

Blackwell Road 230 kV Transmission Line and Substation Project
Fauquier County Area Homeowner's Associations Virtual Community Meeting
6/15/2022

Steve Precker: Thank you, Kristi. Thank you for your patience, everyone. Again, it is 5:55pm. We will begin in another five or so minutes to give more people time to join us. Thank you for your patience and we will talk.

Steve Precker: Good evening, everyone. My name is Steve Precker. I'm with Dominion Energy's electric transmission communications team. Thank you for joining us tonight. We are meeting virtually with homeowners' associations to provide an update on the Blackwell Road transmission line and substation project that you've surely heard of through our mailings, in the media and other venues. Before we get started, I just want to make folks aware that we are recording this meeting.

Steve Precker: We will be hosting that recording on our project webpage for folks who are unable to join us tonight. We'll also be providing that link to mailing lists that have reached out to us so far to ensure that everyone is able to view the recording. First, I do want to say that we appreciate everybody joining.

Steve Precker: We appreciate the questions that we have received from the community so far. We know that this is not a conversation that many of you want to have. We know the impact that projects like this do have on communities. But that's why it is important for us to hear from you. We want to listen and we want to hear your concerns, your priorities and answer your questions to the best of ours.

Steve Precker: That said, talking about questions. Right now, we are, we do have audio muted for folks, but you do have the opportunity to ask questions. You should see the Q&A pod on your screen. Please feel free to submit your questions there. And I will be giving a brief presentation a lot of which you may be familiar with, but I appreciate everyone just letting me run through some of this first and then we'll certainly be opening it up for the Q and A after the fact.

Steve Precker: So please ask your questions and we have our team of subject matter experts here with us and project team members to help address some of, some of those questions that we have tonight. With that said, I would like to introduce the team that we have on the line. and I'm just simply going down my list as it appears.

Steve Precker: First and foremost, my cohost Kristi Moore. Kristi, if you could just turn on your camera and say, hello.

Steve Precker: Kristi, are you there? Can you hear? Apologies, hello everyone.

Steve Precker: Hi there Andrea Thornton, one of our routing consultants.

Andrea Thornton: Hello everyone.

Steve Precker: Carla Picard. One of our consultants helping with stakeholder engagement and outreach.

Carla Picard: Good evening.

Steve Precker: Evening Carla. Dave DePippo with Dominion Energy's legal team.

Dave DePippo: Well, I'm trying to unmute there and start this thing. I think there I am. Hi everybody. Nice to meet you.

Steve Precker: Thank you, Dave. Dominic Minor from our economic development team.

Dominic Minor: Good evening, everyone.

Steve Precker: Evening, Dominick. Seth Barrett, our project manager for the Blackwell Road project.

Seth Barrett: Hello, good evening everyone.

Steve Precker: Stacy Ellis with our environmental team.

Steve Precker: And Nancy Reid from our siting and permitting team.

Nancy Reid: Good evening.

Steve Precker: Evening, Nancy. Thank you.

Steve Precker: So, I'd like to start with just providing a brief overview with the project in general and why we're doing this in the first place. So why does Dominion build any kind of infrastructure? Generally, it's to address three needs.

Steve Precker: It could be to address economic growth in an area. We could build infrastructure to address aging assets, a lot of our structures may be decades old. So we want to maintain safety and build structures. And last, we might have to update transmission infrastructure in order to provide enhanced safety due to federally mandated guidelines.

Steve Precker: And this instance for the Blackwell Road transmission site, we are building a line to address economic growth in the Fauquier County area. As many of you know, this is to address data center development on the corner of Blackwell Road and Lee Highway. With regard to building that infrastructure, you'll likely have heard of what we call the grid. That is the interconnection of transmission infrastructure lines, substations, distribution infrastructure, all those lines that connect to provide that electricity to homes, businesses, all of critical public services.

Steve Precker: Anything that we build does connect to the grid, providing that redundancy and reliability and sending electricity all throughout the Commonwealth. Okay. We do have

that obligation to serve as a state regulated utility. We are regulated by the State Corporation Commission who sets the guidelines and legal obligations by which we must provide energy to any customer who requests it.

Steve Precker: And I will say I do have my dog in the room with me. So, if you do hear snoring, that is my dog. He is finding this fairly boring. So, I do apologize in advance. If you hear a background snoring, he's on the floor next to me, but I will go ahead and proceed. So what does the project need that we're dealing with?

Steve Precker: Again, we have a data center customer who has requested energy to a parcel located on the corner of Blackwell Road and Lee Highway. We do require a new transmission infrastructure line and a substation to provide service to that customer. Now, while this is a customer driven project, meaning we are building to support the customer that has requested the energy, new transmission infrastructure does provide energy and enhanced reliability and redundancy to the broader area as a whole.

Steve Precker: So it's not just the customer that benefits, but by having that new infrastructure, it does benefit the broader area as a whole by strengthening that, that grid in the area and ensuring additional pathways for energy to flow throughout the area and the ability to be able to have those extra avenues or channels for that energy to flow.

Steve Precker: Should something happen elsewhere. Okay. What are some of the considerations that we take into account? When we first come up with, with routes and maps, our team first takes a look at study area maps, GIS looks at what the area includes. This can be anything to deal with environmental: lakes, rivers, creeks, historically environmentally contaminated areas, other wetlands, cultural and historical sites, of which Fauquier County has a lot of. One of the things that we look at whenever we build new electric infrastructure is where is there the existing electric infrastructure that we may need to tap into.

