

Balcony Falls - Skimmer Virtual Community Meeting

Slide 1: Again, I'd like to welcome you to the preconstruction virtual community meeting for the 115 kV Balcony Falls to Skimmer Electric Transmission Rebuild Project.

My name is Kristi Moore and I am part of the electric transmission team at Dominion Energy. This evening's meeting is being brought to you virtually as safety is of paramount importance to Dominion Energy and we are taking every precaution to keep our employees and community safe in the midst of the pandemic. At Dominion Energy, we value our customers and are committed to continuing to work with our neighbors as we complete important infrastructure upgrades and repairs.

Though tonight's meeting is brought to you virtually, you'll still have an opportunity to engage with our project team and to ask questions that are on your mind. During the meeting you can submit questions by selecting the "All Panelists" button that you will see on the bottom left hand portion of your screen. Questions will be addressed by our project team at the conclusion of the meeting.

As a reminder, your audio will remain muted and video will be off throughout the presentation; however, you may still submit questions by using that "All Panelists" button as we just reviewed. This meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the project webpage for those who are not able to join us tonight or if you'd like to go back to review the recording at any time.

On tonight's agenda we will begin by sharing a Safety Message; then we will virtually meet our project team; review the construction process and answer your questions.

At Dominion Energy, we start every meeting with a safety message. For tonight's message, we thought we could discuss what to do should you experience a downed power line. Power lines could potentially fall for many reasons -- high wind, significant ice or as the result of a motor vehicle accident.

Should you encounter downed lines, stay at least 30 feet away and consider the line energized and dangerous.

- You should call 911 immediately if they present an imminent danger to you or your property.
- Electricity travels; never touch a power line with any part of your body or with an object
- If someone makes contact with a downed power line, call 911. Do not touch the person because you may become a victim yourself.
- Should you experience a power outage, call Dominion Energy at 866-366-4357
- And, we encourage everyone to download our app with your smartphone by searching Dominion Energy in the app store.

A quick reminder around engagement for this evening's meeting. You may submit questions at any time by selecting the "All Panelists" button on the left-hand portion of your screen. However, we ask if your question is specific to your property or the area around your property, that you include your name as well as contact information – either a good phone number or email address in the question and answer box, using that All Panelists button and we will have somebody from the communications team or project team return your message, um, at a later date. If your question is more general, it will be addressed at the conclusion of the meeting.

Before we meet our project team, I wanted to take a little bit of time to talk about how electricity gets from the power generation station to your home. So there are two types of lines that carry power from the generation station to your home and business. We have electric transmission lines and distribution lines. The lines look different and serve different purposes. For simplicity, the electric is generated at the power station and sent via high voltage transmission line to the substation. Once the power is received at the substation, the voltage is lowered and sent through a distribution line which ultimately powers your home or business.

I'd like to know take an opportunity to introduce you to our team of experts who have been working on this project. With us we have with us Bob, who is our Project Manager; John who is responsible for Construction/Access; Tsion in Engineering; Stacey in Environmental Department; Angela is working with our Construction team; we have Sam in Forestry; Lane who is with our Siting and Permitting team and then we have folks representing our External Affairs team. This project covers portions of Amherst, Bedford and Rockingham Counties. Tonight was have with us Felix and Jason, two members of our External Affairs team. We thank you all for joining.

This project in all is about 9.8 miles and will be constructed in two phases. Phase 1, as you can see on the map is from Cushaw substation in Amherst County to our Balcony, excuse me, to our Skimmer substation in Bedford County. Phase 2, is from Balcony Falls in Rockbridge County to our Cushaw substation in Amherst County. So as you can see on the map, Balcony Falls to Skimmer runs from the Balcony Falls substation, hooks up with the Cushaw substation and then Skimmer.

So there are a couple of reasons we're, um, preparing to complete this rebuild project at this time. First of all, it addresses address aging infrastructure. This transmission line has been in service for nearly 100 years and rebuilding the line helps to address federal reliability standards and ensures the integrity of the grid and the continuation of reliable electric service to our customers.

I mentioned earlier, the line traverses Rockbridge, Amherst and Bedford Counties and is approximately 10 miles long. The project includes the total of 74 structures of which 69 structures will be rebuilt and we will be adding 5 new structures.

In Rockbridge County, work will be conducted on about a little over a half a mile of transmission lines, 3.4 miles in Amherst County and 5.8 miles in Bedford County.

