

Loudoun Reliability Engagement Group

Eleventh Meeting Attributed Summary Report

The eleventh meeting of the Loudoun Reliability Engagement Group was held on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Founders Hall in Ashburn, VA.

Member Organizations in Attendance

- Bike Loudoun
- Goose Creek Association
- Loudoun Chamber of Commerce
- Loudoun Coalition of Homeowners and Condominium Associations
- Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition
- Loudoun Habitat for Humanity
- Loudoun Water
- Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy
- NAIOP Northern Virginia
- Piedmont Environmental Council

Observers

- Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, Michael R. Turner's Office

Absent Organizations

- Black History Committee (Friends of Thomas Balch Library)
- League of Women Voters of Loudoun County
- Loudoun County Department of Economic Development
- Loudoun County Department of Equity & Inclusion
- Loudoun County Fire and Rescue
- NAACP Loudoun Branch
- VA Asian Chamber of Commerce

Dominion Energy Team

- Charlotte McAfee, Dominion Energy
- Deon Wright, Dominion Energy
- Jenna Brown, Dominion Energy
- Peggy Fox, Dominion Energy
- Rob Richardson, Dominion Energy
- Steve Precker, Dominion Energy
- Tracey McDonald, Dominion Energy
- Yolanda Green, Dominion Energy
- Carter Jones, ERM
- Kristi Moore, ERM
- Jake Rosenberg, ERM

Meeting Summary

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kristi Moore, ERM, began the meeting by welcoming the group. No introductions were necessary, as there were no new attendees. She passed out copies of the meeting agenda and reviewed it with the LREG.

Kristi introduced the Loudoun County Engagement Recap presentation.

2. Loudoun County Engagement Recap

Kristi kicked off the presentation by recapping Dominion Energy's (Dominion) outreach efforts regarding previous LREG meetings and their active Loudoun County projects. The presentation included a list of the current LREG member organizations, and the number of attendees present per meeting, as well as the total amount of time spent in LREG meetings from July 2022 (i.e., the first LREG meeting) through December 2023 (i.e., the tenth LREG meeting, which was the meeting immediately prior to this one).

Next, Kristi summarized Dominion’s stakeholder outreach efforts measured from the first NOVA Reliability project open house held in September 2022 through the most recent open house held in January 2024.

The presentation included information about the following:

- The total number of open houses Dominion hosted during the time frame described above; and,
- The total number of attendees present at each open house; and,
- The dates that Dominion mailed open house project notifications to stakeholders; and,
- The LREG members' attendance at the open houses; and,
- Online engagement metrics as reported by the project’s virtual open house website.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS	ANSWERS
Are those website visitors unique or total?	Kristi Moore: Unique visitors.
Have you ever considered presenting directly to the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors (BOS)?	Rob Richardson: The Loudoun County BOS are among the first stakeholders we engage with regarding project outreach, even before initiating communication with the public. We brief them as much as they would like to ensure that they are informed. Sometimes, supervisors prefer we meet with their staff rather than brief them directly. It is at the discretion of the elected official whether we meet with them or a member of their staff on their behalf. LREG members are among the county's most well-informed regarding electric transmission projects.
Can you share the engagement slides with LREG members?	<p>Kristi Moore: I don’t see why not. They tell a valuable story and show how well-informed the members are and how proactive the Dominion project team is.</p> <p>Rob Richardson: The LREG does not penalize Dominion for changes to the project based on public engagement because the members better understand the process.</p>

3. Aspen to Golden Open House Recap

Rob Richardson, Dominion Energy, presented Aspen to Golden Open House Recap. The presentation focused on the project’s history and Dominion’s public engagement process, which began in March 2023. Rob described the improvements that the project team has implemented based on new information and feedback.

Rob reviewed the following open house details with the LREG:

- The number of stakeholder notifications (i.e., postcards and letters) that Dominion mailed to nearby residents and businesses to inform them about the project open houses (virtual and in-person) held in January 2024; and,
- The total number of attendances at the in-person and virtual open houses; and,
- The new structure type that Dominion is proposing for this project and the reason why Dominion decided to modify the structure type.

He also compared the properties of the H-frame and monopole structures and why each structure is needed to make this project successful. The monopole structure requires less ROW, while the H-frame structure has a taller clearance. Rob noted that each structure type benefits different property owners along the project route.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS	ANSWERS
Is the north variation still being considered?	Rob Richardson: It will still be a part of the SCC application, but the preference is for south of Route 7.
Will data centers be built on the parcel near Route 7 and Belmont Ridge Rd?	Response from LREG member in attendance: Yes – they submitted a site plan.
Two LREG members objected to another LREG member’s characterization that by-right zoning for data centers should be allowed and nothing can be done.	
A LREG member stated that Loudoun Water and Dominion need to take the time to work on a solution to enable the routing along Loudoun County Parkway instead of through Broad Run.	Jake Rosenberg discussed the route adjustments and coordination taking place between Dominion and stakeholders.
Have you received notice from the Lansdowne Conservancy on their plan to underground the route along Route 7?	<p>Jake Rosenberg: Yes, we received it. However, they were operating under inaccurate assumptions that could not be reconciled. Additionally, the transition stations need to be five to seven times larger than their plan, which creates viewshed issues for other parts along the ROW. Their plan would involve more land required for the project.</p> <p>Rob Richardson: Undergrounding also does not meet the project’s timeline to be energized.</p>
	Rob Richardson noted that Loudoun Water is in attendance and has been working with Dominion Energy on 10-13 different projects. He applauded Loudoun Water for its efforts to ensure everyone works together.
Where can we find the SCC application?	Kristi Moore: We will share the docket number with LREG members and post it to the project site.