Steve Precker: And I will get into that a little bit more on the next slide. Last, we also look at existing infrastructure in terms of schools, existing housing developments, commercial developments, public sector, planned developments. So, we take all these things into account. Whenever we come up with our initial routing options, we conduct public engagement to better understand the communities in which we are operating to find out those things that we may not know that may help us refine our routes and make changes where we need to make changes.

Steve Precker: So many of you have seen these maps and I recognize this map is probably a little small on the screen, but I would encourage you to also visit and download the maps at our project site, [Dominionenergy.com/BlackwellRoad](https://www.dominionenergy.com/BlackwellRoad). We have mailed out just this week copies of maps as well in advance of our community meetings next week.

Steve Precker: Those of you on our mailing list, should be receiving those hard copy maps and letters to your mailboxes shortly. I will say if you're not on our mailing list and you'd like to be please do reach out to us at powerline@dominionenergy.com and we're more than happy to add you to that list.

Steve Precker: With regard to this map, though, you heard me mention before that we looked to see where existing infrastructure currently is, and that includes existing electric infrastructure. When we were asked to provide energy to the customer at the Blackwell site, we looked to see where are the existing substations that we have?

Steve Precker: The first one that we looked at was the Warrenton substation, which is south of the town of Warrenton. It's located in Fauquier County, outside of the town of Warrenton, but it's called the Warrenton substation. We initially came up with preliminary routes coming north into the town both overhead and underground routes.

Steve Precker: That substation is off of Meetze Road and old Auburn Road behind the Dominion Energy office in that area. As we continued studying routes and working with our partners at the county level, we were asked to explore what other options are there to provide electricity to that customer.

Steve Precker: We did look at another route to the Northeast-ish of the town of Warrenton. And that is the Wheeler substation, which is just across the county line in Prince William County. We do have two overhead routes that we're studying right now. You can see those are the pink and purple routes that do go through the New Baltimore and Vint Hill areas.

Steve Precker: Some of you may have heard me provide an update to the Fauquier County Board of Supervisors last week during its work session. I am happy to say that now we have initiated a study to better understand the technical viability of providing electricity to the customer by an underground route through that area as well.

Steve Precker: So that is not yet plotted on this map, but we do hope to have an underground route plotted and then in the coming weeks, which we'll share publicly, as soon as we have that.

Steve Precker: For community input opportunities. So, we're glad to have you all as community members and HOA representatives on here. I know that many of you may have heard about this from word of mouth. We did reach out to various HOAs and I know that we likely did not get all of the HOAs in the community.

Steve Precker: If you were one of those HOAs that did not hear from us directly, we do apologize for that. We can appreciate your concerns and the potential impacts. I know that HOAs have shared this with their neighboring communities. So we're, we're glad to have everybody on board, and on board and joining us tonight.

Steve Precker: We want to hear from you, so, so thank you to all of you for joining. Our other community engagement events include two upcoming community meetings or open houses that we're having. Many of you likely got our mailers. Again, you will be getting letters and maps in the mail as well. But these two community meetings are next week.

Steve Precker: The first being on June 22nd at Kettle Run High School, the second being on June 23rd at the Fauquier County Fairgrounds, both are from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. And we would really encourage you all to come out, bring your neighbors. You'll have the

opportunity to meet with us in person, meet with our project team in person, ask your questions, in person and review big map tiles with our routes on them.

Steve Precker: So, we're really encouraging everybody to get out and join us at these events. We will have more. So, if you aren't able to join us next week in person, we are planning another virtual broader community meeting with the public, sometime mid-summer. Announcements will be mailed out for that as well as additional in-person public open houses towards the end of summer.

Steve Precker: None of that precludes us from meeting with groups or property owners individually. If you would like members of our team to come out and talk with you, provide you with project updates, help you understand potential impact. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us powerline@Dominionenergy.com.

Steve Precker: When we come up with these routes, when we conclude our public engagement process, we take everything that we've heard from the public, from our partners in local government, from area developers, industry, all of that feedback, which helps us make refinements to our routes. What we ultimately do then is we come up with a recommended route along with alternatives and then submit that in a filing to the State Corporation Commission or the SCC. We intend to do that at the end of September-- September 29th is our filing.

Steve Precker: Even after we file that doesn't mean that the public engagement process ends, you'll see on this graphic here. And I understand it is probably a little bit small for everyone to read the fine print. This is another graphic that we will, that we do have available on our virtual community open house at the Blackwell project site.

Steve Precker: We will have it blown up at our community meetings next week, but you could see these orange dots here and those represent all opportunities for continued public engagement to the SCC. The SCC will generally have public hearings. They will post comment documents for public comment. I encourage everyone to continue to reach out to the SCC. Make your voices heard, let them know your priorities because they then do their own research into our filing. They investigate the recommended and alternative routes that we've proposed and talk with community members as well. So it's important to know that you do have continued opportunities to make your voices heard in this process.

Steve Precker: Our project timeline. So right now, you can see some of the, the activities that we've conducted. We're right in that spring/fall row right now, deep in the throes of public engagement. We've had the opportunity to speak with, with many of you already. Again, we're looking forward to continuing our work with various groups and our community open house events.

Steve Precker: We will file in the fall, in September, as I mentioned. The SCC review period of any filing can take upwards of 12 to 24 months, depending on the level of public engagement and investigative activity that they need to do. We anticipate that timeframe. And so, we're looking at potentially a 2024 construction start time, should everything be approved.

Steve Precker: And I want to emphasize when I say, should everything be approved. We've heard from a lot of you: why are we doing this now? The town of Warrenton still needs to review the customer's land use application that was recently submitted. So that has not even been approved yet. "Why do we have to go through this process when it may not be a sure thing?"