Slide 9: For this project you may have accessed it this evening, we have launched a resource, a construction project portal to help you learn more about the project a place where updates throughout the life of the project will reside. The project page features a variety of project related resources including maps, proposed structure height tools and timelines. You can access the project page by scanning the QR code on your screen with your smartphone or by going to www.DominionEnergy.com/balcony-falls-skimmer. Again, you may use the QR screen, excuse me, using the QR code on the screen with your smartphone and access that directly.

This project, uh, as part of this project, will be replacing the wooden, existing wooden H-frame structures, so the structure you see there on the left and steel lattice structures which are the structures depicted on the right.

We will be replacing those with the weathering steel double-circuit monopole and weathering steel single circuit H-frames. These new structures are more durable um, than the previous structures.

As I mentioned earlier, we developed a, um, height structure tool, which will demonstrate the difference in height and type of structures throughout the project line. This is an example of what you'll find on the project page relative to that height structure tool. So, on average, for this project, the existing structures are 57 feet tall; the new structures will increase on average by about 22 feet. So, to help visualize the new heights, we have developed an interactive tool to help our neighbors get a better idea of the size and types of structures along the Right of Way. Again, this tool can be accessed using the project webpage.

I don't know about you, but I'm a visual learner. And so for those looking for a reference point, the graphic on the screen demonstrates existing and proposed heights compared to common objects such as a house, a tractor-trailer, and large tree. So, as you can see, the existing height is the yellow line, 56 feet, and the proposed height is here in the blue.

This project has several benefits, um, including the use of existing Right of Way, and what does that mean? That means the structures will be rebuilt in generally the same locations as the existing structures. The new structures will remain within the right of way and that will help to minimize the impact on the community and environment. It will replace aging infrastructure I mentioned earlier to provide long-term reliability and durability as the new structures comply with mandatory standards for safety and reliability.

Let's take some time here to talk about the construction process. As you will hear, um, the process includes a multi-disciplinary effort. Electric transmission lines require input from a variety of teams across Dominion Energy. Thinking back to the beginning of the meeting, I introduced several project team members representing a variety of departments. These members have been working on various aspects of the project for some time. So I wanted to take a few minutes to provide an overview of what that full construction process looks like.

As you can see on your screen, the construction process begins with surveying and wetland delineation. That means that crews go out and survey the land to identify wetlands and other sensitive conditions and animal species so that mitigation efforts are deployed to protect these assets. This process usually takes place 6-12 months prior to construction and coincides with permitting activities. Our crews begin installing temporary access roads for equipment and supplies used on the project, that's usually the second step. These temporary access roads include erosion and sediment control measures such as timber matting and gravel, which we will see example of later in the presentation. We then remove what are called "danger trees." We will learn a bit more about danger tree removal later, however, this is an important part of the construction process as it mitigates the potential for overgrown trees to impede our work and the construction process. It also helps to eliminate the potential for unplanned electric outages as a result of downed trees. The next step is to mobilize our wire pulling equipment, utilizing those access roads that we will build to help provide access points to our structures. Then we remove old structures and rebuild them with new structures and conductor wire. When the new structures are put in place and the new wire has been pulled in, we demobilize our equipment and move it from the right of way. The final step of the construction process is restoration and that process requires us to restore the land to its preconstruction condition.

The execution of each of these activities is critical to the safe completion of the project; however, there are a few steps worth discussing further.

As I mentioned just a moment ago, construction access is built and erosion and sediments controls, such as wooden matting and temporary gravel when we construct those temporary access roads where our equipment will travel to access our structures. So, those examples are on the screen in front of you. On the left is the wooden timber matting and on the right you will see temporary gravel, which is just between those two sets of timber mats. This is to really protect those sensitive areas as our equipment travels back and forth, um, to the right of way, to the structures.

At Dominion Energy we value the protection of the environment and we protect environmental assets at every measure. We employ a variety of protections, including:

- Coordination with federal and state agencies to require those, to acquire required permits prior to beginning any construction activities.
- As mentioned earlier, we use those wooden mattings to protect sensitive areas, and
- install temporary land stabilizing and permanent land restoration activities.

I am now going to turn the meeting over to Sam, if he's able to join us, um, on the phone, and he's doing to talk to us a little bit about the danger tree program I referenced earlier, which is one of the first things we do. This also helps with our safety program. Sam, are you able to join us?

