# **McGuireWoods**

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March 15, 2023

## **BY ELECTRONIC DELIVERY**

Mr. Bernard Logan, Clerk c/o Document Control Center State Corporation Commission 1300 East Main Street Tyler Building - First Floor Richmond, Virginia 23219

#### Application of Virginia Electric and Power Company For approval and certification of electric transmission facilities under Va. Code § 56-46.1 and the Utility Facilities Act, Va. Code § 56-265.1 et seq. <u>Case No. PUR-2017-00002</u>

Dear Mr. Logan:

Please find enclosed for electronic filing in the above-captioned proceeding Virginia Electric and Power Company's March 15, 2023 *Quarterly Update Report*.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions in regard to the enclosed.

Highest regards,

/s/ Jontille D. Ray

Jontille D. Ray

cc: David J. DePippo, Esq. Vishwa B. Link, Esq. Briana M. Jackson, Esq. Service List Idylwood Substation Rearrangement Project Case No. PUR-2017-00002 Quarterly Update Report March 15, 2023

#### Background

On September 8, 2021, the Virginia State Corporation Commission ("SCC") issued an Order on Motion authorizing Virginia Electric and Power Company d/b/a/ Dominion Energy Virginia ("the Company") to extend the project construction to the new December 31, 2026 in-service date for the Idylwood Substation Rearrangement Project ("Rebuild Project" or "Project").<sup>1</sup>

The Company, in part, requested the in-service date extension because:

The unanticipated delay in obtaining the necessary local approvals has disrupted the Company's prior scheduling, sequencing, and planning for the construction of the Rebuild Project requiring the Company to release any prior outage requests it had made to support the prior schedule. In addition, the ability to obtain and coordinate both distribution- and transmission-side outages in northern Virginia, generally, and in the area of the Project, specifically, has become increasingly difficult due to customer and system loading. For example, because obtaining outages in the peak loading seasons of winter and summer generally is not possible, it essentially is mandatory that the work must be performed during the fall and spring. Moreover, the limited fall and spring outage windows must accommodate increased outage needs in the Northern Virginia area for ongoing projects and system needs. The Company also must coordinate its outages to ensure reliability contingencies in the area and must coordinate outages with certain customers, such as the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Outages must be submitted months in advance. Adding to those scheduling difficulties, as part of compliance with its local approvals, construction is limited to certain times and must be performed in a manner that reduces noise to ensure the Company minimizes impacts to the nearby community. Recent work on another GIS project at a different substation has further informed the Company's view on the added complexity of the installation of new GIS systems. Finally, compounding these variables, to the greatest extent possible, the Company must keep the Idylwood Substation energized during project construction to meet the growing load needs of the surrounding areas. These current circumstances have led to more complex, on-the-ground logistics and construction sequencing than initially anticipated for this Project during the proceeding before the Commission.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Application of Virginia Electric and Power Company For approval and certification of electric transmission facilities under Va. Code § 56-46.1 and the Utility Facilities Act, Va. Code § 56-265.1 et seq., PUR-2017-00002, Order on Motion at 4 (Sept. 8, 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Application of Virginia Electric and Power Company For approval and certification of electric transmission facilities: Idylwood Substation Rebuild and Rearrangement of 230 kV Transmission Lines #202, #207, #251, #266, #2035, and #2097, PUR-2017-00002, Motion of Virginia Electric and Power Company for Relief from May 31, 2020 In-Service Date at 4-5 (Apr. 27, 2020).

As required by the Order on Motion, the Company shall:

- Submit quarterly construction status updates regarding the Rebuild Project to the Director of the Commission's Division of Public Utility Regulation until the Rebuild Project is completed or until further order of the Commission.
- Post each quarterly construction status update on the Company's website: <u>www.DominionEnergy.com/shreve</u>.
- Post its Construction Timeline on the website and update the Construction Timeline, as needed, to maintain accuracy.

### **Project Overview**

The Idylwood Substation Rebuild Project rebuilds the existing Idylwood Substation on Shreve Road, originally built in the late 1950s, to support growing capacity and projected reliability concerns in the region. These enhancements will allow Dominion Energy to continue providing safe and reliable electric service to the community.

Due to the limited space at the site, Dominion Energy is investing in Gas Insulated Substation ("GIS") technology. The existing substation currently uses Air-Insulated Technology. By utilizing GIS technology, Dominion Energy will be able to largely utilize the substation's existing footprint while modernizing the facility to meet area demand and minimizing impact to surrounding neighbors. GIS is the best available technology and offers several benefits:

- GIS equipment takes up less space, allowing Dominion Energy to accommodate growth in the area, while operating within the existing property;
- GIS is more reliable than traditional air-insulated substations, meaning fewer outages for customers; and
- GIS requires less maintenance than traditional substations.