Steve Precker: The answer to that is we sometimes have to work in parallel with our local government partners as they conduct their own regulatory review process. We need to ensure that we can meet our own deadlines and plan ahead for things in anticipation of something happening in the future of a project being approved.

Steve Precker: Should the customer not receive that approval at the town level, then we do not have a project anymore. That said again, I would emphasize that any transmission infrastructure that we build, should it be approved, will certainly serve that customer, but also the broader area as a whole. But to be clear, should that not be approved at the town level then what we're doing stops.

Steve Precker: So what's next? So I mentioned some of the upcoming community events that we have. I'd encourage everyone to, to stay in touch with us, which you have been doing at our project website by contacting us at the powerline email address you see on your screen, calling us at the 888-291-0190 that you see there and then meeting with us next week and at other opportunities. Again, we want, we are looking to get out into the community or continue getting out into the community, meeting with you, and meeting with various groups.

Steve Precker: So please reach out, let us know how we can help, how we can answer your questions, if we can meet with you. We will continue to be, try and be as proactive as we can be in reaching out to folks as well. But again, we are here to listen. We want to hear from you. We want to do our best to answer your questions and hopefully we can do some of that tonight.

Steve Precker: So, without further ado I will conclude my spiel. Again, we appreciate all of you being here, we will open it up for your questions. I will call on my colleague, Carla Picard, who you met at the top of the meeting before; she'll be our question moderator and read some, read the questions that you've submitted.

Steve Precker: I will say that for folks that may have dialed in that may not have joined us via the meeting link but have dialed in via phone, you do not have the ability to submit your questions here in the chat, but you do have, we would like you to please submit your questions to us via the powerline email address.

Steve Precker: And I will just keep that up here. Powerline@Dominionenergy.com. And if we can answer your questions that way, we certainly will, as we get through things tonight, if we cannot get to every single question, we will document all the questions that we have. We will be posting a frequently asked questions, rounding things up, posting it on our project site as well.

Steve Precker: I know some of you have submitted questions to us in advance of this, which is great. Let's go ahead and get started with those Carla without further ado.

Carla Picard: Sure, sure. Thanks, Steve. And yes, we do have quite a number of questions. So, I will go ahead and start with some that I've seen from a couple of people. Maybe we can reiterate a couple of the points. You just mentioned of course that we are recording this session, the recording, as well as a transcript and the slides that we have shared tonight will be available on our website within a week or sooner, if we can get that done. So all of these materials will be available, will be accessible for you to refer back to and to share with others within your community.

Carla Picard: We also had a question about the two meetings that you mentioned next week. Steve, those two meetings will be exactly the same. The same information will be shared. It is to provide as much opportunity as possible for as many people as possible.

Carla Picard: Okay, so diving in. Like you said, Steve we did receive a number of questions in advance of the meeting. I will try to work those in. We have forty questions in the queue, so like you said, we will do our best to get through them and commit to publishing questions and answers as a follow-up to this.

Carla Picard: My first question is going to be for the routing team. Is one of the proposals to install the lines right by the Warrenton nature trail off of do hollow road, right behind the Warrenton chase development?

Andrea Thornton: Thanks, Carla. This is Andrea. Can you hear me? Okay.

Andrea Thornton: Okay. Perfect. So yes, the dashed red line, the variation that was identified for option one overhead route, one does parallel a stream corridor, and there is a trail in that area as well. We have just recently had a meeting with that developer who mentioned that there is some open space and other easements in that area, which I think this might answer one of the other questions in the chat as well.

Andrea Thornton: So, we are in the process of pulling the title and deeds for those properties to determine what the environmental restrictions for those areas would be. And if that red alternative would still be viable.

Carla Picard: And Andrea, I will stick with you while you're on that topic. And you did kind of allude to this, but we had another very specific question.

Carla Picard: Are there underground gas lines or other utilities or features that would deter burying transmission lines along the routes you have identified?

Andrea Thornton: Sure. So at this time, the more detailed surveys for underground utilities have not occurred. So there is a chance that there are some underground utilities in the roadways where the routes are. So that's kind of the next stage for the underground study that is being completed. So, so yes, that could be a constraint that comes up as we continue to analyze the underground.

Carla Picard: Okay. And we are going to stick with you, Andrea. I, another question for the routes coming up from Meetze Road to Blackwell, are any of those route options completely

buried or are only portions of all of those routes being proposed to be buried? And Steve for this one, I do not know, it might be helpful if we went back to, there you go, you are on it.

Andrea Thornton: Okay. Yes. So on this slide, option one underground route one. So the light blue option, one underground route to the dark blue. Those are both underground from the transition station. So there's a triangle close to the Warrenton substation. So there'd be a short segment of overhead route to that transition station. And then the entirety of the route from those transitions, from the transition station to Blackwell's would be underground and same thing for option one underground, route three, the transition station is slightly more to the south. And that one would also be entirely underground.

Carla Picard: Thank you, Andrea. We have another question here, along the same lines it has to do with burying transmission lines and precedent from the SCC that if you'll bear with us that question is going to take a little bit more research. So we'll do our best to provide a more specific and comprehensive response to that in our FAQ document.

Carla Picard: So, I am going to put a pin in that one for, for, for tonight. And here is a great one. Andrea, I will let you put the mic down for a minute and we are going to go to Dave DePippo for this question. We actually had two different questions. I think there is somewhat related in what I expect you will talk about with the SCC process.