Kristi, yeah I'm here, how are you? Very good, thanks for joining us. Yeah, so we define a danger tree as any tree outside of the established and maintained edges of the right of way that if it were to fall for any reason, to come within ten feet of the wire conductor. So, it could be a healthy tree, it could be a tree that's in poor health that could fall down on its own or in a storm, sooner rather than later. Our team of foresters will be patrolling the entire line on both sides with some documents and tools we use to get a pretty accurate assessment of the heights of trees in relation to the height of the line. They will identify those trees, they will be marked in the field and then we will reach out to landowners all throughout the project to discuss with them the number of trees we have identified on their property and discuss payment terms as well. WE reimburse landowners on every project for the timber we cut. So that's kind of a synopsis of the whole process, but hopefully that explains things pretty well.

Yeah, Sam I think it's important that we introduce you and your team and highlight the work you are doing, because your folks will be out and one of the first folks the community may see as we begin this process. We talked about the delineations that were done and the surveying, which is kind of the first step and then really the next step in that process where you'll see more activity is the forestry folks and the work that Sam's crews are doing. And, it's important work for the maintenance of the area to ensure those trees don't impact the work being done there and don't impact the reliability of our lines and reliable electric service to your homes. So thanks for sharing that overview, Sam. Yeah, you're welcome, thanks.

I'm going to now take a moment to talk about um, Rights of Way. Excuse me. As I mentioned, safety is critically important to Dominion Energy and we maintain right of way near landowner properties, where our structures will be built. So, it is important that we maintain these rights of way and we clear them of danger trees as Sam just mentioned as well as any objects that may impede our crews from safely accessing the line. We also coordinate with landowners for

ingress and egress and maintain communication throughout the life of the project. And I think that's one thing you'll find, um, is that we do maintain communication with landowners regularly as we are working on these projects near your properties.

As you saw in the timeline of activities, that takes place throughout construction, the final step was restoration. This activity is critical to the completion of the project. Dominion crews take pride in restoring the land to its preconstruction condition. This activity includes the removal of equipment and construction materials, including those temporary access, construction entrances mentioned earlier. Once the equipment and other construction related materials are removed, the restoration crews plant grass and ensure the area is restored to the same or better condition than it was when the work began. This process does take time and the project is not considered complete until we confirm the vegetation is viable and the land is restored appropriately.

On the screen you will see a timeline of activities that have taken place or will take place over the next couple of years. Our permitting and survey work was completed in the fall of 2021. We announced the project to our neighbors, elected officials and others, such as cultural resource groups and Native American Tribes, in late 2021.

Tonight, we are hosting this meeting to provide additional information about the project and to answer questions you may have. We expect Phase 1 construction, including construction of temporary access roads and entrances as well as forestry work that Sam just mentioned from Cushaw-Skimmer to begin later this month with phase 2 to follow in early 2023. We anticipate construction to be completed in fall, 2023 with restoration to take about six to twelve months, bringing the entire project to completion in 2024.

So this concludes the formal presentation. As a reminder, we welcome you to submit questions to our project team by selecting the "All Panelists" function at the bottom left-hand portion of your screen.

Let's see if we have any questions. I don't see any questions coming in. I know previous questions were related to interactions with landowners, certainly during the pandemic that was a highlight of discussion. We continued to work with our landowners, maintain that safe distance, throughout the pandemic. Communication and interaction with our neighbors is critically important to Dominion Energy and so we continued to host events virtually to maintain that open line of communication. We continued to send postcards when develops occurred around the project. We really took the opportunity to shore up our communications efforts throughout the pandemic to make sure we maintained that open line that we have always had.

Other questions that have come in are, you know, will this work interrupt my electric service. This work is not anticipated to affect your electrical service so you should maintain your reliable service throughout this project.

I don't see any questions here. Do any of our project team members have anything they would like to offer? If not, this is certainly not the last time that you will have communications or an opportunity to interact with our Dominion team.

You can submit any question you might have to our powerline@dominionenergy.com or by 1-888-291-0190 any time you have a question about the project. We do ask that you reference

Balcony Falls – Skimmer project so we can have the appropriate person respond to your question.

As I mentioned, this meeting is being recorded and so we will post this to the website within the next week for folks who were unable to attend. The project webpage that I mentioned earlier can be found at DominionEnergy.com/balcony-falls-skimmer

We certainly want to thank you for attending this meeting, for taking time to join us. We hope it was beneficial for you. Should you want to contact us at any point throughout the project, please use one of the mechanisms that are described in bullet point one and someone from our team will get back to you as soon as possible.

We do appreciate your time tonight and hope you enjoy the rest of your evening. Thanks for joining us!