineered systems), fuel tanks and propane tanks
- Best Management Practices (BMPs) including storm water ponds, retention ponds or any other man-made ponds
- HVAC units
- Burial sites, family plots and cemeteries
- Satellite dishes and television antennas
- Any type of fire or burning

Roads and parking lots may be permitted in rights of way under certain conditions. Farming is also permitted. However, an easement enables Dominion Energy to rebuild, remove, repair, substitute, add to, extend, improve and/or relocate its electric facilities in the future. Tree farms, permanent irrigation systems, and all physical structures such as those associated with wineries are not permitted in rights of way.