Carla Picard: The first question is can you share the environmental impact study that has been done? Hasn't been done yet, but I think you can speak to that. And then there was a similar related question about a financial impact study. If you could talk a little bit about that process.

Dave DePippo: And you know, when we make a filing at the SCC in a transmission case, all of the documents will be available publicly. The company typically posts them, the application and all the materials that goes along with it on our project website that Steve identified earlier, but also those documents will be posted publicly on the website, the official SCC website for the docket for the case. So the environmental routing study will be a part of those documents and will be available there.

Dave DePippo: In terms of what is being called a financial impact statement. I am not a hundred percent sure what the questions you know, getting, getting toward. But what I can say is that, for example, if routes are going to be closer to residences or for example, or over a business area you know, those, those, all of that information will be a part of the environmental routing study. And to the extent that folks believe that there may be financial impacts related to a proposed route, you know, certainly we want to hear about that now and can incorporate that information into that routing study.

Dave DePippo: If, if folks believe that or end up raising that issue directly with the SCC, then we certainly can address that issue then. So I hope that answers the question, Carla.

Carla Picard: Thanks, Dave, I think so. It, it the questionnaire specifically referenced home values.

Dave DePippo: So I think that I can speak to that a little bit. Certainly, that is something that the committee has addressed in a number of other cases. Typically, right of ways that are on somebody's property, certainly, you know, folks are, are you know, are compensated appropriately.

Dave DePippo: And so the, the value of the easement is contemplated in the cost of the easement impacts that are on home values, for example, that are, you know, claimed to be related to, for example having a view of a transmission line as an example. The commission has considered that issue in the past.

Dave DePippo: I can say that, you know, based on the company's review of the information gathered from not only in our jurisdiction, but around the country. Typically, what expert real estate appraisers have found is that while folks tend to have a negative reaction to, to having power lines near, near a home, or from a view of a home that those negative reactions do not translate to changes in property values.

Dave DePippo: The data tends to suggest that I do not even, I wouldn't even say tends to suggest that there actually isn't an actual impact on property values. But certainly all those issues can be raised before the Commission. And we encourage if you think that is something that we should consider now, please, please definitely contact us with that. And obviously that is something that the Commission will also.

Carla Picard: I appreciate that, Dave. And I will just remind everybody, we will come back to that slide that Steve showed at the end of the presentation with all the ways to contact us. Let us keep going. Our project manager is with us this evening, but he was losing his voice this afternoon. So I'm going to check in with him and see if he's able to answer this question.

Carla Picard: If not, Steve I may send this one to you, but Seth, if you are able to answer this, I, I think you're the best one to answer. What, and I am going to ask the question the way it was typed and then, paraphrase what I think they're describing as well. So the question is what is the excess capacity at the Warrenton substation after the line run to feed the Warrenton Training Station enough to feed Blackwell substation.

Carla Picard: So I believe this is referring to a current distribution project that is underway now along Meetze Road and in the Warrenton Chase neighborhood area. There are some underground lines that are being run now to serve a facility on the other side of Warrenton. And, the question is after that project is done will there still be enough available supply or capacity of electricity to also serve the Blackwell substation and the new customer from the Warrenton substation.

Carla Picard: And if I didn't get your, your intention exactly right, just shoot me another note in the the Q and A box there, but Seth, if you wouldn't mind if you're available, if you can answer that.

Seth Barratt: Yeah. Yeah, certainly. So the, the Warrenton substation today, the one that's located right next to the newly developed sports complex at the Southeast edge of town that site is the way it's built today, nearly at capacity from its ability electrically to serve any more electric service out of the site.

Seth Barratt: And also from the ability to route any more distribution lines, whether overhead or underground, and this means throughout the town independent of it, being able to tie to other lines that are in the area. So the answer is no, there is not enough capacity at the substation today to serve the electric service floater requirements that the customer is envisioning for the Blackwell data center.

Carla Picard: Okay, thanks. I may come back to you. Don't go too far. Andrea, I think this one is for you again, you're back in the hot seat. The question is, are you aware of the BMP conservation easement in the common open space between phase two and phase three? How does this affect Dominion? And I think the questioner is speculating that we may need permission from the SSC, Board of County Supervisors and the Virginia DEQ.

Andrea Thornton: Yeah. Thanks, Carla. That was the area that I was alluding to when I spoke earlier. The red dash line where we've pulled the real estate documents that we are in the process of researching what additional restrictions may, may be in that area. And if that route variation is still viable.

Carla Picard: Got it, thank you. I was probably reading ahead and did not pay close enough attention to your answer. Thank you, Andrea. Okay. Moving along we have a question about the process, how folks were notified about this meeting. Totally fair question, as hopefully many of you are aware, we are providing regular updates to the county Board of Supervisors.

Carla Picard: The county actually provided us with a list of contacts for all the, the HOAs. And so that was our first point of contact for the, the HOA is, was that point of contact that the county has on file. We did work with those folks to ensure that they shared the information with each HOA, or we've requested that they share the information with each HOA, a board of directors or HOA managers to then share with the broader community.

Carla Picard: Steve, did you want to comment on that as well?

Steve Precker: Yeah, just to add to we understand that that list certainly wasn't exhaustive of all the HOAs in the area and there's no intention to be exclusive for, for one area over another. And if you know, we, we missed contacting HOAs, we apologize for that.

Steve Precker: But, we do appreciate everyone from neighboring HOAs is reaching out to their neighbors, letting us know who else should be included. That's exactly the type of information that we do want to hear. We want to, if, if we miss you somehow, we want to make sure we don't in the future. So we, if, if we've heard from you, we've added you to our distribution list, we've added you to our contact list.

