# Loudoun Reliability Engagement Group

#### **Eighth Meeting Full Summary Report**

The eighth meeting of the Loudoun Reliability Engagement Group was held on July 13, 2023, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Founders Hall in Ashburn, VA.

### Member Organizations in Attendance

- Bike Loudoun
- Goose Greek Association
- Loudoun Coalition of Homeowners and Condominium Associations
- Loudoun County Board of Supervisors
   Michael R. Turner's Office
- Loudoun County Department of Economic Development

#### **Absent Organizations**

- Black History Committee (Friends of Thomas Balch Library)
- League of Women Voters of Loudoun
  County
- Loudoun Chamber of Commerce
- Loudoun Coalition of Homeowners and Condominium Associations
- Loudoun County Department of Equity & Inclusion

### **Dominion Energy Team**

- Rob Richardson, Dominion Energy
- Greg Vozza, Dominion Energy
- James Young, Dominion Energy
- Dominic Minor, Dominion Energy

- Loudoun County Fire & Rescue
- Loudoun Habitat for Humanity
- Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy
- NAIOP Commercial Developers
- Piedmont Environmental Council
- Loudoun County Department of Equity & Inclusion
- Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition
- Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy
- NAACP Loudoun Branch
- Rotary Club of Ashburn
- VA Asian Chamber of Commerce
- Kathleen Leonard, Dominion Energy
- Kristi Moore, ERM
- Carter Jones, ERM
- Jake Rosenberg, ERM

### **Meeting Summary**

# 1. Introductions, Agenda Overview & Open House Recap

Kristi Moore, ERM, began the meeting by welcoming everyone and leading the group through introductions and an agenda review. Rob Richardson, Dominion Energy, gave a recap of the last LREG meeting.

### 2. Open House Discussion

Rob Richardson shared that the recent Open House was intended to give the public options on how to learn more about the project, and there were approximately 120 attendees. He also apologized for the technical difficulties experienced with the virtual open house hosted via Webex. The questions received were generally in line with other transmission line projects, and many were concerning alternate routing considerations beyond Route 7. There were also many questions answered regarding overhead versus underground – where it was discussed that undergrounding could be more environmentally harmful than overhead construction.

Dominion Energy asked those who attended the virtual open house also to attend the in-person open house to ask questions and learn more. Dominion Energy is proud of the communications and outreach process that allows for various subject matter experts to participate and address questions from the public.

Kristi Moore asked the group their thoughts on the lower-than-expected turnout. Feedback included that it could've been due to summer vacations and proximity to the holiday weekend. Kristi also asked members to think of venue suggestions for the next open house and share them with the project

team. Members admitted that the venue problem is not something that is unique to Dominion Energy, and group members promised to pass along any suggestions they could think of.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS	ANSWERS
We couldn't see the questions that were asked in the virtual open house. Can we see the questions that were asked?	Kristi Moore – Yes, the transcript and Q&A documents were published online.
The open house stated the same information that was discussed at the LREG meetings, including the reasoning for the routing corridors.	
Logistically, it worked well, but some people expected a town hall format because it allows the project team to have more valuable conversations.	Action item – there was a suggestion to include a line in future notifications regarding the style/format of the next open house. A video on the project's need and background may also be helpful.

## 3. Route Adjustments

Jake Rosenberg, ERM, then led the group in a discussion about route adjustments. He shared that Dominion received multiple public comments about the proximity of the north of Rt. 7 option to Selden Elementary School. We also learned that Inova Loudoun Hospital may be planning facility expansions and a new helipad, so the project team is reaching out to discuss.

Jake then shared the newly developed Goose Creek crossing, accommodating a new Loudoun Water pump station. The goal is to collocate with other utility corridors as much as possible.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS	ANSWERS
Because of the topography crossing Goose Creek, could the poles be elevated to reduce the number of trees cleared?	We don't have that answer today, but we will work to provide one prior to the next meeting.
What is by-right versus permitting as far as substations?	Jake Rosenberg – I believe none of these substations along Goose Creek are by-right. The developers are going to the county for permitting.
Did you get a sense of public support for north or south of Route 7?	Jake Rosenberg – Anecdotally, no. People seemed to prefer the side opposite of where they live. Kristi Moore – Because of the LREG, we were able to share the number of homes that the different routes and corridors could potentially impact. Jake Rosenberg – We are still tabulating a full development profile of the Route 7 corridor.
How does collocating the projects work when a planned data center goes to construction after the SCC application?	Jake Rosenberg – The SCC application will show the data center's latest development plan and onsite adjustments can occur during final engineering. In the vicinity of Goose Creek, Dominion is coordinating with developers to help preserve the maximum amount of buffer along the Scenic River.

On crossing Route 7, if it didn't cross near the elementary school, is the only other crossing near the Toll Brothers site?	Jake Rosenberg – Yes, and we need to flesh out more information on potential crossings and impacts.
Funding sources for Attainable Dwelling Units (ADUs) help determine how the ADUs are distributed through a development site plan.	
What were the comments about the line's eastern end, closer to the proposed Golden substation?	Jake Rosenberg – Generally, people asked that the ROW avoid Broad Run. There are potential impacts to Loudoun Water infrastructure along Loudoun County Parkway, but Dominion Energy is working with Loudoun Water to find a routing solution.

# 4. Takeaways:

- At the next open house, there will be more defined routes along key points.
- Future open house invitations will relay information about the format.
- Next meeting TBD