4. Morrisville to Wishing Star

Kristi introduced the next presenter, Steve Precker, Dominion Energy. Steve discussed the new Morrisville to Wishing Star project with the group. Steve introduced the project as part of PJM’s latest batch of approved transmission projects.

He shared project details of the “wreck and rebuild” project. He noted the project spans 38 miles across three counties. He also mentioned, the lattice structures will be replaced by monopoles. Steve emphasized that much of the project will be built within the existing ROW.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS	ANSWERS
How tall are the existing structures? And how high will the new ones be?	<p>Steve Precker: The existing structures are around 150’, and the new ones will be taller. The final height is still being evaluated.</p> <p>Steve noted that Dominion is in the very early stages of this project. The team is looking to submit their application to the SCC sometime during the summer of 2024.</p>
Is anyone checking PJM’s data? Their estimates were off previously.	Steve Precker: Dominion provides information to PJM; PJM then uses that data to inform their analysis.

Is PJM a private entity?	Steve Precker: Yes, they are regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).
Is Dominion involved with the transmission line from Virginia through Maryland?	<p>Rob Richardson: Dominion’s current plan only relates to the portion of the transmission line in Virginia.</p> <p>Rob noted that work on the transmission line mentioned above is on pause and that Dominion will discuss it further with the LREG in the future.</p>
Won’t this also impact generation?	Steve responded by noting the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP).
How is Dominion introducing new technologies into the grid?	<p>Steve Precker: We are implementing technologies that allow for live conductor replacements that avoid outages. We have lifted existing structures, literally jacking them up higher instead of having to replace them. Dominion continues to innovate constantly.</p> <p>Rob Richardson: Regarding composite core conductors, most conductors in our system use steel, which is designed to work with our structures. A composite core conductor would be a significant change. Dominion has been aware of this technology since the early 2000s. There are also associated supply-chain issues due to the current labor shortage in the manufacturing industry.</p>
Why is this project needed?	Rob Richardson: A new 500 kV line is needed [due to increased load demand], and the existing structures must be replaced to accommodate the line within the existing ROW.

Steve wrapped up the presentation by reviewing the current outreach timeline for the project, highlighting the SCC filing date and projected open houses. He assured the LREG that Dominion will release additional information about the Morrisville to Wishing Star project in the coming months.

5. Mars- Golden Introduction

Kristi introduced Jake Rosenberg, ERM, who discussed the Mars-Golden project. Mars to Golden is the third and final reliability loop project in Loudoun County.

Jake pointed out the start and end points of the project: Golden-Mars. Jake noted that there were opportunities to collocate along the existing 230 kV transmission ROW. He observed that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) enforces height restrictions in the area based on the approach surfaces near the Dulles Airport. He added that the project area is a densely developed suburban landscape with many routing constraints.

At present, Dominion has not yet selected preferred transmission line routes for the Mars to Golden project. Jake shared that Dominion’s goal is to maximize collocation opportunities along the existing ROWs. The project team is evaluating underground and overhead options.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS	ANSWERS
With the nearby airport, would the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) allow underground transmission lines on their property?	<p>Jake Rosenberg: We will have conversations with MWAA to evaluate the available options. Crossing federal land triggers additional permitting that may impact the project timelines.</p> <p>Rob Richardson: We've found MWAA to be difficult to work with up until recently; however, we are now engaging in productive conversations with the Airport Authority about potential options.</p>
What types of transmission lines are these?	Rob Richardson: A 500 kV and 230 kV line.
What is the in-service date?	Rob Richardson: The targeted in-service date for the project is mid-2028. The prospective SCC filing date is in Q4 of 2024, followed by 12 months of SCC review and then permitting and construction.
Have you looked at the potential ROW width along any of the roads in the project area?	Jake Rosenberg: The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) will allow structures as close to the road as long as conductors and arms do not overhang it. The existing 230 kV ROW is about 100 ft. wide, and collocating can save some space in the ROW. Additional engineering analysis is needed to understand the opportunities better.
Is this not a good case for underground?	Jake Rosenberg: We are evaluating all options.
A LREG member noted that Loudoun Water bored in the area near Dulles Greenway and Old Ox Road, and it took two years to go approximately 500 ft.	
Can you please include proposed site plans in future maps?	Jake Rosenberg: Yes.
Is the southern portion of Rt 28 an option?	Jake Rosenberg: Yes, but the line would need to cut west to head toward the Mars substation at some point.
Will there be enough room for future transmission lines as load growth continues?	Rob Richardson: Dominion planners are continuously preparing for new transmission needs for at least five and up to fifteen years in the future. The reason we don't publicize the team's work is because the information is constantly changing. We examine the existing ROW first for each of our major reliability projects.
What magisterial districts is this in?	
It looks like Dulles and Broad Run.	

Rob concluded the presentation by outlining Dominion's ongoing communication and outreach process regarding their target filing date in Q4 of 2024.

6. Q&A, Upcoming Meeting(s), and Open House Dates

Kristi ended the meeting by summarizing the information discussed during the meeting. Kristi informed the group that Dominion plans to hold the next LREG meeting in March and that the Dominion team will distribute a meeting poll via email to find the best time for the group to get

together. The proposed set of dates and times for the meeting will be based on staff and venue availability in mid-March.

7. Adjournment

The eleventh LREG meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.