Steve Precker: So you know, again, we appreciate you reaching out to us. We appreciate you spreading the word amongst your neighbors. So thanks, Carla. Great question. Thank you for the question.

Carla Picard: Sure. Yeah, these are all good. So I'm going to combine two questions and look to the panel to provide a response and Steve we can start with you and you may punt to one of your colleagues.

Carla Picard: So the two questions are number one is the data center customer paying for this project. And then related to that, at what point will Dominion be able to share more specifics about the exact quantity of electricity that is needed to serve that data center?

Steve Precker: Sure. So answering question one about the customer and cost allocation, do they pay for anything?

Steve Precker: So whenever any new electric transmission infrastructure is built those costs are passed down to Dominion Energy's customers across the Commonwealth. That being said, all of our customers, including our data center customers. Including this data center customer in the town of Warrenton do pay for their energy usage, just like customers pay for the energy that comes into their homes.

Steve Precker: Our, our industry partners pay for the energy that they utilize to. So, while the cost of infrastructure development is shared amongst the Commonwealth customers, all of our customers, including our data center customers do pay their share. Carla, would you just repeat the second question for me?

Carla Picard: The second question was when will Dominion be able to provide more specific information about the, the exact amount of electricity required by the customer?

Steve Precker: We have agreements with our customers that we don't divulge some information about who they are and what energy usage they're requesting until we file those documents publicly with the State Corporation Commission. I understand that this is something that folks are interested in, something that folks want to see.

Steve Precker: It does become public in our filing, which will be posted on the State Corporation Commission's website. So you will have the opportunity to see that, and again, we're filing that in late September. Our filing date is September 29th so that is when that information does become public.

Dave DePippo: Steve, Steve, this is, this is Dave DePippo. Just want to clarify one thing for people. As Steve mentioned the company keeps confidential all its customer's information, including their usage and, and energy requests. When we do make our filings, some information related to certain to customers will be filed, not publicly, just so folks that are aware.

Dave DePippo: And the reason is many customers believe that their usage information is proprietary, and so the company has an obligation to protect that interest, that, that information. If folks want to be involved in the case, can be shared subject to confidentiality agreements. So overall, the general need for the project is public and fully vetted at the State Corporation Commission.

Dave DePippo: And ultimately what, what the customer's requesting is presented there and reviewed closely by the Commission staff and other parties who want to become, you know, to intervene in the case and become part of the case. But I just want to make clear that, you know, if you're, if you went on to our application and were expecting to see a full blown

discussion of exactly what, why, when and how the customer is going to be using information, you won't find that there.

Dave DePippo: So I just wanted to clarify that Steve's point generally speaking, his points were very correct, but since I'm the company's lawyer, I have to make these, I have to make sure that we're being very clear with everybody on this.

Steve Precker: And that's why we have Dave, to make sure that none of us say anything incorrectly. So thank you for that clarification, for sure.

Carla Picard: Yep. And don't go away, Dave. I'm coming to you next. We did receive a question in the Q and A about electromagnetic fields. There's actually a fair amount of research that is available and Dominion has compiled some of that on their project website.

Carla Picard: So I'm going to ask one of my colleagues on the call if they can post the link to that information and hopefully that will benefit all the folks on the call. And as I mentioned, it is, it is available. Dominion links to that information from their website. So it's out there. I'm going to jump to one of the next questions again, related to the State Corporation Commission process.

Carla Picard: The question is asking at the SCC, who should we submit our comments to? Is there an address? Can they be emailed? And if so, will emailed comments carry as much weight as written USPS mailed comments?

Dave DePippo: Sure. Carla and I, this is Dave again. I can answer that. After the company files the case with the State Corporation Commission, within a couple of weeks, the State Corporation Commission will issue what's called an order for notice and comment or sometimes it's stated an order for notice and a hearing.

Dave DePippo: That document is a scheduling order among other things. It sets out the schedule for when certain things are supposed to happen. In this case, for example, it provides a deadline for the company to officially send notice to any landowner who owns land that may be crossed by a route. Also contained in that, our notices to government officials, it sets out timelines for people who want to intervene in the case.

Dave DePippo: And to the point the question raised, it also sets out deadlines for when a public comment can be received. And in that order, you will find an email address and, or a direction to the SCC's website where email comments can be emailed in. Comments emailed in you know, are received the same way as if somebody mailed something in.

Dave DePippo: So it's probably more convenient for most to do email if they would like a comment to be sent to the SCC. So, so that's where you'll find that information. I, what I will tell you is that typically there is a, you know, if the case, as Steve mentioned, you know, these things typically last, you know, between eight and 12 months.

Dave DePippo: So for example, if we filed something on January 1st, we may see in, you know, the third week of January, a scheduling order, and then a hearing may be set for some

time in June, as an example. And then, you know, the deadline for public comments would probably be sometime in late May. The Commission likes to give as much time as possible for folks to provide for the public to provide those kinds of comments.

Dave DePippo: And so I hope that answers your question. I will say, Carla, since you raised the electromagnetic fields issue and someone might be posting something in terms of, of a link to that, to the general EMF, electromagnetic magnetic fields, EMF information. And our application folks should also be able to find, EMF specific information regarding anticipated levels of EMF for, for the proposed routes as well as information related to the most up-to-date science on the extent to whether a transmission lines you know, EMF generally speaking has, has impacts on human health.

Dave DePippo: So that, that will also be available to folks and all that information is certainly public and available. And we're happy to answer questions.