Idylwood Substation is a necessary and important component of the electrical system and is critical in maintaining reliability for the area. As such, it is necessary that most of the substation equipment remain energized while crews perform their work. This increases the complexity of the Project and has also impacted our timeline. To perform operations safely, crews must work in a limited space and temporarily relocate some of the equipment to install new equipment. Additionally, we must limit the number of crews working inside the substation at the same time.

### Status Update

Each quarter, the Company will provide a construction update on the following information:

- Permitting
- Achievements
- Challenges
- Upcoming Construction
- Public Outreach and Communications

- Budget
- Noteworthy Changes

## Permitting

After consulting with HICO, the Company's contractor for the 230 kV GIS building, the Company made the decision to switch to a pre-cast GIS building, which will reduce the construction of the 230 kV GIS building by two months. On November 14, 2022, HICO submitted the initial building permit application. On March 10, 2023, HICO re-submitted the permit application after discussions with Fairfax County. Specifically, the Company revised three pages of the site plan due to the 230 kV GIS enclosure changing from a 60-foot-wide enclosure down to a 42-foot-wide enclosure. The Company expects a building permit by Summer 2023. This date still allows adequate time to begin GIS building installation in August 2023.

### Achievements

Since the December 15, 2022 Quarterly Update, the Company has accomplished several milestones for the Project, including:

- As of February 2023, the Company completed clearing for the 230 kV GIS building.
- As of March 7, 2023, the Company completed the foundations for the 230 kV control enclosure.
- The Company completed the removal of the asbestos in early March 2023.

# Key Challenges

Although several key milestones have been achieved, the Company has faced several challenges this quarter, including:

 Asbestos issues – In September, the Company discovered asbestos duct banks believed to be installed in the late 1950s. The Company completed removal of the asbestos duct banks in the beginning of November. However, the Company discovered additional asbestos duct banks in early November. As mentioned above, the asbestos removal was completed in early March 2023. These discoveries were unanticipated as there was no documentation indicating the presence of asbestos. As noted in the Company's previous Quarterly Update, the asbestos issues impacted the Company's schedule and resulted in an approximate three-month delay. To make up for the time spent removing asbestos, crews worked on Saturdays to complete foundation work for the 230 kV GIS building. The 230 kV GIS building will start construction on August 1, 2023 (previously expected construction start date was April 27, 2023, delay to August 2023 was announced in the Company's December 2022 update).

### Upcoming Construction

- 1. The Company is working with Verizon and Cox design teams to relocate communication conductors and to move sidewalk and turning lane.
- 2. The Company will remove gravel and re-grade the area between Shreve Road and the security wall prior to installing the landscaping.

3. Landscaping will begin in certain areas of the front of the substation and near Holly Manor Drive in Spring 2023. The remainder of the landscaping will be complete as soon as the Verizon and Cox lines are relocated and the turn lane is installed.

#### Public Outreach and Communications

As both Idylwood Substation and Idylwood Tysons crews continue to work within and near the substation, updates to the community may involve both projects. Upcoming communications include providing a status update on Idylwood-Tysons cable testing, which is located inside the substation, and notification that the weekend work on foundations is complete.

The most recent notifications were the following:

1. In late January 2023, the Company notified the community of timeline challenges due to the discovery of asbestos. The notification explained crews would need to work every other Saturday to complete foundation work for the 230 kV GIS building. This work is now complete.

### Budget

\$123.8 million of \$159 million spent.

Noteworthy Changes

No additional noteworthy changes.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 15th day of March 2023, a true and accurate copy of the foregoing, filed in Case No. PUR-2017-00002 was hand delivered, mailed first class, postage pre-paid, or sent by federal express to the following:

Alisson P. Klaiber, Esq. William H. Harrison, Esq. Office of the General Counsel State Corporation Commission 1300 E. Main St., Tyler Bldg., 10<sup>th</sup> Fl. Richmond, VA 23219

Maryl A. Kerley 2570 Holly Manor Dr. Falls Church, VA 22043 Joanna L. Faust, Esq. Corinne N. Lockett, Esq. Office of the Fairfax Attorney 1200 Government Center Parkway Suite 549 Fairfax, VA 22035

/s/ Jontille D. Ray

Counsel