Carla Picard: Perfect. Perfect. Dave, I appreciate that. Additional information that's certainly the most relevant. I mean, the, as you pointed out, the information that we have linked from the website is more, more broad, or general versus the information that will be contained in the application, which is very specific to this project and the route that ultimately Dominion proposes or recommends to the Commission.

Carla Picard: And I just lost my question. Every time a new question pops in, I, I lose my place on this massive list. So, bear with me. I will also mention I've come across at least a couple of questions that are specific to a homeowner and, and your specific property. We're probably going to pass on those this evening in this format, but we do hope you'll take advantage of the phone number and the email address that we have on that last slide.

Carla Picard: We definitely want to have a conversation with you, but that's probably better for a one-on-one meeting or discussion as a follow-up to this meeting. So if you did have, or do have specific questions about your individual property, do reach out to us so we can set something up to have a much more individual conversation with you about that.

Carla Picard: Okay. I this one might go to Seth or Steve. You're always my backup. Have you done forecasts of future energy demand for Fauquier County? And if so, where can we find them? Do any of your forecasts provide for the shift in all our cars and personal vehicles to EVs over the next 10 to 20 years? Manufacturers have announced that this timeline possibly of auto manufacturers... looks like the question might have been cut off there. But so I think generally do our forecasts include alternative energy projections.

Seth Barratt: So to answer the first part of that with, with what we're proposing for the routing today, we are primarily looking at just the immediate load requests from the customer.

Seth Barratt: At Blackwell Road, we are, you know, in our routes setting things up so that not just pigeon holing it in to where we couldn't expand in the future, but for the moment we are primarily focused because of the justification of the customer load request to just serve Blackwell. That kind of leads into the second part of, I know that we, I mean, it's continually looking at load projections over the next several years and EV infrastructure is something

that's at the top of our list, but that's not part of directly what the routing for this project are associated with.

Seth Barratt: Our standards and specs for construction is to look at the entirety of the state whenever we put in the wire and the structures that are associated with the power line. And we are confident in our standards that they are able to meet the immediate load and future load in the next upcoming years.

Dave DePippo: Carla, this is Dave. I will, I'll add to that. Just so folks can you know, the company does not necessarily project load county by county. The company is a part of a larger transmission system that encompasses a large, pretty much almost all the mid-Atlantic and some of it extends as far to the west as Illinois. That's a region. That area is sort of run by a quasi-governmental entity called PJM. It's a regional transmission operator and that entity provides load forecasts every year. That, that forecasts out over the next 15 to 20 years. We work closely with them as do other transmission and utilities in the region to provide our input as to what is going on in our area.

Dave DePippo: So, what I can tell you is the most recent forecast from that, that third-party for our area. When I say our area, I mean, Virginia is a fair, a fair bit of growth. And a lot of that is due to data center growth which of course is what we're talking about driving this particular project, but also EV charging is now making sort of making its debut if you will, as, as something that is starting to move the needle on load growth within the Dominion area.

Dave DePippo: I, I think we all probably expect that that will continue over the, over the years, but it's something that we monitor closely and we work with this third-party quasi-governmental entity to monitor and forecast so that it can help us figure out what we, what we're going to see in terms of needs for energy generation as well as transmission and where it may need to go. I hope that's helpful.

Carla Picard: Yep. Dave, that's great. And obviously the folks that are tuned in with us are listening because the questions we are getting now relate directly to what you're saying. So thank you. The first question is the, the forecast that you're describing that that PJM process is that information available publicly? If so where would somebody find that information online?

Carla Picard: The second part of that question. Is it fair to say based on what you were just describing, is it fair to say that demand will continue to increase and electric vehicles would push a big demand, increase, necessitating major increases in transmission lines, substations, etc.?

Dave DePippo: So I'll answer, I believe the forecast is available on the PJM website publicly. I'm not a hundred percent sure about that, but I believe that it is to your other question. I can't or I'm not going to be go out on a limb and say that electric vehicles are going to be the main driver of new infrastructure.

Dave DePippo: I think particularly in Virginia, I think folks may be aware that the general assembly passed what is called the Virginia Clean Economy Act, which sets the

Commonwealth on a course to you know, by roughly 2045, be served almost exclusively by renewable and or zero carbon emitting generation resources.

Dave DePippo: Many of those resources will be scattered throughout the Commonwealth in the form of, for example, a solar facility as these things come online they may generate them. For new transmission infrastructure as load grows that will generate the need, pardon me, for new transmission infrastructure.

Dave DePippo: So I think as electrification writ large goes, and as we move towards a renewable energy generation state, you're going to see more infrastructure, generally speaking. I hope that helps answer that question.

Carla Picard: Yeah and certainly the Virginia Clean Economy Act, all of those plans are available publicly online and you can see the Dominion's response to that new legislation and how Dominion intends to meet the new requirements, all that information's available online. I do recognize, and I'm very sensitive to the fact that we are running out of the hour we have scheduled.

Carla Picard: I think I can speak for the team in saying, you know, we're happy to stick around and answer some more questions. I do have a, I'm going to combine some questions again here, Steve. We've got a question about the legend on this map. Are the routes shown in any sort of order of preference and how many of these routes will Dominion build?

Steve Precker: Yeah, that, that's a great question. And I've seen a few questions throughout the Q&A as well, about, are we building one line? Are we building multiple lines? So first with regards to the legend there's no intention to indicate that any route is preferred over another. I know that we labeled them as overhead route one, underground route two that's simply a naming convention.

Steve Precker: It's not meant to indicate you know, the number one preferred route or a second choice or a third choice or anything like that. But we'd heard that question just recently. I'm glad you asked that again, that those are the types of questions that help educate us on what we're showing to the public.

Steve Precker: Right. And maybe we can show things in different ways. So maybe we can update our naming conventions to not have any kind of perception that there's a preference. So thank you. That is a great question. Second, another great question. Why are we showing multiple routes? You know, why are we showing two routes through the, the New Baltimore Vint Hill area right now?

Steve Precker: Multiple routes coming up north into the town of Warrenton from the Warrenton substation near Meetze Road. Some of you may have heard my work session with the Board of Supervisors last week, you may have seen recent media articles and local Fauquier news, where I said only one route would need to be developed to service the customer at the Blackwell site.

Steve Precker: And that's true. To be crystal clear, only one route would need to be constructed to service the customer at Blackwell Road. Why you see multiple routes here is because we need to look at all electrically viable options to study and submit to the State Corporation Commission, that we've studied things.

Steve Precker: Here are the nuances associated with each route, here is why a route may not be viable. In order to show the, the best informed filing. The SCC can ultimately makes that decision. So the maps that you see aren't intended to represent routes that were building all at one time to service a customer. That's not the intent.

Steve Precker: The intent is to show route areas, route options that we're studying as potential options. Again, in our SCC filing, we will be filing one recommended option along with alternates based off what we're hearing from the community, what our engineers are studying when they're walking the lines, walking these routes to better understand the areas that, that may be potentially affected.

Steve Precker: So again, great questions. That is a misconception that I do want to make sure that we clear up, but to be clear, only one route, will be required to service the customer at the Blackwell site. And that route will be chosen by the State Corporation Commission based off information that we provide in our filing and then their own investigative research.

Steve Precker: I hope that helps to clarify that.

Carla Picard: Okay. Steve, I guess you're, you're driving the show at this point. We do still have a number of folks that are with us, and the number of questions just keeps climbing. So, we'll, we'll keep at it until you call time. My next question: I'm a NOVEC customer. How does this benefit me?

Steve Precker: So I'll take the first stab at that, Carla. Again, whether you are a NOVEC customer or a Dominion customer, Dominion, when we build transmission infrastructure, we work with, with co-ops like NOVEC to provide them with energy, to service their customers.

Steve Precker: So, oftentimes companies like NOVEC do receive energy from Dominion in order to provide that to their customers through distribution lines. I'll go back to what I had said at the top of our call during the presentation was that whenever we build infrastructure, it does serve to connect the grid and allow more energy to flow in all different directions.

Steve Precker: So the broader area, other customers will be effected, by having that redundancy, strengthening of the grid, that enhanced reliability with regard to the energy flow. So, whether you're a Dominion customer or a NOVEC customer, you are likely getting your energy from these transmission lines that are then downgraded in our substations to voltage meant for residences and that's through the distribution lines.

Steve Precker: So hopefully that that's clear and, you know, Seth, from an engineer standpoint, if you need to clean any of that up, let me know, but okay.

Carla Picard: Mop up on, on aisle four now. It's good. That's great. Thank you, Steve. And so we're moving along again. We'll never get to all of these questions tonight, but as Steve promised, we will produce a Q and A document and address as many of these as we can.

Carla Picard: And, and again, encourage you all to, to follow-up and reach out to us through any of the vehicles that we've provided-- a couple of questions that have come in. Steve looking at this map, the green route with the X's through it. Can you or Andrea help explain the, the sort of iterative process and what, what transpired with that?

Steve Precker: Sure. So Andrea, why don't, why don't you take that one? Basically, I'll kick us off and then Andrea, you can, you can backfill it. We, as part of our engagement process, we do meet with developers of existing developments, planned developments, residences which, where we haven't gotten to everybody yet, we want to, and we plan to talk with folks about what the art of the possible is and how things may be impacted.

Steve Precker: So, Andrea, I'll let you, you go from there to talk a little bit about, you know, how we came to the conclusion that wouldn't be a viable route and how we look at other similar areas of residential existing plans that inform, you know, how we determine the viable.

Andrea Thornton: Sure. Thanks, Steve.

Andrea Thornton: Yeah. So for this route we continue to receive additional information regarding planned development, some of which were under construction. So the original parcel data that we had, hadn't been refreshed in a while and we received new parcel data from the county that was showing that portion of the route was going through lots that had already been slated for development.

Andrea Thornton: And again, some were under construction. So it would, the line would have required the taking of homes that were under construction. There was nowhere to move the route to avoid those houses. There were also a couple of large planned developments, closer to the southeast portion of the road. That would have impacted and required the crossing of public lands.

Andrea Thornton: It was crossing the boundary of the Fauquier High School property, and it was also in very close proximity to a number of homes more so than the other routes. So it's something that we start by looking again at aerial photography and some desktop information. And as we work through this engagement process with you just continue to learn more information.

Andrea Thornton: And in that route, as Steve said at the beginning, was determined to not be viable due to all those constraints.

Carla Picard: I appreciate that, Andrea. Okay the next question is Steve; I imagine you're going to want to handle this one. Will there be visualizations created to show what the structures will look like in the actual environment?

Steve Precker: Yes, we will be doing photo simulations right now as I understand it. And Seth, I may toss this over to you as well to talk about what we're studying in terms of structures so far, but yes, we do intend as we get a little bit further down in the coming weeks through our public engagement route refinements based on public engagement and additional information that we have to have simulations and renderings showing structures, showing visual impact. Proximity to residences and other areas.

Steve Precker: Seth, do you want to talk a little bit about what we're looking at right now in terms of potential structures for any overhead route? Potential heights and, and just general structure type?

Seth Barratt: Yep, yep. Sure thing. So the overhead transmission routes that are being proposed and would be routed along the colored routes below, would be very similar to the transmission route that was just rebuilt out of the Warrenton substation few years ago, down to Remington.

Seth Barratt: Those are the, we call them 230 kV; 230,000 volt transmission monopoles. So what that means, it's basically just a single foundation for the single steel pole coming out of it. That steel pole is generally between a hundred and 120 feet tall. It needs to be that tall because we have electrical code clearances we have to meet and we have the wire stacked on top of each other.

Seth Barratt: So that's why it's a little bit taller than some lines you may see. You would, you would have lines on both arms, on both sides of the structure, just like the line that is built, extending in off of Meetze Road over to the Warrenton substation today. So in short, it would look very similar to the route that was just rebuilt a few years ago, down to the Warrenton sub.

Carla Picard: Steve, I have one person who's looking for a clarification of something that was said earlier. This person is looking to clarify: if the customer project is not approved or goes away. Does that mean the Blackwell substation site also goes away?

Steve Precker: Yes. So if the customer's land use application is not approved, then at this point we don't build any, we don't have any customer to serve in that area.

Steve Precker: So what you're seeing on your screen would not be built to service that customer because then we wouldn't have a customer to serve if that land use application is rejected.

Carla Picard: And I'm going to, again, start this one with you and you may want to defer to some others on the team. Why are potentially affected property owners, not specifically informed and reached out to for specific input and information gathering early in the process as these route determinations are being made?

Steve Precker: Yeah, so as we initially start with desktop research and it, it's an iterative process. We try to reach out to residences, property owners as often as we can, we haven't

gotten to everybody yet. I know that that, you know, sometimes we can't move fast enough and that you know, we, we certainly understand the concern that people have.

Steve Precker: We hear you. Please reach out to us to set up meetings with us, so we can talk with you about your properties about potential impacts. Again, we have our, our public open houses where, where we want to address that on our maps as well. But bottom line is we try and reach out to, to as many people as we possibly can through an iterative process.

Steve Precker: Andrea, do you want to talk a little bit about how we, you know, find those developments, those, residential areas and, and how we look to as much as possible minimize impacts to those areas as well.

Andrea Thornton: Sure. So all of that information is found by using publicly available information on the county's website. And in some instances the county reaches out on the Dominion website to let us know about things as well. But, the initial searching is all done on county websites, where we're able to search parcel by parcel of the land that's being crossed by the proposed routes to determine if there are any planned developments proposed in those areas.

Andrea Thornton: We then look to see if there are site plans that are proposed, and if there are, if the routes are in conflict with them, and then we try to set up meetings with those developers to see what the status of the development is. If the plan has been approved by the county, or if they're still in their preliminary stages.

Steve Precker: And if we are able to work with the developer to determine if a route is viable across, across that land without conflicting. But there with developments.

Carla Picard: Okay. I do note that it, it is just about 7:15.

Steve Precker: Carla, why don't we do this? Why don't we take maybe two more questions right now? I want to acknowledge that we know we have a lot of questions. This is an ongoing discussion and I know that not all questions have been answered. I know that there are questions that you want more answers to as well.

Steve Precker: I want to be respectful of everyone's time that has joined us from the communities. You know where we want to answer questions, send them to us. We will also compile these questions that we haven't answered as well as ones that we have and post frequently asked questions and others online, bring your questions if you're able to, come to our open houses to ask them there.

Steve Precker: But why don't we take two more and again, I understand that we have a lot of questions and we want to answer them and recognize that this is an ongoing discussion.

Carla Picard: I think we have two or three questions that can somewhat be combined into one. Following up on the reason the green line was deemed infeasible due to ongoing construction plan developed. Are you aware of similar activity for the Broad Run at Brookside Development near Riley Road?

Carla Picard: The answer is yes. And then sort of a more philosophical question. The gist of the question was, are we prioritizing these planned developments over existing communities? And Andrea, I think you can address that.

Andrea Thornton: Sure. Yeah, no, that, wasn't the intention of, of my statement earlier. What I was trying to iterate with the green route was, again, the route was crossing directly over homes and there was no way to adjust the route to, to kind of fit it in between residential areas. Like, like some of the proposed routes that go from Warrenton to the Blackwell substation.

Andrea Thornton: We recognize the visual impacts associated with the overhead lines as Stephen mentioned earlier, but again, that, that development that I was specifically referring to for the green route that was rejected overhead route four, cause it was in direct conflict with crossing over a home that was, or multiple homes that were under construction.

Carla Picard: Okay. Well, I really appreciate everyone's patience. We've gotten some really, really great questions tonight. As Steve said up front, the ones that we didn't get to, we will sharpen our pencils and do more homework and get those answers compiled and make everything available publicly for you all and other community members that weren't able to join.

Steve Precker: And again, before we close, I again want to acknowledge that I can't say enough, this is an ongoing discussion. I know that we haven't gotten to everybody here. I do want to be respectful of everyone's time. We want to make sure that we continue to hear from you. So as Carla said, please continue to ask your questions.

Steve Precker: We'll be documenting everything that has been submitted to, to provide answers. If you can participate in-person next week on the 22nd or 23rd, we do want to see you. We do want to hear from you. So again, thank you for joining tonight. Thank you for taking time to listen to us. We appreciate listening to you truly and we look forward to continuing the discussion with you, so thank you.